Scars in focus: interview with Severin Läuchli —continued from cover

Scars can be minimised by following the right techniques, but they cannot be fully avoided. They pose a really big burden on the patient, because they can itch, cause pain, and can really be disfiguring. All the treatments we have for pathological scars take a long time, and have an uncertain outcome.

What can delegates learn from attending this key session?
The session will be made up of four talks, focusing on the whole range of scars, including the pathophysiological mechanisms of scar formation, treating pathological scars, and scars in fragile skin, such as with the elderly.

Delegates can increase their understanding about how and why scars develop, learn how and why we can avoid scars, and learn about the treatment modalities available once a person has a pathological scar.

Will the talks today mention the psychological and cosmetic considerations of treating scars?
Certainly! While this won’t be the focus, it is certainly an important consideration, especially in the talk on pathological scars, where we’ll consider the disfigurement that goes with these scars.

What do you consider to be the most exciting updates in this area?
We are increasing our pathophysiological knowledge of scars and this may at some point lead to wound treatments that cause less scars, for example, by imitating the growth factors and cytokines employed in wound healing present in non-scarring neonatal wounds. There are also new treatments being used, such as the injection of chemotherapy drug 5FU (fluouracil), which can help reduce the size and symptoms of pathological scars.

What changes and improvements would you like to see in this area over the next few years?
I would like healthcare providers to become more familiar with the options available for avoiding and treating scars, because very often scars are just accepted as inevitable. While they are often unavoidable, they can still be treated once they are there. I would like all treatment providers to be aware of the treatment options available.

ESVS: 30 years of fighting vascular disease

The European Society for Vascular Surgery (ESVS) was founded in London 30 years ago this week, on 6 May 1987, and gathers together more than 2000 members, mostly (86%) based in Europe. Our members are medical specialists (72% surgeons and 27% trainees) involved in the care and treatment of patients suffering from vascular disease.

Our vision
ESVS seeks to be a leader in promoting optimal care, health and prevention for patients with vascular disease by:
1. Supporting high-quality research
2. Providing educational opportunities
3. Organising meetings, seminars, lectures
4. Commissioning and publishing guidelines
6. Promoting dialogue with national and international societies involved in the treatment of vascular disease
7. Advising regulatory authorities on matters relating to vascular disease.

The objectives of the society are to relieve suffering, and to prevent health and disease, including vascular surgery.

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Swiss firm medaxis is pioneering micro water jet technology

Haddenham’s easywrap: comfortable compression made easy

Haddenham Healthcare is a British-owned company specialising in all areas of compression for the wound care and oedema markets. We are delighted to announce the launch of our latest addition to our product portfolio: easywrap.

Easywrap (patent pending) is the next generation of compression wrapping systems on the market. It is available for both lower and upper limb and; thanks to its low profile, single overlapping bands, is an ideal alternative to bandaging or compression hosiery. It is comfortable for the wearer and conforms to the limb, thus providing the correct compression, and is easy to use for both patients and therapists. The low profile also enables the patient to wear his or her own normal footwear.

It has been clinically proven (Lee and Lawrence, 2017) to provide the graduated safe compression required for each patient. Forming part of our problem-solving product ranges, easywrap will save time for both the clinician and their patient and is very cost-effective (Lee and Lawrence, 2017). easywrap also enables the patient to manage their condition themselves, therefore reducing any additional clinic visits.

easywrap complements our Microfine Toe Cap and Glove ranges perfectly. These are all available to see at our exhibition stand.

For more information on the new easywrap product range or to hear about distribution opportunities, please come and see the products and chat with us at our stand J322.

Reference