## UDK: 616.5-003.829.85:616-003.829.8:575:577.217.52-08 MODERN VIEWS ON THE PATHOGENESIS OF VITILIGO



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# СОВРЕМЕННЫЕ ВЗГЛЯДЫ НА ПАТОГЕНЕЗ ВИТИЛИГО

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**Резюме.** Витилиго – бу дерматологияда энг кенг тарқалган гипомеланоз булиб, атрофмухит омиллари, метаболик ва оксидланиш стресс, иммунитет тизимнинг фаоллиги ва хужайра тузилишидаги анормаллик билан боглиқ булган отоиммун генетик воситачи касаллик сифатида таснифланади. Мақолада витилиго патогенези буйича замонавий маълумотлар ифодаланган.

**Калит сўзлар:** витилиго, оксидланиш стресс, хотира Т хужайралари, тугма иммунитет, адаптив иммунитет, тартибга солувчи Т хужайлари.

Abstract. Vitiligo is the most common hypomelanosis in dermatology, classified as an autoimmune genetically mediated disease associated with environmental factors, metabolic and oxidative stress, immune system activity and abnormalities in cell structure. The article is a review. The current data on the pathogenesis, of vitiligo are presented. Keywords: vitiligo, oxidative stress, memory T cells, innate immunity, adaptive immunity, regulatory T cells.

Relevance. Vitiligo is a multifactorial chronic inflammatory skin disease, with a polygenic type of inheritance, is an idiopathic dyschromia of the skin, characterized by the appearance of depigmented, often symmetrically arranged spots of various sizes, milky-white outlines with a surrounding area with moderate hyperpigmentation and a tendency to peripheral growth [2,6,11,15]. Vitiligo is characterized by a chronic, in most cases progressive course, expressed in an increase in the number and the size of the foci. It was found that the appearance of depigmentation foci is caused by the destruction of melanocytes in the affected skin [2,11]. The prevalence of vitiligo, depending on the geographical region, in various ethnic groups is diverse and ranges from 0.5 to 2% of the population as a whole, with young age accounting for up to 70% of cases [8,31]. Men and

women suffer equally, although women and girls seek counseling more often, perhaps because of the greater negative social impact [8, 16, 23]. Vitiligo can begin at any age, but it is more often manifested in the age group of 10-30 years. Although vitiligo does not affect life expectancy, the difference in color has a serious impact on the quality of life and mental well-being of patients, as patients are often stigmatized and socially isolated, as well as more susceptible to mental illness [3, 24, 32].

The etiology and pathogenesis of vitiligo are still insufficiently studied. The disease is multifactorial, both exogenous and endogenous factors are important in its development. Exogenous factors include stress, mechanical irritation and trauma (Kebner phenomenon), excessive ultraviolet irradiation and chemical agents. Of the endogenous ones, somatic and infectious diseases (autoimmune thyroiditis, rheumatoid arthritis, lupus erythematosus, liver diseases of infectious or toxic origin, worm infestations), taking medications that affect the pigment-forming function of melanocytes are most often noted [4]. Many mechanisms of destruction of melanocytes in vitiligo have been proposed. These include genetic, autoimmune reactions, oxidative stress, formation of inflammatory mediators and mechanisms of melanocyte detachment. Apparently, both innate and adaptive elements of the immune system are involved [2,5,11,36]. Wednesday. The earliest trigger factors that lead to vitiligo are not fully understood. Numerous studies show that the combination of internal defects of melanocytes and exposure to certain environmental factors may play a central role in the onset of the disease. This was evident in the example of a group of factory workers who developed vitiligo after exposure to monobenzone, an organic chemical phenol. More recent studies have confirmed that exposure to other phenolic and catecholic chemicals found in dyes (especially hair dyes), resins/adhesives, was associated with the occurrence of vitiligo [20,33].

Genetics. Convincing data from numerous studies indicate the importance of genetic factors in the development of vitiligo, although it is obvious that these influences are complex. The risk of developing the disease in a patient's brother or sister is 6%, and for identical twins - 23% [7]. In addition, patients with vitiligo and their relatives have an increased risk of developing other autoimmune diseases, including autoimmune thyroiditis, type 1 diabetes, malignant anemia and Addison's disease. [23]. These early observations were later confirmed by large-scale genome-wide association studies (GWAS), which revealed about 50 different genetic loci that create the risk of vitiligo [10], encoding components of both the innate (NLRP1, IFIH1, CASP7, C1QTNF6, TRIF) and adaptive immune systems (FOXP3, BACH2, CD80, CCR6, PTPN22, IL2R, alpha GZMB, HLA class I and II) [29]. Thus, the NALP1 gene on chromosome 17p13 encoding the leucine-rich repeating protein 1 NACHT is a regulatory.

