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Collagen plus elastin dermal substitute

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The gold standard for the coverage of full-thickness skin defects are autologous skin grafts. However, poor skin quality and scar contracture are well-known problems in functional, highly strained regions. The use of dermal substitutes is an appropriate way to minimise scar contraction and, thereby, to optimise the quality of the reconstructed skin. The aim of this presentation is to present our long time experiences with a collagen-elastin matrix, Matriderm. All patients (n=70) with full-thickness skin defects were treated with the dermal substitute, Matriderm, and a skin graft. The take rate of the matrix-and-skin graft was 96%. Long-term follow-up revealed an overall Vancouver scar scale of 1.7. No limitation concerning function were observed.

This matrix represents a viable alternative to other types of defect coverage and should therefore be considered in the treatment of skin injuries, especially in very delicate regions such as the joint regions. The possibility of performing a one-stage procedure is supposed to be a major advantage in comparison to a two-stage procedure.

Biography

Lars-Peter Kamolz is Professor for Plastic, Aesthetic and Reconstructive Surgery and Head of the Division of Plastic, Aesthetic and Reconstructive Surgery, Department of Surgery, Medical University of Graz. Furthermore, he is the Head of the Research Unit for Tissue Regeneration, Repair and Reconstruction at the Medical University of Graz.

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