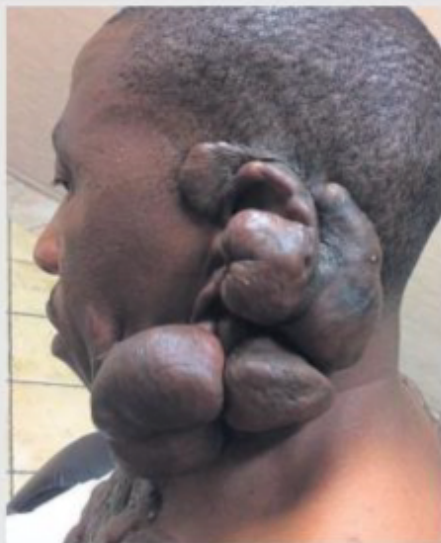




Aaron Hairundu before the surgery.



Aaron Hairundu before the surgery.

Life-changing surgery

NIELEN DE KLERK

[@nielendk](#)

A Windhoek man is able to work again after life-changing surgery by a world-renowned surgeon at Louis Leipoldt Mediclinic in Bellville.

Aaron Hairundu suffers from severe keloids – overgrowths of scar tissue that develop around a wound and go beyond the normal bounds.

Dr Frank Graewe, a plastic and reconstructive surgeon with practices in Germany, Namibia and Cape Town, did the surgery after three Namibian sponsors covered Aaron's air ticket and accommodation.

"Aaron's keloids were extremely severe and covered the majority of his upper body. He was in a lot of pain and hasn't been able to work for the past

year. We removed as much of the scar tissue as possible, and he will undergo radiation therapy in order to reduce the chances of the keloids returning," Graewe says.

The treatment of keloids usually begins with steroid or cortisone injections into the affected area to try and control the abnormal growth. Surgery is only recommended in severe cases.

"We are hopeful that with the combination of the surgery and radiation therapy his results will be successful. His surgery was very intricate. Due to the extent of his keloids there was very little excess skin left to suture so we had to use skin grafts", says Graewe. "Aaron's surgery was a success and we are happy with the results at this stage, although only time will tell as to whether he will require follow-up surgery", concludes Graewe.