Title: Understanding The Scar—The Most Human of Pathologies

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Abstract (286 words)

Statement of the Problem:

Scar formation is a requisite conclusion to every insult, trauma, or deviation from homeostatic physiology. Amazingly, the spectrum of wound healing is especially unique in humans. As such, the management of scarring runs the gamut of scientific rigor. We present a critical review of literature looking at the fundamental understanding of scar healing, appraise its future directions and controversies, as well as introduce our institution's approach to managing complex scars.

Methodology & Theoretical Orientation:

This study was performed as a critical literature review using Pubmed™, searching for relevants works regarding scar management. Inclusion and exclusion criteria was necessarily unrestrictive to include all pathologies, genders and ages, but with focus on clinical impact. While this study cannot be an exhaustive representation, it is a critical analysis of the most impactful literature that supports our institution's understanding of scar management.

Findings:

While there are emerging animal models approaching human physiology, scar hypertrophy and keloid formation remains uniquely human. Newer techniques and technologies in scar management including lasers, radiation, immunomodulators, and tension management are emerging; while other foundational techniques like silicone dressings and steroid therapy will continue to play a strong role in clinical management. We present our experience in a variety of pathologies and treatments to illustrate that scar hypertrophy and keloid formation is necessarily an entity that requires a practioner to be fascile in a multimodal approach.

Conclusion and Significance:

In order to offer your patient the most effective scar managment, it is necessary to understand when, why, and how to use the gamut of treatment modalities available. This review offers a critical apprasial of current techniques, and presents a university Plastic Surgery group's evidence-based approach to treating scar hypertrophy and keloid formation.



Biography (144 words)

Srikanth Kurapati MD, MBA, CPHQ completed his MD, MBA at the University of Cincinnati College of Medicine at the age of 26 years. From there, he completed a residency in General Surgery at the University of Pittsburgh Mercy Hospitals in 2016. He acted as Clinical Instructor in General Surgery and Chief Resident in Quality Improvement and Patient Safety at Baylor College of Medicine in 2017, prior to starting his resdiency in Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery at the University of Alabama Birmingham. He is a Certified Professional in Healthcare Quality and Six Sigma Black Belt, with particular interest in the Economics of Healthcare delivery.

His research works include application of statistical methods to increase efficiency in healthcare as well as clinical research in abdominal wall reconstruction and rhinoplasty techniques. In his spare time, he enjoys playing tennis, dabbling in art, and running in obstacle races.

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Notes/Comments: