



SDI Review Form 1.6

Journal Name:	<u>International Journal of TROPICAL DISEASE & Health</u>
Manuscript Number:	Ms_IJTDH_34381
Title of the Manuscript:	The first report on applying digital epiluminescence dermoscopy to guide topical treatment for generalised vitiligo
Type of the Article	Case report

General guideline for Peer Review process:

This journal's peer review policy states that **NO** manuscript should be rejected only on the basis of '**lack of Novelty**', provided the manuscript is scientifically robust and technically sound.

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PART 1: Review Comments

	Reviewer's comment	Author's comment (if agreed with reviewer, correct the manuscript and highlight that part in the manuscript. It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here)
Compulsory REVISION comments	The expression "first report" would be omitted from the title. This is not the first report about the use of epiluminescence dermoscopy as a tool for psoriasis observation and diagnosis. Even authors mention that they have published a paper about that yet (ref. 2). Furthermore, there are more reports on this subject, but they are not referenced. Authors should include and discuss in the manuscript at least the following three references: Vázquez-López et al. <i>Dermatology</i> 2003;207:151–156 https://doi.org/10.1159/000071785 Zalaudek et al., <i>Dermatology</i> 2006;212:7–18 https://doi.org/10.1159/000089015 Lallas et al. <i>British J. Dermatol</i>, 2012; 166(6), 1198–1205. DOI: 10.1111/j.1365-2133.2012.10868.x English should also be improved. The manuscript should be edited and refined.	We agree to all the comments of the Reviewer. We revised the title of the article to be "A report on applying digital epiluminescence dermoscopy to guide topical treatment for generalised vitiligo". We deleted one sentence. (lines 13 and 14) We inserted and discussed all three reference. (lines 111-115) We improved the English and refined the manuscript in various places.
Minor REVISION comments	Provided the vitiligo disappeared in 4 months in this case report, as authors state (textually lines 66-67, "virtually all traces of GV were gone then") final pictures at that stage would make the report much more convincing. Some pictures are unnecessary (i.e. the duplicity of Figures 2a and 2b should be eliminated. One figure with the marked areas is enough). Figure legends should be re-written, refined and focused in the picture rather than patient' feelings. An abbreviation list should be included at the beginning of the manuscript (GV, QOL, DED and so on) Line 34: There is only one right hand	We inserted this statement: "Unfortunately, clinical photos showing complete remission were not available." (lines 65 and 66) We deleted the redundant figures. There are now only one Figure 2a and one Figure 2b. We revised all captioned of the figures. We deleted all statement referring to the patient's feelings. (Figure 1c) We revised line 61 to be "Improvements for all skin areas, shown or not shown in Figures 3a, 3b, and 3c were startling". (line 61 and 62)



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	Line 61: Figures 3a-3b-3c are the correct ones in that discussion. Line 79: The link between the nature treatment and fluorinated corticosteroid is lacking. Lines 98-99: In the transitional zone, the perifollicular pigments are therefore still intact, while the perifollicular pigments are already gone. Obviously, something is wrong (peri and peri). Figure 4 is other case. Anyway, if epiluminescence dermoscopy can locate the zones of perifollicular sparing of depigmentation, these zones should be marked. Otherwise, the figure is not informative and could be omitted.	We revised line 79 to be “We would like to focus the topical treatment to the most active areas of the disease. These sites were most likely at the transitional sites with sparing of the perifollicular melanocytes. We therefore advised the patient to apply the fluorinated corticosteroid mainly on these sites.” (lines 76-79) We revised lines 98-99 to be “In the transitional zone, the perifollicular pigments are therefore still intact, while the interfollicular pigments are already gone.” (lines 97 and 98) We revised the caption of Figure 4 to be “The back of another patient with generalised vitiligo. Only epiluminescence dermoscopy can locate the zones of perifollicular sparing of depigmentation. These areas were detected by digital epiluminescence dermoscopy (on the upper parts of the lesion), and annotated by dark ovals.”
<u>Optional/General</u> comments	This is an interesting report. Doses, localization of application areas?	We inserted these sentences: “The dose was 0.05% clobetasol propionate (Dermovate™) ointment, to be applied twice weekly. We took several clinical photos covering the trunk and limbs of the patient, examined him with DED, marked the transitional sites on the image files, printed the images, handed such to him, and advised him to apply the ointment on the sites marked.” (lines 54-58)