

KELOIDS AND SCAR HYPERTROPHY

WHAT ARE KELOIDS AND SCAR HYPERTROPHY?

Keloids are the overgrowth of granulation tissue on a previously healed injury. They are firm, shiny and rubbery, and can sometimes cause pain and itchiness. Keloids typically grow beyond the boundaries of the original wound.

Scar hypertrophy is similar to keloids, but not as severe. They are usually confined to the boundaries of the wound and may improve over time.



Keloids

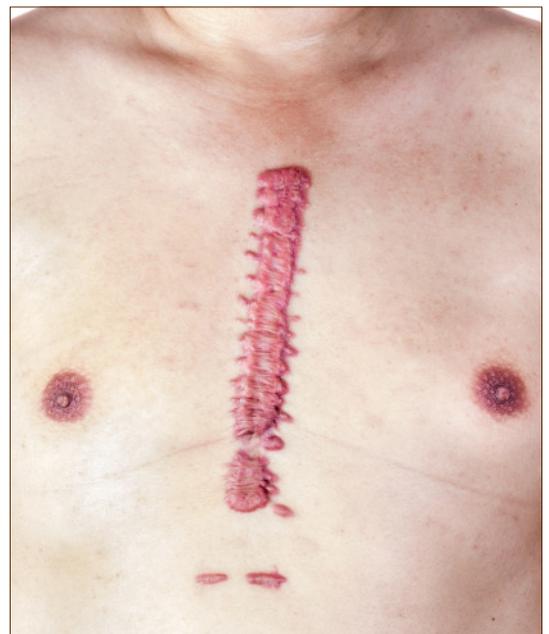


Scar hypertrophy

WHAT CAUSES KELOIDS AND SCAR HYPERTROPHY?

Keloids and scar hypertrophy can occur on any part of the body that has a history of skin injury or trauma. Certain sites of the body like the chest, back and ear lobes are more prone to keloid formation, whereas scar hypertrophy tends to occur after an injury that involves the deeper layers of the skin.

Unfortunately, certain individuals are more prone to keloid formation or scar hypertrophy for unknown reasons.



TREATMENT

1. Topical Treatment

There are medications and special silicon sheets available commercially to prevent scar hypertrophy or keloid formation. However, these are used more for preventive measures and will not be that useful for individuals who already have this condition.

2. Intralesional Steroid Injection

Steroids can be injected into the keloid / scar hypertrophy. This will in turn shrink the lesion, reducing the pain and itchiness. Each treatment typically lasts 3-4 months, although it depends on the individual.



3. Surgery

Surgery can be performed to remove the excess scar tissue. However, there is a possibility that it will grow back again.



Dr Lim Kai Hung
Family Physician

PARAGON MEDICAL

290 Orchard Road #07-18 to 20
Singapore 238859
paragon@lifescanmedical.sg
+65 6235 3253

THE ARCADE

11 Collyer Quay #03-28
Singapore 049317
arcade@lifescanmedical.sg
+65 6221 1358

PICKERING STREET

3 Pickering Street #01-01
Singapore 048660
pickering@lifescanmedical.sg
+65 6221 1651