

**Title:** The family experience of childhood vitiligo: An interpretative  
phenomenological analysis

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### **Interview Schedule: Child**

**1. Tell me about your family.**

**Prompts:** Who is in your family? Who do you live with? What do they think of your vitiligo? (If drawn picture: Can you tell me about the people you have drawn? Who is this? What are they doing? What are they thinking/feeling?)

**2. Tell me about your friends.**

**Prompts:** Where did you meet your friends? What do you do with them? How do you feel about your friends? What do you think about your friends? How do you think they feel/think about you?

**3. Can you tell me about school?**

**Prompts:** What do you do at school? What do you enjoy/not enjoy? How do feel about school? What do you think about it?

**4. Can you tell me about when you first noticed your vitiligo?**

**Prompts:** What did you think about it? How did you feel about it?

**5. What is your vitiligo like for you now?**

**Prompts:** What do you call it? What do you think about it? How do you feel about it? Have these changed over time? What does your vitiligo mean to you?

**6. Can you describe what it's like for you if you meet somebody new?**

**Prompts:** Have you met anybody new recently? Can you tell me about what happened? If not, how do you feel about the idea of meeting new people? What does it make you think? What do you think their thoughts and feelings about you might be? Does your vitiligo have an impact on how you think/feel about meeting new people?

**7. Can you describe any help that you have had for your vitiligo?**

**Prompts:** Have you seen any doctors? Do you use any creams? Have you talked to anybody else about how it makes you feel?

**8. Thanks and debrief**

## **2.0 Interview Schedule: Parent**

### **1. Can you tell me about your family?**

**Prompts:** Who is in your family? Who lives with you? What do they think of/how do they feel about vitiligo?

### **2. When did you first notice the vitiligo? Can you tell me about that time?**

**Prompts:** What happened? How were you feeling about it? What were you thinking about it?

### **3. We discussed when you first noticed your child's vitiligo; can you tell me about it now?**

**Prompts:** What does it involve? How do you feel/think about it? What do you think your child feels/think about it?

### **4. Tell me about your child's friends.**

**Prompts:** Where did they meet their friends/where do they see them? What do they do with them?

### **5. Can you describe what it's like for you and your child if you meet somebody new?**

**Prompts:** Have you met anybody new recently? Can you tell me about what happened? If not, how do you feel about the idea of meeting new people? What does it make you think? What do you think their thoughts and feelings about you might be?

Does your child's vitiligo have an impact on how you think/feel about meeting new people?

**6. Can you describe any help that you have had for your child's vitiligo?**

**Prompts:** Any medical treatments? Any alternative treatments? Have you talked to anyone about your feelings/thoughts about vitiligo? Have you sought any psychological support?

**7. Thanks and debrief**

### 3.0 Example of Analytic Process

Superordinate Theme	Subordinate Theme	Description	Evidence
The Significance of Visible Difference	a. Anticipatory fear & a desire to conceal	Visible vitiligo (particularly on face) is worst feature for those who have it and most feared by those who don't. Facial vitiligo (or its prediction) leads/would lead to exploring 'treatment' options or concealment	<p><b>C1:</b> 'But really, the place I want it to go the most is my face... Because that's the most obvious place. It is. Because usually I'll go out in jeans and a hoody and you wouldn't really see my feet because I've got shoes on and my face would be the only place you could see it.'</p> <p><b>A1:</b> "I'm happy for him – if it's naturally changing, then good. But unfortunately the bits that are changing are the bits you don't see. The bits that I think he'd like to change are his knees and his face."</p> <p><b>C2:</b> "Well, if it was on my face, I wouldn't really like it being on my face so I would try to get rid of it. If it was on my legs I wouldn't really mind... It's because your face is what everybody sees."</p> <p><b>A2:</b> '...she said if you wanted to go down that line, you could have – she mentioned some laser treatment, she mentioned – can't even remember now, but we decided that if it were on her face we might consider it.'</p> <p><b>C4:</b> "if it grew, then it would be, because it might mean that I wouldn't be able to do some things that I might have wanted to do. Because I want to be a model, and I wouldn't be able to do that in some perspectives if it grew, because it would be all over me and they wouldn't want me to do that, because some clothes might show it, and then – it just wouldn't be right."</p> <p><b>C4:</b> 'You know, if it went all over my face I'd be really – I wouldn't want to go anywhere; I'd just want to stay in all day and not do anything.'</p>

**A4:** "[Researcher: Does her vitiligo have any effect?] No. But I fear that she will – because of the fact that it's on her genitals, I think she might suffer with boys in the future. I think – I don't know, I just think meeting someone and having a relationship with someone for the first time and you know, young boys maybe not be quite so forgiving.'

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