Facial scars are an unfortunately common situation. Scar formation is a normal response to healing following lacerations, injuries, or surgery. Scars on the face create an additional issue for most people and carry significant implications related to self-image, self-confidence, and social interaction. Although all scars are permanent, there are frequently procedures which can make the scar less noticeable and improve its appearance. The final result of scar appearance depends on a number of factors including location and position of the scar, the size of the scar, and its relationship with other anatomic features within the realm of the individual's predisposition for appropriate wound healing. There are varieties of surgical procedures that may be incorporated alone or in conjunction with other techniques to improve the scar appearance. This presentation will discuss a variety of alternatives and surgical procedures which can typically enhance facial appearance for the individual who has sustained facial injuries resulting in scar formation.

Biography

J. Regan Thomas, M.D., FACS completed his M.D. degree at the University of Missouri and went on to do further surgical training at Yale University, University of Missouri, and Northwestern University. He has published 200 papers in the scientific literature, authored or co-authored five medical textbooks, and is a frequent lecturer at medical meetings and symposia internationally. He is the editor-in-chief of a facial plastic surgery journal and has served on the editorial board of several other professional journals. He is the past president of the American Academy of Facial Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery, past president of the American Board of Facial Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery, and past president of the American Academy of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery.

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