

## In Dermatology

Vitiligo is an acquired depigmenting disorder of the skin, in melanocytes are lost. It presents with well-defined milky-white patches of skin (leukoderma). Vitiligo can be cosmetically very disabling, particularly in people with dark skin.

Vitiligo affects 0.5–1% of the population, and occurs in all races. It may be more common in India than elsewhere, with reports of up to 8.8% of the population affected.

Vitiligo is usually a clinical diagnosis, and no tests are necessary to make the diagnosis. See figure below.

Treatment of vitiligo is currently unsatisfactory. Compared to longstanding patches, new ones are more likely to respond to medical therapy.



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