The observer scale of the POSAS consists of six items (vascularity, pigmentation, thickness, relief, pliability and surface area). All items are scored on a scale ranging from 1 ('like normal skin') to 10 ('worst scar imaginable'). The sum of the six items results in a total score of the POSAS observer scale. Categories boxes are added for each item. Furthermore, an overall opinion is scored on a scale ranging from 1 to 10.

All parameters should preferably be compared to normal skin on a comparable anatomic location.

**Explanatory notes on the items:**

- **Vascularity** Presence of vessels in scar tissue assessed by the amount of redness, tested by the amount of blood return after blanching with a piece of Plexiglas.
- **Pigmentation** Brownish coloration of the scar by pigment (melanin); apply Plexiglas to the skin with moderate pressure to eliminate the effect of vascularity.
- **Thickness** Average distance between the subcutical-dermal border and the epidermal surface of the scar.
- **Relief** The extent to which surface irregularities are present (preferably compared with adjacent normal skin).
- **Pliability** Suppleness of the scar tested by wrinkling the scar between the thumb and index finger.
- **Surface Area** Surface area of the scar in relation to the original wound area.