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Principles and news on hair transplantation in non-scarring and scarring alopecia

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1- INTRODUCTION AND OBJECTIVE:

Hair restoration should be tailored to the individual's needs and according to the parameters of the multifactorial classification.

The segmentation of strip follicular unit transplants such as long hair (FUL) or shaved hair (FUT) and follicular unit extraction (FUE) manual, motor punch, automatic, robotic are both good methods with their advantages and disadvantages.

The goal is to select for each case of alopecia the best follicular unit procedure according to their advantages and disadvantages and the expected quality of the result.

2- MATERIALS AND METHODS:

The evaluation of various parameters of the scalp multifactorial classification allow to determine precisely the quantity of transplanted hair needed, to imagine exactly the baldness evolution and calculate the remaining capacity of the donor area for the future.

Schematically 2 procedures of hair transplantation are available:

- **The Follicular Unit Extraction FUE:** the scalp is previously shaved. Hairs are harvested manually or with motor punch or with automatic safer[®] or with robotic Artas[®] 0,7 to 1 mm punches. 1000-3000, 1-3 hair FUE are implanted in one session. Recently in some indications it is possible to do FUE without previous shaving (unshaved FUE).
- **The Follicular Unit Long Hair FUL-FUT:** the scalp is not previously shaved. A strip is harvested and followed by a "trichophytic closure" with an undetectable linear scar. Usually 1000-3000, 1-4 hairs FU are implanted in one session. FUL allows to the patient a quickest recovery of his social life. For the surgeon it is easier to give the orientation and choose each hair according to their calibers and colors.

Each follicular unit is inserted with forceps after puncture with a needle or with the Choi implanter.

3- RESULTS:

Patterned hair loss is the most common male or female androgenetic alopecia complaint. The other indications are stable primary or secondary cicatricial alopecia (burns, brain radiotherapy), definitive post traction alopecia (Afro-Americans), eyebrows, beard and moustache.

4- CONCLUSION:

The methods of hair transplantation known as the long hair strip technique FUL or FUT and the manual, motor punch, automatic or robotic follicular unit extraction FUE have been refined. Each procedure might be selected in order to give a good solution for an aesthetic and definitive correction of various definitive alopecia. For advanced baldness both techniques might be combined.

References:

- Bouhanna P., Bouhanna E. The alopecias: Diagnosis and treatments. CRC Press Editions, 2015; 245pp
- Bouhanna P. Combining concept of FUE and FUL techniques for advanced male baldness. Communication au congrès de l'ISHRS. 23rd ISHRS Annual Scientific Meeting, Chicago, September 9-13, 2015