



STANDARD CONSENT FOR SCAR REVISION

Reduction of residual scarring from previous surgical incision or damage from wound such as piercings, gauges, dog bites, motorcycle accidents, ATV accidents, encounter with tools, nails, etc.

PATIENT (Print name): _____ Date of Birth: ___/___/___

PATIENT (Signature): _____ Date: _____

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GENERAL SURGICAL RISKS:

ABOUT RISKS:

- We want you to understand fully the risks involved in surgery so that you can make an informed decision. Although complications are infrequent, all surgeries have some degree of risk. We will use of expertise and knowledge to avoid complications in so far as we are able. If a complication does occur, we will use those same skills in an attempt to solve the problem quickly. The importance of having a highly qualified medical team and facility cannot be overestimated.
- In general, the least serious problems occur more often and the more serious problems occur rarely. If a complication does arise, you, the doctor, and the staff will need to cooperate in order to resolve the problem. Most complications involve an extension of the recovery period rather than any permanent effect on your final result.

NORMAL SYMPTOMS:

- SWELLING AND BRUISING - Moderate swelling and bruising are normal after any surgery. Severe swelling and bruising may indicate bleeding or possible infection.
- DISCOMFORT AND PAIN - Mild to moderate discomfort or pain is normal after any surgery. If the pain becomes severe and is not relieved by pain medication, please call us at 602.653.0540.

I have been informed of the complications listed on this page (1) (initial)_____

- CRUSTING ALONG THE INCISION LINES - We usually treat this with an antibiotic ointment (i.e. Neosporin).

- NUMBNESS - Small sensory nerves to the skin surface are occasionally cut when the incision is made or interrupted by undermining of the skin during surgery. The sensation in those areas gradually returns, usually within 2 or 3 months as the nerve endings heal spontaneously.
- ITCHING - Itching and occasional small shooting electrical sensations within the skin frequently occur as the nerve endings heal. Ice, skin moisturizers, and massages are frequently helpful. These symptoms are common during the recovery period.
- REDNESS OF SCARS - All new scars are red, dark pink, or purple. Scars on the face usually fade within 3 to 6 months. Scars of the breasts or body may take a year or longer to fade completely.

COMMON RISKS:

- HEMATOMA - Small collections of blood under the skin are usually allowed to absorb spontaneously. Larger hematomas may require aspiration, drainage, or even surgical removal to achieve the best result.
- INFLAMMATION OR INFECTION - A superficial infection may require antibiotic ointment. Deeper infections are treated with antibiotics. Development of an abscess usually requires drainage.
- THICK, WIDE, OR DEPRESSED SCARS - Abnormal scars may occur even though we have used the most modern surgical techniques. Injection of steroids into the scars, placement of silicone sheeting onto the scars, or further surgery to correct the scars is occasionally necessary. Some areas on the body scar more than others and some people scar more than others do. Your own history of scarring should give you some indication of what you can expect.
- WOUND SEPARATION OR DELAYED HEALING - Any incision, during the healing phase, may separate or heal unusually slow for a number of reasons. These include inflammation, infection, wound tension, decreased blood circulation, smoking or excess external pressure. If delayed healing occurs, the final outcome is usually not significantly affected, but secondary revision of the scar may be indicated.
- SENSITIVITY OR ALLERGY TO DRESSINGS OR TAPE - Occasionally, allergic or sensitivity reactions may occur from soaps, ointments, tape or sutures used during or after surgery. Such problems are unusual and are usually mild and easily treated. In extremely rare circumstances, allergic reactions can be severe and require aggressive treatment or even hospitalization.
- INCREASED RISKS FOR SMOKERS - Smokers have a greater of skin loss and poor healing because of decreased skin circulation.
- INJURY TO DEEPER STRUCTURES - Blood vessels, nerves and muscles may be injured during surgery. The incidence of such injuries is rare.

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RARER COMPLICATIONS:

- If they are severe, any of the problems mentioned under COMMON RISKS may significantly delay healing or necessitate further surgical procedures.
- Medical complications such as pulmonary embolism, severe allergic reactions to medications, cardiac arrhythmias, heart attack, and hyperthermia are rare but serious and life-threatening problems.

UNSATISFACTORY RESULT AND NEED FOR REVISION:

- All cosmetic surgery treatments and operations are performed to improve a condition, a problem, or appearance. While the procedures are performed with a very high probability of success, disappointments occur and results are not always acceptable to patients or the surgeon. Secondary procedures or treatments may be indicated. Rarely, problems may occur that are permanent.
- POOR RESULTS - Asymmetry, unhappiness with the result, poor healing, etc. may occur. Minimal differences are usually acceptable. Larger differences frequently require revisional surgery.

SPECIFIC SURGICAL RISKS:

- INCISIONS (SCARS) - After a scar revision, the scar will appear less obvious than previous scars. You should discuss your prior incisions with the Doctor and the experience you had during the healing process previously. You and your doctor should plan for post surgical revision of the incision to accommodate, within limits, different clothing, and bathing suit styles. In case of extreme skin redundancy, history of keloid, raised or uneven skintone there still may be areas of imperfection that remain post scar revision.
- UNEVEN CONTOURS - Following a scar revision, the skin contours may be slightly uneven and areas of slight depression or wrinkling can occur. As healing progresses, most of these problems (if present) usually improve dramatically within 6 months to a year.
- ASYMMETRY - Minimal asymmetry of revisional scars can as healing progresses still be present though improved. The mild asymmetry is usually not cosmetically significant. If the asymmetry is significant, secondary revisional surgery of the scars may be considered.
- LOSS OF SENSATION - Patients commonly experience areas of partial and/or complete numbness of the skin where the revision has been done. Few experience permanent loss of feeling, but it may take several months or longer for sensation to return. Rarely, areas of numbness persist.
- SKIN LOSS - Skin loss can result from infection or excessive tension. The treatment is the same regardless of the cause. Careful preoperative planning and resisting the urge to make the incision site heal faster by applying unprescribed ointments or healing agents reduces but does not eliminate the possibility of this problem occurring.
- "DOG EARS" - When the Doctor closes the angle at the end of the skin incision during the repair, a nipple or projection of bulging tissue called a "dog ear" can occur. Liposuction under the area or extension of the incisions can solve or reduce the problem. If a small "dog ear" appears at the end of surgery, it will usually flatten or disappear with time and healing. If it remains visible, a small procedure under local anesthesia can solve the problem at a later time.

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