**Oxidative stress.** Oxidative stress is a condition of tissues characterized by an increased level of oxygen radicals in them, i.e. reactive oxygen species (ROS), which have a high reactivity and cause, in particular, modification of proteins, carbohydrates, lipids, nucleic acids. ROS play an important role in a number of metabolic processes. Normally, the formation and decay of ROS are in a state of balance, protecting cellular structures from damage and ensuring that they perform important signaling functions. They affect the functional activity of cells due to the metabolism of Ca2+, stimulation of protein phospholation, lipid hydrolysis, activation of transcription factors, participate in the formation of biologically active regulators, provide immune responses [2]. Studies suggest that oxidative stress may be the initial event in the destruction of melanocytes [27, 35]. Indeed, it has been found that the melanocytes of patients with vitiligo are more susceptible to oxidative stress than the melanocytes of healthy people. Evidence suggests that the melanocytes of patients with vitiligo have internal defects that reduce their ability to manage cellular stress. Epidermal cells, including melanocytes, are constantly exposed to environmental stressors such as UV radiation and various chemicals that can increase ROS production. While healthy melanocytes are able to mitigate these stressors, the melanocytes of patients with vitiligo seem to be more vulnerable. High concentrations of epidermal H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> and reduced levels of catalase, a critical enzyme that protects cells from oxidative damage, were found in the skin of patients with vitiligo [16,30].

There is a widespread change in ant imbalance of elevated markers of oxidative stress (superoxide dismutase, malondialdehyde, ROS) and significant depletion of antioxidant mechanisms (catalase, glutathione peroxidase, glutathione reductase, thioredoxin reductase and thioredoxinase, thioredoxinase, as well as reparative enzymes methionine sulfoxide reductase A and B) in the skin and blood [15, 35]. It has been suggested that this imbalance between pro-oxidants and antioxidants in vitiligo is responsible for the increased sensitivity of melanocytes to external prooxidant incentives [16, 27, 35]. Generation and accumulation of ROS, in turn, can cause DNA damage, oxidation and fragmentation of proteins and lipid peroxidation, thereby disrupting their cellular function [11, 16]. Reduced adhesion of melanocytes due to oxidative stress was found at the borders of vitiligo lesions, which may explain the Kebner phenomenon [22, 33]. The interaction of melanocytes and keratinocytes does not require specific adhesive structures, such as desmosomes, but simple adhesive molecules, such as integrins and cadherins. In the skin not affected by the lesion, in patients with vitiligo, the expression of e-cadherins is reduced, and the expression of tenascin, an anti-adhesion molecule, is increased [33]. In the skin of vitiligo, chronic friction can activate epithelial cells, which, in turn, convert mechanical forces into biochemical signals [35], causing intracellular stress and subsequent changes in cadherin expression [22].

ROS are endogenous toxic agents that cause cell death and reduce the function of melanocytes [7]. They are contained in high concentrations in the epidermis, blood serum, tissue fluid of depigmented skin areas in vitiligo, which, together with the insufficiency of the antioxidant system, plays an important role in the development and progression of the disease [1, 2, 44]. Innate immunity. Innate immunity in vitiligo eliminates the gap between oxidative stress and adaptive immunity. It is likely that the activation of innate immunity cells occurs at an early stage of vitiligo due to the perception of exogenously or endogenously induced stress signals released by melanocytes and possibly keratinocytes [43]. According to studies of genome-wide associations, multiple susceptibility loci associated with genes that control innate immunity are involved in patients with vitiligo [29]. This probably causes a violation of the regulation of innate activation in response to melanocyte stress, which manifests itself in the attraction of innate populations, such as natural killer cells (NK), as well as in the production and release of high levels of proinflammatory proteins and cytokines, including heat shock proteins (HSP), IL-1β, IL-6 and IL-8 [38].

Among the larger HSP molecules, inducible HSP70 (HSP70i) is unique because it can be secreted by chaperone peptides specific to the original host cells, protecting cells from apoptosis [34]. It has recently been shown that HSP70i is important for the pathogenesis of vitiligo in a mouse model due to the induction of inflammatory dendritic cells, which themselves can be cytotoxic or carry and present melanocyte-specific antigens to T cells in lymphoid tissues [36,38]. It has been suggested that this is a key step in the cross-interaction between innate and adaptive immunity, leading to T-cell-mediated autoimmune destruction of melanocytes [35, 37]. Induced heat shock protein 70 (HSP70i), calreticulin (CRT) and high mobility group B1 protein (HMGB1) are the most studied molecules in vitiligo [11, 13].

Conclusion. Vitiligo is a common multifactorial skin disease with a very complex pathogenesis. Although significant progress has been made recently in understanding vitiligo, uncertainty remains as to what ultimately causes the destruction of melanocytes, and further research is needed to fully elucidate the pathogenesis of vitiligo. The identification of biological mediators and molecular mechanisms that lead to metabolic defects and, consequently, to melanocyte degeneration and autoimmunity is important for identifying new therapeutic targets and drugs that can prevent, stop the progression of the disease or even cure vitiligo. The experience of systemic biological therapy targeting cytokines, as in psoriasis, suggests that a similar approach can be successfully used in vitiligo.

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## СОВРЕМЕННЫЕ ВЗГЛЯДЫ НА ПАТОГЕНЕЗ ВИТИЛИГО

Мавлянова Ш.З., Шукуров И.Б., Яхшиева М.Ф.

Резюме. Витилиго является самым распространенным в дерматологии гипомеланозом, классифицируется как аутоиммунное генетически опосредованное заболевание, связанное с факторами окружающей среды, метаболическим и окислительным стрессом, активностью иммунной системы и аномалиями строения клеток. Статья носит обзорный характер, в ней освещены современные данные о патогенезе витилиго.

**Ключевые слова:** витилиго, окислительный стресс, Т клетки памяти, врожденный иммунитет, адаптивный иммунитет, регуляторные Т клетки.