Nov 16th, 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM

Scarring and the Psychosocial Impact on Surgical Patients: A Review of Questionnaires

Shandra Melick
smelick@mail.dePaul.edu

Follow this and additional works at: https://via.library.dePaul.edu/nursing-colloquium

Part of the Perioperative, Operating Room and Surgical Nursing Commons

https://via.library.dePaul.edu/nursing-colloquium/2018/autumn/10

This Event is brought to you for free and open access by the School of Nursing at Via Sapientiae. It has been accepted for inclusion in Grace Peterson Nursing Research Colloquium by an authorized administrator of Via Sapientiae. For more information, please contact wsulliv6@depaul.edu, c.mcclure@depaul.edu.
Scarring and the Psychosocial Impact on Surgical Patients
A Review of Questionnaires

BACKGROUND & SIGNIFICANCE

Statistics.
100 million people acquire scars annually in developed countries
- 55 million are elective procedures
- 25 million are surgical correction after trauma
- 11 million become keloid scars
- 4 million are burn scars
- 70% of this total are children

Stages of Scarring.
- Consideration during the preoperative, intraoperative, and postoperative phases
  - Preoperatively - thorough patient history, assessment, wound healing procedures and realistic expectations
  - Intraoperatively - surgeon interviews (if an option)
  - Postoperatively - wound care education reinforced

Psychosocial Impacts.
Health domains with potential impact:
- Appearance
- Confidence
- Sexual well-being
- Social functioning
- Feelings of acceptability
- Psychological, Emotional Health
- Physical comfort and function

Scarring impacts multiple health domains:
- Psychosocial, physical, and sexual well-being

NURSING IMPLICATIONS

- Scar perceptions vary between patient and provider
- Limitations remain in scar questionnaires
- Further development of reliable scar measurements is needed to improve patients QOL and psychosocial impacts
- Instruments can provide:
  - Educational strategies for nurses and medical providers in every specialty
  - Management of wound healing through each phase to optimize scarring
  - Overall happiness between patient and their acquired scar

THEORETICAL APPROACH
Newman’s Systems Model

- 5 systems which makes up a multidimensional person

METHODS
Design. Integrative literature review to determine what is known about scarring and the psychosocial impacts for postoperative patients

Literature Search Limitations.

Included:
- Patient reported outcome assessment tools specifically related to scarring
- Postoperative care, and
- Discussion of types of scarring

Excluded:
- Acne
- Burns
- Radiation

RESEARCH QUESTION
What are the validated tools available to measure the perceived psychosocial impact of scarring in the surgical patient population?

RESULTS
Total journals reviewed (n=11):
- POSAS (n=7)
- MSS (n=3)
- PRISM (n=2)
- PSAQ (n=2)
- VSS (n=1)

DISCUSSION

- Variety of responses- satisfied to discontent
- POSAS * most popular
  - Remains the only scale that records patient’s symptoms and opinions of their scars
  - Most widely used for its validity and reliability

CONCLUSIONS

- Scar perception has been shown to vary between physician and patient
- Validated tools have a wide variety of measurement criteria and continue to show limitations
  - Important to further develop reliable and validated measures for proper measurement of patient QOL and psychosocial impacts
- Optimization of wound healing management
- Can help to improve educational strategies
- Perfect happiness between patient and scar

By: Shandra Melick
DePaul University
MENP Candidate 2018