

Useful treatment of vitiligo in 10 children with UV-B narrowband (311 nm).**Brazzelli V, Prestinari F, Castello M, Bellani E, Roveda E, Barbagallo T, Borroni G.**

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We report our experience with UV-B narrowband (UV-B-NB) therapy in children affected by vitiligo. We studied 10 Caucasian Italian children (six boys, four girls, mean age 9.7 years +/- 2.67). Treatment mean term was 5.6 months; frequency was three times a week on nonconsecutive days or only twice a week, because of school or family duties. The percentage of repigmentation was evaluated by comparing photographs taken before, during, and after the treatment, and showed a repigmentation level higher than 75% in five patients (5/10, 50%) and between 26% and 75% in three patients (3/10, 30%). Of our patients, 80% had a satisfactory response to phototherapy. Adverse events were limited and transient. No significant relationships between repigmentation grades and variables such as skin type, positive family history, and disease extension were observed. Some areas responded better than others; the best results were shown on the face and neck. Perhaps we studied too few patients to be conclusive, but the results obtained so far seem to indicate that children affected by recent vitiligo have a better response to the therapy. We feel that UV-B-NB therapy is a valuable and safe option for the treatment of pediatric vitiligo, and should be started as soon as possible.

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