Afro-American hair transplantation

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INTRODUCTION:

The male and female Afro-American alopecia evolution and the donor hair area capacity are evaluated with the multifactorial classification and the digital phototrichogram. Hair restoration should be tailored to the individual's needs.

OBJECTIVE:

The unshaven strip follicular unit transplants (FUT-FUL) or the follicular unit extraction (FUE) are indicated according that the hair curl increases the risk of transection during donor harvesting.

MATERIALS AND METHODS:

The multifactorial classification and the digital phototrichogram (Trichoscale®) calculate precisely the capacity of the donor area.

Schematically 3 procedures of hair transplantation are currently available:

- **The Follicular Unit Transplantation (FUT**): previous shaving. A strip is segmented and provide 1-3 hair FUT.

- **The Follicular Unit Long Hair (FUL):** no previous shaving. Long hairs grafts are harvested with a similar strip segmented onto 1-3 hair FUL.

- **The follicular unit extraction (FUE)**, no previous shaving, we take care about the transection of the curl hair follicles during harvesting.

RESULTS:

Traction alopecia without any spontaneous regrowth is the most common female Afro-American alopecia complaint Male androgenetic alopecia is the other indication.

The advantages of the FUL procedure are numerous. The donor area is unshaved and patient scabs of the recipient are hidden by the long hair. For the surgeon, the benefits are a better evaluation of the orientation and the obliquity of transplanted hairs.

African potential problems include keloid formation, hypertrophic scarring, hypopigmentation, and hyperpigmentation.

CONCLUSION:

The method of choice of hair transplantation for Afro-American is the follicular unit strip segmentation (FUL or FUT). In some male alopecia the FUE is selected. This kind of treatment is a good solution for an aesthetic and definitive correction of male and female Afro-American alopecia according to the precise evaluation of the digital phototrichogram and the multifactorial classification.