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TO CURE BY TATTOOING SCARS?

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Aim: The purpose of this poster is to review the data available on medical tattoo, in connection with pathological skin and burn scars. To ask ourselves the following question: does the tattoo represent a therapeutic interest in scars treatment ?

Methods: Review of the scientific and informal literature on the subject (MeshTerms: Burn, Tattoo, Dermography, Dermopigmentation).

Results: Tattooing is an ancient procedure. Speculation surrounds the tattoo marks seen on the naturally preserved human body from 3300 bce found in a snowfield in the Tyrolean Alps.

In recent years, the practice of tattoo became commonplace and number of tattooed individuals has increased significantly.

Alongside these changes some patients become tattoo seekers on pathological skin. This practice is still marginal and unstructured.

Several studies show that damaged-skin camouflage is increasing quality of life for patients complaining about their physical aspect. However sometimes surgery is refused by patients. So it is important to propose other possibilities.

As regards tattoo most of risks could be avoided by a medicalization of the practices.

Conclusions: Medical tattoo can be used in a lots of skin pathology. But this practice presents advantages as inconveniences that it is advisable to know.

References: This work includes 37 bibliographical references.