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Hair Transplantation Frequently Asked Questions

What is the hair growth cycle?

Ninety percent of hair grows for 1,000 days (anagen cycle) and ten percent of hair rests for 100 days (telogen cycle). When donor grafts are dissected and placed in the recipient site, the newly grafted follicles go into the resting cycle and remain dormant until eight to ten weeks later when they begin to grow.

Hair growth varies from one-quarter to one-half inch per month. As hair grows in length, it also grows in diameter. Since follicles are cycled at different times so hair growth goes through numerous spurts, and the results are gradual and very natural.

What will I look like after surgery?

For about three days, it will look like you have sunburn and after that only half-inch hairs will be visible.

Is the procedure painful?

The local anesthesia is about as painful as getting your gums numbed at a dentist's office. Post operatively, you will feel tightness in the donor site and it will get less tight each day.

Will I lose any existing hair after the transplant?

Regardless of what type of procedure, there is a post transplant shock that affects about 10% of the existing hair in the recipient site. This shocked hair simply goes into the telogen (resting cycle) for two to three months before resuming normal growth patterns.

What is the difference between micro grafts and follicular units?

A follicular unit micro graft is dissected with the aid of a microscope, which enables the technician to remove all necessary tissue while maintaining the integrity of the follicles. The less tissue on the micro graft the closer they can be placed and the more natural the result in fewer sessions.

Can I achieve density with only follicular units?

Yes. If large numbers of FUs are used in a specific area you can achieve both naturalness and density. Density and naturalness often become confused. The concept of using larger grafts to achieve density is an older one disproved by Dr. Bobby Limmer's density study. Larger grafts have more tissue and must be placed farther apart; therefore the appearance of naturalness is lost, where FUs can be densely placed thus providing naturalness and density.

What will my restoration look like after surgery?

For about three days it will look like you have sunburn and after that only half-inch hairs will be visible.