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How to Classify Patients with *The Roberts Skin Type* to Avoid Scaring, Pigmentation & Other Complications in Procedures on Skin Of Color Patients

Date _____ Name _____ Perceived Race _____

Ancestors/Grandparents Origin: _____ DOB: _____

Please circle one: In your family are you the *Lightest* or *Darkest*?

Do you scar? Yes No Do you have permanent scars? Yes No

Does your skin darken when damaged? Yes No Is it permanent? Yes No

Regarding the table below please read the elements on left and circle ONLY ONE description that fits. Ex: If FZ₃ is the element that fits best circle the FZ₃

Table 1. Four elements of the Roberts Skin Classification System.

Type/Element	Description
Fitzpatrick (FZ) Scale: measures skin phototypes	
FZ ₁	White skin. Always burns, never tans
FZ ₂	White skin. Always burns, minimal tan
FZ ₃	White skin. Burns minimally, tans moderately and gradually
FZ ₄	Light brown skin. Burns minimally, tans well
FZ ₅	Brown skin. Rarely burns, tans deeply
FZ ₆	Dark brown/black skin. Never burns, tans deeply

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Roberts Hyperpigmentation (H) Scale: propensity for pigmentation	
H ₀	Hypopigmentation
H ₁	Minimal and transient (<1 year) hyperpigmentation
H ₂	Minimal and permanent (>1 year) hyperpigmentation
H ₃	Moderate and transient (<1 year) hyperpigmentation
H ₄	Moderate and permanent (>1 year) hyperpigmentation
H ₅	Severe and transient (<1 year) hyperpigmentation
H ₆	Severe and permanent (>1 year) hyperpigmentation
Glogau (G) Scale: describes photoaging	
G ₁	No wrinkles, early photoaging
G ₂	Wrinkles in motion, early to moderate photoaging
G ₃	Wrinkles at rest, advanced photoaging
G ₄	Only wrinkles, severe photoaging
Roberts Scarring (S) Scale: describes scar morphology	
S ₀	Atrophy
S ₁	None
S ₂	Macule
S ₃	Plaque within scar boundaries
S ₄	Keloid Formation
S ₅	Keloidal nodule

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When you are finished, your skin type code should have one element from each of the 4 colors:

Red, Blue, Green and Orange and read like this.

FZ₄ / H₂/G₃/S₄ This particular skin type code interpretation says:

The patient is a *Fitzpatrick 4*: Light brown skin. Burns minimally, tans well. *Roberts Hyperpigmentation 2*: Minimal and permanent (>1 year) hyperpigmentation, *Glogau 3*: Wrinkles at rest, advanced photoaging and *Roberts Scarring 4*: Keloid Formation

Congratulations! You have your *Roberts Skin Type Code*. Any Doctor will know how your skin will respond to your procedure and avoid any unsightly complications.

Reference: Journal of Drugs in Dermatology. The Roberts Skin Type Classification System.
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