

- Lesions may enlarge peripherally, may coalesce into extensive patches and gradually become generalized. In the summer, lesions become more conspicuous due to surrounding dark skin.
- In the menstrual cycle, white patches may turn pink-red and then return to normal after the cycle.
- The lesions normally have hyper-pigmented borders or the borders may be raised.
- The hairs may or may not be white on lesions, and the loss of pigment in hairs is called leucotrichia or achromotrichia.
- Skin, hair and mucus membranes are affected in this disease.
- Increased sweating in lesions, where there is vasoconstriction, less sensation in skin; patients become less tolerant to sunlight
- The leucoderma patches are most common in the hands, feet, arms, face, lips, armpits, groin, navel and genitals.
- In the case that the scalp is affected, the hair growing area may also be devoid of colour.

3.2 TYPES OF LEUCODERMA

According to extent of the involved areas, the lesions have been classified as

- Leucoderma *Localista*
- Leucoderma *Generalista*
- Leucoderma *Universalis*

3.2.1 LEUCODERMA LOCALISATA (LOCALIZED)

This occurs only over one part of the body, e.g. face, hands and legs, scalp, genitalia, perineal area or on one side of the face. Localized types may be unilateral and cover the area of the segmental supply of the peripheral nerve, i.e. patches that occur along the directions of cutaneous nerves.

3.2.2 LEUCODERMA GENERALISTA (GENERALIZED)

This involves more than 50–60% of the body surface area. Small hypopigmented spots appear over exposed area like face, neck, body folds and external orifices, sites of recent trauma, umbilicus, genitals and mucus membranes. The borders of maculae appear convex, looking like an invasion on pigmented area, which shows the concave pigmented border area.

3.2.3 LEUCODERMA UNIVERSALIS (UNIVERSALIZED)

The entire cutaneous surface is depigmented. Small hyperpigmented spots appear on the exposed part of the skin in response to unavoidable exposure to skin. It closely resembles albinism (pseudotalbinism) except the persistence of pigment remains in the eyes and hair.