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Margin determination in hypertrophic scars induced by car tire injuries

Department of Dermatology and Cutaneous Biology Research Institute, Institute for Human Tissue Restoration, Department of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery, Yonsei University College of Medicine, Department of Bioengineering, College of Engineering, Hanyang University, Seoul, Korea

Jung U Shin, Ju Hee Lee, Yong-Oock Kim, Chae-Ok Yun, Jihun Park, Won Jai Lee

Hypertrophic scars, especially those on feet after the car tire injuries, are problematic to young patients and cause functional disabilities. Therefore, it is important to decide better surgical procedures for the patient. By examining the influence of surgical margins on the recurrence of hypertrophic scars and comparing the recurrence rates, we tried to find out the efficacy of each excision methods: intramarginal excision and extramarginal excision. A retrospective review of patients had been performed, and total of 15 patients with car tire injury-induced hypertrophic scars, who received surgical excision and skin grafts treatments are analyzed. Whether all patients treated with intramarginal excision experienced hypertrophic scar recurrence within 6 months, only three of nine patients exhibited recurrences when the hypertrophic scars were excised with 3-5 mm of the margin in order to remove the abnormal collagen bundles completely (extramarginal excision). As a result, we could conclude that extramarginal excision, followed by skin graft is a viable alternative treatment option to the conventional reconstruction of the feet after hypertrophic scar excision, with causing less recurrence related issues.

Key Words: Hypertrophic scar, Excision, Margin

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Comparison study of axillary hair removal with long-pulsed alexandrite laser vs. intense pulsed light (IPL)

Department of Dermatology, Asan Medical Center, University of Ulsan College of Medicine, Seoul, Korea

Ji Hyun Lee, Hyung Min Lee, Chong Hyun Won, Sung Bun Chang, Mi Woo Lee, Jee Ho Choi, Kee Chan Moon

In recent years, the use of lasers to remove unwanted hair has generated much interest, not only among clinicians, but also among patients. Hair removal lasers work based on the theory of selective photothermolysis. The basis for laser hair removal is the specific targeting of melanin in the hair bulb. Melanin absorbs the light emitted by the laser at a specific wavelength. The energy of the laser converts into heat, causing the selective destruction of the hair bulb. Laser wavelength is a key factor influencing treatment efficacy and complication rate because different lasers have specific absorption properties. Currently, several lasers are available for the treatment of unwanted hair. The currently used photoepilation devices include ruby, alexandrite, long-pulsed neodymium: yttrium-aluminium-garnet (Nd:YAG) and diode lasers, and intense pulsed light (IPL). While many studies have been published that document the safety and efficacy of these laser systems, there has been few studies that investigated the laser hair removal in Korea. This study evaluates the safety and efficacy of the long-pulsed alexandrite laser and intense pulse light (IPL) for hair removal of the axilla.

Key Words: Axillary hair, Long-pulsed alexandrite laser

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Split-face comparison of conventional IPL versus novel IPL with pulse in pulse mode on melasma in Asian

Department of Dermatology, Asan Medical Center, University of Ulsan College of Medicine, Seoul, Korea, Department of Dermatology, Ilsan Paik Hospital, College of Medicine, Inje University, Goyang, Korea

Sang Min Lee, Sik Haw, Chong Hyun Won, Sung Bun Chang, Mi Woo Lee, Jee Ho Choi, Kee Chan Moon

Melasma is a common chronic disease that resistant to various treatments. Recently, neodymium-doped yttrium aluminium garnet laser (Nd:YAG) is one appealing treatment option showing relatively good results in Asian countries. However, this treatment modality can rarely induce punctate hypopigmentation. IPL is generally used to treatment of superficial skin pigmentation. With commonly used energy level, it often makes hyperpigmentation while punctuated hypopigmentation after IPL treatment is extremely rare. Recently, a new type of IPL (EclatST, Union medical Co., LTD, Seoul, South Korea) was developed. This type of IPL