On burn scar reconstruction
Clinimetric, experimental and clinical studies

Pauline D.H.M. Verhaegen

Stellingen
1. Without reliable and valid measurement tools, no reliable and valid conclusions can be drawn (this thesis).
2. Validation of both objective and subjective measurement tools is often limited by a lack of gold standard (this thesis).
3. Objective measurements of collagen are indispensable to understand the differences in the characteristics between healthy skin and scar tissue (this thesis).
4. The underlying mechanisms of extension of healthy skin and scar tissue can be explained predominantly by changes in the alignment and structure of the collagen bundles (this thesis).
5. In burn scar reconstructions, the least complicated technique in combination with the optimal use of healthy skin often renders the best functional and cosmetic outcome (this thesis).
6. The perforator-based interposition flap provides sustainable release for burn scar contractures (this thesis).
7. A significant larger burn scar can be excised in a single step procedure when the adjacent healthy skin is stretched intraoperatively (this thesis).
8. Intraoperative skin stretching for wound closure after burn scar excision is a safe, efficient and sustainable technique (this thesis).

"Thou shalt have a style" (Harold Giles)
10. What we have done for ourselves alone dies with us; what we have done for others and the world remains and is immortal (Albert Pikes)
11. If you tell the truth you don’t have to remember anything (Mark Twain)
12. Schrijven is schrappen (Goethe & Romans)
13. One who walks in another’s tracks leaves no footprints (proverb)
14. Dolce far niente (Italian proverb)

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