

Red or Itchy Burn Scars

Our clinic uses a Pulsed Dye Laser (PDL) to treat the symptoms of burn scars. This laser targets the blood vessels in red and raised scars. The treatment can help with redness, itch, pain and thickness but may also improve softness of the scar area and functionality. Members of staff in the Scar Management Clinic or the Laser Clinic will help to identify scars that would be suitable for this treatment.

HOW THE TREATMENT WORKS

Laser light shines onto your skin and targets the small blood vessels in your scar. The treatment will destroy these blood vessels and therefore reduce redness and activity within the scar. Scars often require several treatments.

BEFORE YOUR APPOINTMENT

- If you wear make-up on the area to be treated, you will be asked to remove this before having your photograph taken. Please bring along any lotions usually used to remove it.
- If the scar to be treated is close to your eye and you are driving your own car, please bring another adult to drive you home. We may use anaesthetic drops in your eye.

- If the wound has broken down or there is an infection in the area to be treated, please inform a member of the laser clinic staff as treatment must be delayed until the area is completely healed.
- If the area to be treated is on your leg, please wear loose trousers or a skirt. Tight clothes, like jeans, may irritate the area after treatment.

What will happen on the day?

- When you arrive, you will meet a member of the clinic staff involved in the laser treatment. They will explain the treatment to you.
- Everyone in the treatment room must wear protective eye wear when the laser is being used. If the area is very near the eye special goggles will be worn.
- Photographs may be taken of the area to be treated so that progress can be monitored. The photographs will be kept in your notes.
- Each pulse of laser light feels like the flick of an elastic band. Most patients do not find the treatment too painful. We use a cold-air system which cools your skin during treatment.

However, if this is not the case, anaesthetic cream can be applied. A general anaesthetic can be arranged for children.

- Some slight soreness and discomfort is inevitable after laser treatment.
- The treated areas appear as small blue/black circular bruises. This colour will fade in 1 - 2 weeks.

After laser treatment

- If the treated area is sore, you can take a painkiller such as paracetamol. Please follow the instructions on the packet.
- Avoid scratching the area if it becomes itchy and try to avoid knocking or bumping it. Be very gentle with cleaning the area.
- Do not use any lotions or make up on the treated areas for at least 24 hours.
- Please be sure that the area is not scratched or rubbed after the treatment in order to reduce this risk further.
- Avoid exposure to the sun until the bruise has faded, and then frequently apply high factor sun cream, SPF30 or above.

Senior Staff at the Laser Clinic

Consultant Plastic Surgeon:
Mr Richard Cole MB ChB ChM
FRCS(Plast)

Mr Adam Sawyer. BSc, DO-HNS, MSc,
LLM(Law), FEBOPRAS, FRCS(Plast)

Mr Eunan Tiernan. MB, BCh, BAO, BA,
FRCSI, FRCS (Plast)

Speciality Doctor:
Mr Sathish Jayagopal, MBBS, MRCSEd

Scientific Director:
Dr Tom Lister, PhD

Clinical Scientist:
Dr Mark Brewin, PhD

Laser Specialist Nurse:
Suzy Rainbow

**If you cannot keep
your appointment,
please notify us as
soon as possible.**

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information

Welcome to The Salisbury Laser Clinic

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Burns Scars (Pulsed Dye Laser)

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THE SALISBURY
Laser Clinic 
Treating skin since 1983