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## THE ROLE OF HUMAN SKIN ALLOGRAFT IN THE BURN PATIENTS

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### SUMMARY

The current trend of burn wound care has been shifted from merely achieving satisfactory survival rate to improvement in the long-term form and function of the healed burn wounds and quality of life. The change in the trend has demanded the emergence of various skin substitutes in the management of burn injury. The timely restoration of skin protective functions is the key to the successful treatment of burn victims with various severity of damaged skin. Conventionally, autologous split or full-thickness skin graft have been recognised as the best definitive burn wound coverage, but it is constrained by the limited available sources, especially in major burns. Skin substitutes are required in the acutely burned patients as well as in those requiring extensive post burn reconstructions. These have important impact in the care and outcome in the burn victims. Human skin allografts represent a suitable and much used temporizing option for skin cover following burn injury. The main advantages for its use include dermoprotection and promotion of re-epithelialisation of the wound and their ability to act as skin cover until autografting is possible or re-harvesting of donor sites becomes available. Here we present our experience using human skin allograft in the treatment of burns.