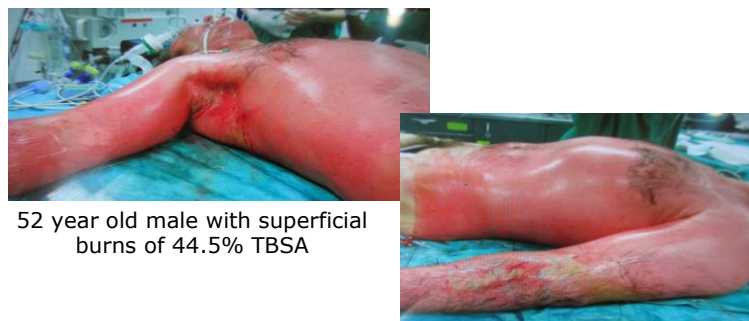


First experiences in the treatment of large superficial burns with silk Schiefer J, Fuchs PC

Aim

During the treatment of superficial burn injuries patients are often confronted with painful dressing changes. Therefore we often treat these wounds with very expensive materials like nylon mesh combined with animal collagen that can stay on the wound and slowly peel off during re-epithelialization.

Due to our good experiences with the treatment of small burn injuries with pure natural silk as cost-efficient material, we now also started treating large burn injuries for the first time with silk.



52 year old male with superficial burns of 44.5% TBSA



Silk applied to a large body surface area without external dressings

Results

In 24 of 27 cases all wounds healed unproblematically without dressing change, infection or further operations. In three cases, mostly chemical burns, initial burn depth assessment was not correct and skin grafting became necessary during wound healing. All patients were satisfied with the treatment, though stated a feeling of stiffness in dressings covering joints.

Methods

Altogether 27 patients with superficial burn injuries over 10% (10.5-49%) of the body surface area were treated with pure silk. Afterwards the wound healing, number of operations and the patient's satisfaction were evaluated.



Superficial burn injury 28.5% TBSA



2 days after application, removal of staplers and external dressings



4 weeks after injury, uneventful healing, Slight hyperpigmentation gone after 12 months

Conclusion

Altogether Dressilk is an interesting, cost-efficient material for the treatment of superficial burns. During the treatment of larger areas a careful wound depth evaluation is very important to avoid infections and further operations during wound healing.