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The newest hair transplant procedures: all the indications?

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1- INTRODUCTION AND OBJECTIVE:

The hair loss diagnosis and prognosis and the donor hair capacity are evaluated with the multifactorial classification and the digital phototrichogram. Hair restoration should be tailored to the individual's needs.

Strip follicular unit transplants with long hair (FUL) and follicular unit extraction (FUE) manual, motor punch, automatic or robotic are both good methods with their advantages and disadvantages.

2- MATERIALS AND METHODS:

Objective evaluation of the alopecia:

The multifactorial classification: various parameters are evaluated and allow to imagine exactly the baldness evolution and calculate the remaining capacity of the donor area for the future.

The digital phototrichogram provides an objective measurement of hair growth parameters

Schematically 3 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. 1000-1500, 1-3 hair FUE are implanted in one session.
- **The Follicular Unit Long Hair (FUL):** the scalp is not previously shaved. A strip (20, to 30 cms in length – 1 to 1,5 cms in width) is harvested and followed by a "trichophytic closure" with an undetectable linear scar which can be, eventually, easily corrected in a second time with some FUE. The segmentation of the strip under stereomicroscope provide 1000 to 1500 1-4 hair FUL. Usually 4000-5000 hairs are implanted in one session. FUL allows to the patient an immediate preview of the result. For the surgeon it is easier to give the orientation and choose each hair according to their calibers and colors.

3- RESULTS:

Patterned hair loss is the most common male or female alopecia complaint. Each hair transplant procedure is selected according to the hair and scalp parameters such as caliber, density, shape, colour the baldness evolution, the sex, the age, the ethnic specificity.

The other indications are stable cicatricial alopecia, 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) and the follicular unit extraction (FUE) manual, motor punch, automatic or robotic have been refined. Each procedure might be selected in order to give a good solution for an aesthetic and definitive correction of various alopecia according to the precise evaluation of the digital phototrichogram and the multifactorial classification.

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