TITLE: Cortisone Injections and Silicone Patches for Minimizing Facial Scars: Clinical Effectiveness and Guidelines for Use

DATE: 18 November 2008

RESEARCH QUESTIONS:

1. What is the clinical effectiveness of cortisone injections and silicone patches for the minimization of facial scars in adult patients after the removal of sutures?

2. Is there evidence for the timeframe of healing that cortisone injections and silicone patches provide the greatest improvement for facial scarring?

3. Are repeat injections of cortisone required and, if so, at what frequency?

4. What are the guidelines for the use of cortisone injections and silicone patches for facial scar minimization in adult patients?

METHODS:

A limited literature search was conducted on key health technology assessment resources, including PubMed, the Cochrane Library (Issue 4, 2008), University of York Centre for Reviews and Dissemination (CRD) databases, ECRI, EuroScan, international health technology agencies, and a focused Internet search. Results include articles published between 2003 and November 2008, and are limited to English language publications only. No filters were applied to limit the retrieval by study type. Internet links are provided, where available.

RESULTS:

The literature search did not identify any health technology assessments, systematic reviews, meta-analyses, randomized controlled trials, controlled clinical trials, observational studies, or guidelines specific to cortisone injections or silicone patches for the minimization of facial scars after suture removal in adult patients. Articles that are not specific to facial scars are included in the appendix, along with additional articles of potential interest.

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Health technology assessments
No literature identified

Systematic reviews and meta-analyses
No literature identified

Randomized controlled trials
No literature identified

Controlled clinical trials
No literature identified

Observational studies
No literature identified

Guidelines and recommendations
No literature identified

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APPENDIX – FURTHER INFORMATION:

Systematic reviews and meta-analyses


Randomized controlled trials


Observational studies


Review articles


Additional references


