



## VITILIGO WITH HALO NEVI - A CASE REPORT

## Dermatology

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## ABSTRACT

Halo nevus which otherwise goes by the names Sutton's nevus or leukoderma centrifugum acquisitum is a melanocytic nevus surrounded by a depigmented area. This condition commoner during first decade of life with the most common site being the back. Vitiligo is a depigmenting disorder which is characterized by progressive loss of melanocytes. Here we report a case of vitiligo with multiple halo nevi in a 7 year old child.

## KEYWORDS

Halo nevi, Sutton's nevus, nevus cell, vitiligo.

## INTRODUCTION:

Halo nevus is a melanocytic nevus with a ring of depigmentation around it. It is also called by other names like Sutton's nevus and leukoderma acquisitum centrifugum(1). When histopathology shows inflammation, it is called "inflammatory halo nevus" (2,4). It starts as a nevi and within a course of time a depigmented area develops as a ring surrounding it. The nevus may eventually lose its pigmentation and turn white and might disappear with re-pigmentation of skin or the halo might disappear leaving the nevus behind(3). Vitiligo is an auto-immune mediated depigmenting disorder which is characterized by progressive destruction of melanocytes. It can start at any age but becomes more apparent during the 2nd to 3rd decade of life(5). Studies have shown that 31.1% of patients with vitiligo have associated halo nevi (6).

## CASE REPORT:

A 7-year-old boy came to the skin OPD with complaints of depigmented macules and patches over the face, abdomen, back, gluteal region and knees for the past 2 years. His parents also noticed a white patch over his left upper eyelid which was small in size and progressed to the current size. They noticed that the previously present nevi changed color. On examination, multiple well defined depigmented patches were seen over bilateral upper eyelids, chin, elbows and knees. Further examination revealed multiple halo nevi seen over chin, neck, chest, upper back and gluteal region. Systemic examination was normal.

Two skin biopsies were taken one from site of halo nevi. Histopathological examination of the lesion showed reticulated pattern of epidermis which is suggestive of halo nevus.

## DISCUSSION:

Halo nevus is a melanocytic nevus with a ring of depigmentation around it. It is also known as Sutton's nevus and leukoderma acquisitum centrifugum. Clinically it starts as a nevi and within a course of time a depigmented area develops as a ring surrounding it. The nevus may eventually lose its pigmentation and turn white and might disappear with re-pigmentation of skin or the halo might involute leaving behind the nevi. Vitiligo is an auto-immune mediated depigmenting disorder which is characterized by progressive destruction of melanocytes. It can start at any age but becomes more apparent during the 2nd to 3rd decade of life. Studies have shown that 31.1% of patients with vitiligo has developed halo nevi.

Histopathological examination of an inflammatory halo nevus will show clumps of nevus cell surrounded by dense mononuclear infiltrates in its early stages within the upper dermis.

Differential diagnosis of halo nevus could be dysplastic nevus, basal cell carcinoma, spitz nevus and vitiligo.

Usually halo nevi doesn't require any form of treatment unless for cosmetic reasons and to rule out malignancies. When associated with vitiligo, excising halo nevi can make the vitiligo disappear. Risk of halo nevus turning malignant is very rare.

**CONCLUSION:** Vitiligo with halo nevus is a benign condition but a diagnosis of halo nevus is important to rule out cutaneous malignancy.

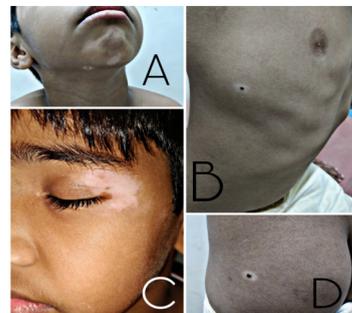
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## LEGENDS TO FIGURES:

## FIGURE 1

- A) Vitiligo and halo nevus seen over the chin
- B) Halo nevus over the right side of chest
- C) Vitiligo patch over the left upper eyelid and outer canthus
- D) Halo nevus over the left gluteal region

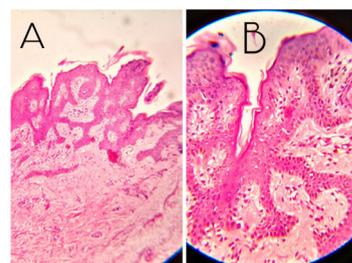


## FIGURE 1

## FIGURE 2:

A&B Shows reticulated pattern of epidermis

## FIGURE 2:



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