

Occupational Performance Considerations with Scar Management

The overall and long term treatment aim with scar management is to minimise scarring after a burn injury; however compression garments/silicone may actually impact on a child's opportunity for participation, skill acquisition and independence across all occupational performance domains.

In the clinical environment, this might present as:

- A baby not able to feel their sleep toy and having difficulty self-settling at sleep times.
- A toddler not able to participate in "messy-play" activities and self-feeding at home/daycare.
- A child in daycare having difficulty holding their crayons to draw and picking up toys (blocks, puzzle pieces) in play.
- A child in prep having difficulty donning/doffing garments to be able to toilet independently.
- A child having difficulty settling back into class and concentrating after lunch breaks due to burn itch, the heat and feeling of the compression garment.
- A teenager not able to wear their desired footwear of choice to blend in with peers or "standing out" in their compression garments.
- A teenager unable to participate in manual arts subject due to "workplace health and safety concerns" (i.e. if wearing compression).