

# Vitiligo, alopecia areata may up atopic dermatitis risk

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Photo courtesy: James Heilman, MD

The prevalence of atopic dermatitis is higher among patients with vitiligo or alopecia areata, according to research published online Dec. 3 in *JAMA Dermatology*.

(HealthDay)—The prevalence of atopic dermatitis (AD) is higher among patients with vitiligo or alopecia areata (AA), according to research published online Dec. 3 in *JAMA Dermatology*.

Girish C. Mohan, M.D., and Jonathan I. Silverberg, M.D., Ph.D., M.P.H., of the Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine in Chicago, conducted a [systematic review](#) of the literature and performed a meta-analysis of data from 33 observational studies. The authors sought to assess the prevalence of AD among patients with and without either vitiligo or AA.

The researchers found that pooled analysis showed significantly

increased risk of AD in patients with vitiligo (odds ratio [OR], 7.82; P patients with alopecia totalis or alopecia universalis rather than patchy alopecia (OR, 1.22; P = 0.04).

"Patients with either vitiligo, especially early-onset disease, or AA, especially alopecia totalis or alopecia universalis, have significantly increased risk for AD," the authors write.

**More information:** [Abstract](#)  
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