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## Dr. Wright, how do I get rid of my acne scars ~ my home skincare is not enough?

Unsettling scars are one of the top skin concerns my patients seek for cosmetic correction. When assessing scars, physicians need to address all aspects which can include a change in color, texture, size and location. Scars occur at different depths in the deeper layers of skin, called the dermis, and in different skin types. The success of scar removal is to choose the correct treatment.

The first step in scar correction is to remodel and break up the scar tissue found in the deep layers of the dermis. There are generally two main options-Laser Resurfacing and MicroNeedling.

Fractional Laser Resurfacing applies laser energy in tiny beams of light into the skin, much like a lawn being aerated, with little plugs of laser treatment. By treating micro-islands of skin, the surrounding untreated skin drives the healing process, filling in the treated area with healthy skin and without the long-term downtime associated with traditional skin resurfacing technologies. This technique causes less damage and allows for a more powerful treatment.

Although lasers are successful at treating scars and stretch marks, they are often difficult to use on patients with darker skin tones as the heat generated by a laser may increase the risk of pigmentation.

To find a solution for those who cannot use laser treatments, I recommend *DermaPEN*, an advanced medical skin-needling therapy. DermaPEN is an FDA-approved electronic device that uses multiple fine needles to vertically pierce the skin. The physical nature of "skin-needling" breaks up the fibrous and uneven scar/stretch mark tissue and stimulates the growth of new tissue. DermPEN MicroNeedling can be safely performed on all skin colors as there is no heat involved, so the risk of hyperpigmentation is minimal.

While it may feel like a daunting task for you to sort through the many non-surgical methods used for scar removal, fear not ... and call today as we solve the mystery for you!



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