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Treatment of Gray Hair in Vitiligo Patients by Direct Melanocytes Transplant Using Needling Micrografting and Dermabrasion Techniques

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ABSTRACT

Background: Melanocytes transplant for treatment of vitiligo is a common therapy using different surgical procedures. But there was no interest in repigmentation of grayness of hair in the treated vitiliginous area. Objective: To do melanocytes transplant from donor area into the recipient vitiliginous area with associated gray hair. Patient and Methods: This is a case interventional study was done in Department of Dermatology/Baghdad Teaching Hospital from February 2011-March 2012. Eleven patients were enrolled in this study, six males and five females with vitiligo in association of gray hair. Their ages ranged from 8 - 35 years with a mean \pm SD of 20.90 ± 7.006 . Melanocytes transplant in patients with vitiligo using needling micrografting technique for twelve patches and direct melanocytes transplant from normal donor area into vitiliginous recipient area by dermabrasion technique for eleven patches. Dressing was applied and patients were seen every two weeks for the first month and monthly for one year. Results: Repigmentation of the vitiliginous area was started after two weeks and was obvious at one month that progressed over time. The repigmentation of hair appeared usually after few months and was obvious after four months and the repigmentation of gray hair was quicker in patients with micrografting technique than those with dermabrasion technique. The mean rate of repigmentation was 18.3% at six months and 37.5% at twelve months in micrografting technique while the mean rate of repigmentation was 9.15% at six months and 18.55 at twelve months in dermabrasion technique. Conclusions: Direct transplant of melanocytes from normal donor area into recipient vitiliginous area with associated white hair is an effective procedure to induce repigmentation of gray hair.

KEYWORDS

Vitiligo; Melanocytes Transplants; Needling Micrograft in Vitiligo; Dermabrasion in Vitiligo; Gray Hair

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