



FIG 13-12 Child in an elasticized (Jobst) garment and “airplane” splints.

Scar tissue has certain significant properties, particularly for growing children. Intense itching may occur in healing burn wounds and scar tissue until the scar is no longer active. Itching is usually treated with a variety of medications; hydroxyzine and diphenhydramine are examples of two such medications, in an attempt to control itching,

Frequent applications of a moisturizer, such as Aveeno Baby, Alpha Keri, Eucerin, or Oil of Olay, or any other brand with the word “ultra-healing” in the title that is free of fragrance and does not contain alcohol can be used. Massage therapy during the application of moisturizers is also beneficial to stretch scar tissue and aid in contracture prevention. Scar tissue has no sweat glands, and children with extensive scarring may experience difficulty during hot weather. Caregivers should be alerted to this possibility and be prepared to institute alternate methods of cooling when necessary.

Scar tissue does not grow and expand as does normal tissue, which may create difficulties, especially in functional areas, such as on the hands and over joints. Additional surgery is sometimes required to allow independent functioning in daily activities, to improve cosmetic appearance, or to restore anatomic integrity.