ABSTRACT BOOK ABSTRACTS



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WOUND HEALING

## A RANDOMIZED CONTROL TRIAL TO STUDY THE EFFICACY OF CULTURED AUTOLOGOUS KERATINOCYTE--MELANOCYTE TRANSPLANT VERSUS CONSERVATIVE WOUND DRESSING IN THE MANAGEMENT OF POST BURNS WOUND HEALING

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Background: Replenishing melanocytes and keratinocytes by autologous transplant in burns patients is a novel and promising treatment. With expertise in culturing autologous melanocytes and keratinocytes, it has now become possible to treat larger recipient areas with smaller skin samples.

Objective: To determine the relative efficacy of cultured autologous keratinocyte--melanocyte transplant in the management of post burns skin loss compared to conventional wound healing using wound dressing.

Material & Methods: The keratinocytes were harvested as an autologous cell suspension from a donor split thickness graft. Cultured keratinocyte--melanocytes were then transplanted to the recipient area that had been superficially dermabraded after 21 days. 100 patches of post burns skin wounds in patients reporting to a tertiary hospital were randomly allocated into 2 groups to receive either of the interventions.

Results: An excellent response was seen in 64.56% cases with the autologous melanocyte--keratinocyte rich cell suspension technique and in 22% with the conventional wound dressing technique.

Conclusion: Autologous cultured melanocyte--keratinocyte transplantation can be an effective form of surgical treatment in post burns skin loss. Large areas of skin can be covered with a smaller donor skin using melanocyte--keratinocyte culture technique; however culture method is more time consuming, and a labour intensive process, requiring state of the art equipments with a sterile lab setup.





