

Don't Hide Behind the Scars - Get Help and Look Better

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A scar is a natural reaction to injury. Healing depends on several factors such as age of the patient, race, general health, nutrition, location of the injury and care provided. Not everybody heals the same way: children heal better than adults; Caucasians heal better than African Americans; people with diabetes have poor healing; individuals with malnutrition will not heal well. Some will end up with flat unnoticeable scars, while others will end up with hypertrophic (raised) scars and keloids (bulky scars).

Scars are not created solely by external injuries. Conditions like acne can leave permanent and disfiguring scars. Stretch marks are also considered scars and are the end result of stretching the skin during pregnancy or after gaining weight. Excessive scarring is more common in Asians, Hispanics and African Americans. There are also some areas of the body more prone to develop excessive scarring: chest, back and ears.



For many years, patients with scars had to hide behind them. Today there are surgical, medical and laser treatments to improve the appearance of scars. A combination of treatments is the most accepted approach. For keloids a combination of scar revision done by a plastic surgeon and followed by intralesional injection of steroids will give the best results. Hypertrophic scars can also be treated surgically. However, now there are other alternatives: laser treatments, topical prescription creams and silicone gels. Acne scars are treated successfully with a combination of topical prescription ointments and series of ablative and non-ablative laser treatments.

Nowadays treatment can considerably

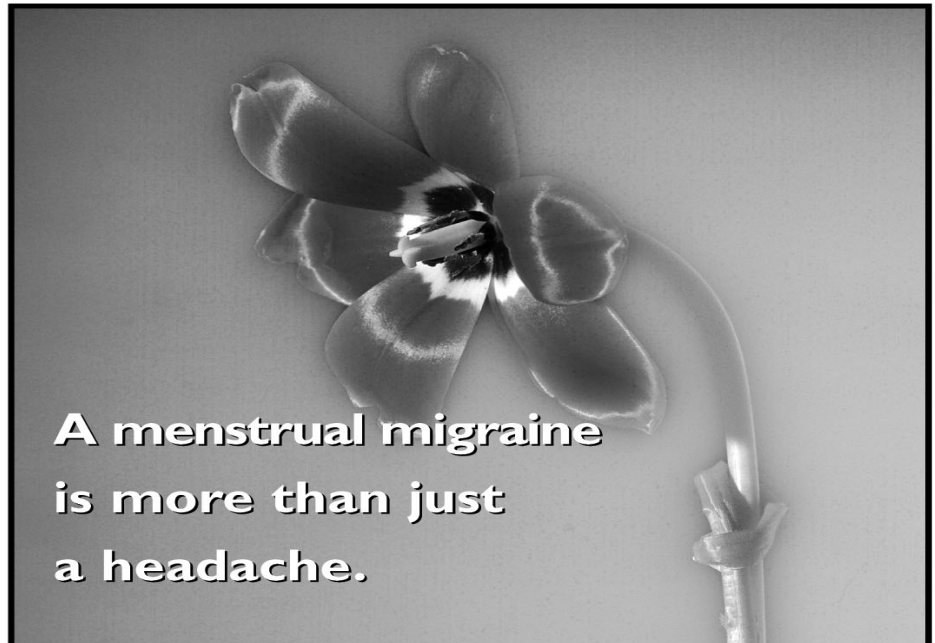
improve the appearance of acne scars, stretch marks, keloids and hypertrophic scars. Sarah, for example, suffered from acne during her teenage years, and, although her acne was gone, she was left with scars on her face. She was treated with prescription medications and non-ablative laser treatments. Her treatment was completed with an ablative laser technique called microlaser peel. Today Sarah's scars have improved, she is not self-conscious about her scars, and she feels better about herself.

Kathy, another patient, had two pregnancies that left her with stretch marks on the hips and

abdomen. Kathy felt that she couldn't go swimming; she was self-conscious about wearing a swimsuit. She was treated her with prescription creams and laser treatments. Kathy is going swimming with her kids this summer.

If you are self-conscious about your scars, don't hide behind them. Get help and look better!

At Skin Diagnostics Laser & Rejuvenation we offer complementary computerized skin analysis for all the patients. Call us for an appointment at 513-631-0059.



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