

Changes in versican expression in skin wound healing and aging

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Versican is a chondroitin sulphate proteoglycan that is present in the dermis of the skin as one of the extracellular matrices (ECMs). Here we investigated the role of versican in the maintenance of skin integrity by examining how its expression is regulated on wounding and skin aging. On skin wounding, versican expression was transiently upregulated in the dermis and gradually disappeared. In the aged skin, versican was almost absent from the upper dermis, while in the reticular dermis more versican was found associated with the degenerated elastic fibers undergoing solar elastosis. Versican is considered to play a role in skin wound healing and also in the age-related changes of skin texture.