

Fig. S1. Grouped Beck Depression Inventory scores of healthy controls ($n = 23$) and patients ($n = 96$). Grouping according to literature (44). The proportion of different levels of depression was almost identical in both groups with no statistically significant difference ($p = 0.162$, χ^2 -test). Patients were not less or more depressed than healthy controls.

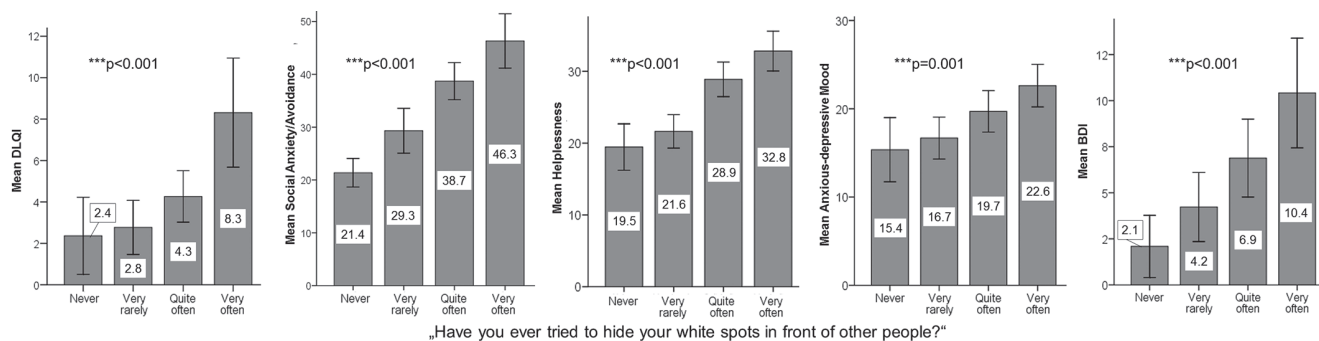


Fig. S2. Results of the questionnaires used in relation to concealing of vitiligo ($n=96$): never ($n=11$, 11.5%), very rarely ($n=22$, 22.9%), quite often ($n=34$, 35.4%), very often ($n=29$, 30.2%). There is a strong relationship between frequency of avoidance behaviour and scores of all questionnaires used in this study. High scores go along with high frequency of concealing the white spots in front of other people. Levels of significance measured by a one-way ANOVA test.

Table SI. Questionnaire results depending on various socio-demographic and disease-related variables. Levels of significance were measured with a T-test (2 variables only) or a one-way ANOVA test (more than 2 variables)

