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SURGICAL TREATMENT METHODS IN THE TREATMENT OF VITILIGO

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Vitiligo is an acquired chronic depigmentation disease of the skin, characterized by the appearance of clearly delimited foci of depigmentation on the skin as a result of the destruction of melanocytes. Autoimmune mechanisms, oxidative stress, genetic predisposition and neurogenic factors play an important role in the pathogenesis of the disease. Vitiligo significantly affects the psychoemotional state of patients and reduces the quality of life. Since traditional conservative treatment methods do not provide sufficient effectiveness in all cases, the use of surgical treatment methods is relevant, especially in stable forms.

Research objective

To evaluate the clinical efficacy of melanocyte-keratinocyte transplantation in the treatment of vitiligo and objectively determine the results using the Vitiligo Area Scoring Index.

Materials and methods

The study included 10 patients aged 18–45 years with stable vitiligo. Stable vitiligo was defined as disease progression-free for at least 6 months. All patients underwent melanocyte-keratinocyte transplantation. In this method, a skin sample from a donor area was enzymatically processed, a cell suspension consisting of melanocytes and keratinocytes was prepared, and transplanted into depigmented foci. Clinical outcomes were assessed using the Vitiligo Area Scoring Index before and after 6 months of treatment.

Research results

According to the results, all patients showed positive clinical dynamics. The average score before treatment was 31.2, while after treatment this score decreased to 5.1. According to calculations, the average clinical improvement rate was 83.6%. The highest repigmentation was observed in the face and neck areas, while relatively lower results were noted in the distal extremities.

Conclusion

Melanocyte-keratinocyte transplantation has been shown to be a highly effective method for the treatment of stable vitiligo. The Vitiligo Area Scoring Index has proven to be a reliable criterion for objectively assessing treatment outcomes. This method is recommended as an effective and promising treatment approach for resistant forms of vitiligo.

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