Case Report

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# Minimizing Visibility of Certain Cicatrices New Device for Scar Treatment

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## Abstract

This short article relates a clinical investigation regarding a new suturing device, based on pairs of adhesive wound-dressings, provided with small magnets, so that they attract mutually right and left of the cicatrice. The device appears to be appropriated for treatment of a scar in the back of patient.

**Keywords:** Scars; Scar visibility; Cicatrice visibility; Wound-dressings

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## Case Report

In order to minimize the cicatrice visibility by off loading the surgical incision, a new device has been developed by the two above mentioned researchers, consisting in a pair of dressings adhering to the skin, right and left of the incision, trhough pressure-sensitive adhesives. These dressings are made of a composition based on silicone elastomers embedding small magnets, so that the left element continuously attracts the right one. This mutual attraction is to be considered as permanent, even weeks or months after applying [1,2].

A first clinical trial has been performed with positive results as summarily described hereunder. After a first trial on animal (Université de Liège, October 30, 2015, with mention, (the magnetic device allowed a better cicatrization compared to the one with staples) the clinical trial on human received the approval of Ethical Committee of Erasme Hospital, Université Libre de Bruxelles, on January 7, 2016, as well as the authorization for clinical investigation by Federal Agency for Medicines and Medical Devices, Brussels [1].

The first picture here shows the existing scar, length 105 mm, in the back of the patient (male with white complexion) dated from several years and widened **(Figure 1)**.

The original intervention on this patient has been lombar hernia discal surgery. After statement that the scar had notably widened under skin traction, the patient has required a first time, an excision of it, and re-suturing. The exact date of it had not been noted by the patient, - it was probably about 5 years ago, at least [3]. Then, appeared a widening again, as visible here.

On January 11, 2016, the cicatrice has been again excised, on a length of 95 mm, with cold blade and electrocautery, depth 1 cm **(Figure 2)**. The appearance of the curves confirm that a certain effect of «pull» exists by the skin tissues in the back of the patient.

After intradermal suturing, 3 prototypes of the new device magnetic dressings, each 20 mm width, have been placed **(Figure 3).**

**Brief description of the novel magnetic dressing**

It consists in a pair of adhesive wound-dressings, provided with small magnets, embedded in a matrix of silicone elastomers, so that they attract mutually right and left of the incision. The magnets, neodyme type, are 4 mm rods, gold plated. The device can be made as narrow as desired witha minimum of 9 mm, in order to conform easily to a curved incision. Here the width is 20 mm. The length may preferably not be less than 25 mm each side, in order to benefit of enough skin adhesived

**Figure 1** The scar in the back of the patient (male with white complexion), dated several years, and widened.