Question	n	DLQI			ACS - Social anxiety/ avoidance			ACS - Helplessness			ACS - Anxious- depressive mood			BDI		
		Mean	SD	p	Mean	SD	p	Mean	SD	p	Mean	SD	p	Mean	SD	p
Sex																
Male	35	4.43	4.810	0.464	35.77	11.936	0.529	27.17	7.509	0.879	17.40	6.585	0.026*	5.06	6.264	0.048*
Female	61	5.21	5.389		37.49	14.288		27.43	8.467		20.54	6.425		7.79	6.621	
Skin phototypes groups (Fitzpatrick classification)																
I to III (fair skin)	81	4.73	5.160	0.385	35.90	12.943	0.103	26.72	7.831	0.082	18.88	6.266	0.074	6.44	5.983	0.232
IV to VI (dark skin)	15	6.00	5.292		42.07	15.299		30.67	8.926		22.20	7.975		8.67	9.271	
Age groups																
<20 years	3	1.33	0.577	0.139	28.00	8.544	0.043*	23.33	10.970	0.210	10.67	2.517	0.007*	1.00	1.732	0.046*
20–29 years	12	6.08	4.441		44.83	14.838		31.42	5.961		24.75	6.454		11.50	7.305	
30–39 years	29	3.97	3.840		35.90	11.638		26.90	7.551		18.55	5.552		6.00	5.738	
40–49 years	30	5.60	6.457		37.70	14.523		27.57	8.705		18.70	6.455		5.80	5.549	
50–59 years	13	3.15	3.387		28.92	8.684		23.62	7.985		18.46	6.463		6.08	7.041	
60–70 years	9	8.00	6.557		41.00	14.824		29.22	8.378		21.56	7.634		9.33	9.000	
Groups of age at disease onset																
0–11 years	15	3.53	3.461	0.529	39.80	12.841	0.418	27.80	7.457	0.994	19.60	6.885	0.407	6.87	5.755	0.943
12–19 years	24	5.21	4.681	39.46	15.520	27.29	8.275	20.79	6.400	6.83	6.964					
20–39 years	46	4.85	5.287	34.65	12.505	27.15	8.329	18.26	6.544	7.02	6.865					
>40 years	11	6.55	7.435	36.45	13.254	27.55	8.595	20.82	7.139	5.64	6.423					
New patient or enrolled with the institute for at least one year?																
New	54	6.03	5.766	0.052	39.76	14.906	0.032*	28.07	8.528	0.192	20.96	7.108	0.012*	7.88	7.483	0.045*
Already enrolled	42	4.31	3.569		34.63	11.920		26.20	8.438		17.98	6.522		5.39	5.267	
Is there somebody else in the family with vitiligo?																
Yes	27	4.19	5.099	0.382	36.81	13.940	0.982	26.52	6.919	0.540	19.81	5.677	0.701	5.59	6.122	0.267
No	69	5.22	5.210		36.88	13.343		27.65	8.532		19.23	6.994		7.26	6.753	
Is your vitiligo spreading?																
Yes	44	4.59	4.571	0.846	36.43	11.884	0.832	27.14	7.040	0.218	19.11	5.768	0.866	6.73	5.517	0.330
No, it is stable	31	5.23	6.495		36.43	14.666		25.97	8.006		19.93	6.938		5.77	5.764	
No, it is repigmenting	21	5.19	4.535		38.48	15.455		29.95	9.997		19.67	7.882		8.57	9.341	
Do you do any sports, or do you have a hobby?																
Yes	76	5.12	5.506	0.474	36.72	13.032	0.668	27.49	7.946	0.895	19.71	6.760	0.507	7.12	7.009	0.401
No	20	4.16	3.760	38.21	15.212	27.21	8.804	18.58	6.021	5.68	4.715					
Has anyone ever mentioned your white spots, or have you been asked what it is?																
Yes, very often	23	4.96	4.931	0.002**	38.57	11.692	0.016*	29.13	7.933	0.176	19.48	6.338	0.283	8.13	6.398	0.102
Yes, sometimes	64	4.14	4.368		34.70	12.726		26.27	7.518		18.91	6.553		5.84	6.165	
No	9	10.44	7.844		47.89	17.638		30.33	11.435		22.67	7.665		10.11	8.923	
Have you ever been picked upon or has anyone ever been nasty to you because of your white spots?																
Yes, sometimes ^a	22	6.00	6.149	0.281	42.45	11.488	0.025*	28.91	6.914	0.272	22.00	6.510	0.034*	8.18	7.222	0.27
No	73	4.63	4.878		35.12	13.674		26.74	8.383		18.59	6.542		6.40	6.431	
Have you ever avoided certain situations because of your white spots?																
Yes	64	5.94	5.698	0.006*	41.53	12.914	< 0.001***	29.36	7.399	< 0.001***	20.39	6.927	0.037*	7.70	7.122	0.045*
Never	32	2.91	3.115		27.53	8.930		23.28	7.997		17.41	5.558		4.97	5.000	
Have the following factors influenced your disease?																
Psychological stress																
Yes	60	5.86	5.159	0.005*	37.27	12.188	0.770	27.92	7.551	0.929	21.08	6.418	0.003**	9.43	6.551	< 0.001***
No	36	2.41	2.520		36.32	11.708		27.73	8.691		16.23	4.869		3.41	3.581	
Trauma to the skin (Koebner)																
Yes	41	5.04	5.358	0.414	37.80	10.292	0.554	27.84	7.016	0.865	21.28	4.844	0.016*	7.32	6.046	0.694
No	55	4.03	3.988		36.00	12.189		28.18	7.943		17.64	5.999		6.70	5.871	
Other diseases																
Yes	18	5.33	4.153	0.437	37.33	11.380	0.883	28.22	8.348	0.743	17.22	6.280	0.435	6.78	7.085	0.975
No	78	4.08	4.393		36.68	12.164		27.25	7.915		19.00	6.085		6.85	6.125	
Affected body parts																
Arms																
Slightly	35	4.17	4.026	0.091	34.06	12.544	0.012*	26.69	7.153	0.124	18.46	6.505	0.099	6.54	6.031	0.925
Severely	38	6.26	6.088		42.00	13.796		29.53	8.340		21.05	6.742		6.68	6.711	
Trunk																
Slightly	39	3.69	3.679	0.020*	33.36	12.558	0.031*	26.67	9.033	0.450	17.00	6.325	0.002**	4.72	5.211	0.059
Severely	29	6.52	6.081		40.69	14.738		28.24	7.600		22.14	6.529		7.48	6.642	
Any grey hair on scalp?																
Yes	54	5.44	5.761	0.307	38.69	13.516	0.222	28.13	8.042	0.436	20.33	6.243	0.151	7.27	6.538	0.504
No	42	4.32	4.497		35.24	13.296		26.80	8.274		18.32	7.122		6.34	6.729	
Any grey hair in eyebrows/eyelashes?																
Yes	33	5.38	6.565	0.637	37.52	15.292	0.697	26.48	8.883	0.566	19.83	6.714	0.479	19.83	6.714	0.630
No	63	4.80	4.558		36.30	12.649		27.54	7.493		18.79	6.249		18.79	6.249	

^aThere was just one patient who answered "Yes, very often". This case has been omitted for statistical reasons.

*0.05. **0.001. ***0.0001.

Significant values are shown in bold.

Table SII. Pearson correlation analyses between main scores and age of all patients, age at disease onset as well as duration of their vitiligo (n = 96)

	Questionnaire	Pearson correlation	p
Age	DLQI	0.144	0.162
	ACS Social anxiety avoidance	-0.064	0.533
	ACS Helplessness	-0.058	0.577
	ACS Anxious-depressive mood	0.021	0.835
	BDI	0.008	0.938
Age at disease onset	DLQI	0.120	0.245
	ACS Social anxiety avoidance	-0.099	0.340
	ACS Helplessness	0.003	0.977
	ACS Anxious-depressive mood	-0.006	0.956
	BDI	0.003	0.979
Disease duration	DLQI	0.016	0.879
	ACS Social anxiety avoidance	0.056	0.588
	ACS Helplessness	-0.038	0.714
	ACS Anxious-depressive mood	0.047	0.649
	BDI	0.014	0.889

All time-related factors used in this study did not correlate with any of the questionnaires' scores. Hence, impairment of well-being does not depend on age, age at disease onset or duration of the disease.

DLQI: Dermatology Life Quality Index; ACS: Adjustment to Chronic Skin Disorders Questionnaire; BDI: Beck Depression Inventory.