



34

Waiting game
Male patients with rosacea
often delay seeking treatment

36

Tailored message
Skincare product packaging,
marketing key for attracting men

Hair affair

A novel way to get a leg up on male
pattern baldness

By Ilya Petrou, M.D.
Senior Staff Correspondent

Redondo Beach, Calif. — Leg hairs can be a convenient and natural-looking donor source for hair transplantation when restoring a thinning hairline. This approach offers an aesthetic solution for select patients with male pattern baldness, according to one hair transplant specialist.

Typically, patients with male pattern baldness have a thinning hairline and an inadequate head hair donor supply. This necessitates a search for viable hair donor sources.

"One of the main challenges in hair restoration is donor supply. Using non-head hair in hair transplantation procedures in the scalp has several advantages, one of which is the natural aesthetic look when using leg hairs," says Sanusi Umar, M.D., FineTouch Dermatology, Derm Hair Clinic, Redondo Beach, Calif., and associate instructor of dermatology at the University of California at Los Angeles School of Medicine.

Leg hairs are an excellent source for restoring the receding hairline because of the multitude of available hairs as well as the physical attributes of the leg hairs, which allows for a softer appearance when used in the hairline, Dr. Umar says.

Compared to the mid-occipital area (traditional donor site) and other potential donor sites such as the beard, leg hair is ideal for hair replacement because the finer texture mixes well with the natural hairline hair, he explains.

"The hairline is an area where you

QUICK READ

Replenishing a receding hairline with leg hairs in select patients with androgenic alopecia can result in natural aesthetic hairline outcomes, according to a hair transplant specialist.



Dr. Umar

Quotable

"To a lot of men, using skincare products is felt to be feminizing, and they are resistant."

Zoe D. Draelos, M.D.
High Point, N.C.

On encouraging skincare regimens in men

See story, page 36

Imaging tracks hair growth

An optical imaging technique using bioluminescence can track development of new hair follicles with stem cell therapy, according to a study presented at the Society of Nuclear Medicine's annual meeting in June. Researchers in Daegu, South Korea, used bioluminescence imaging using firefly luciferase combined with D-luciferin to monitor engraftment of hair follicle stem cells in mice. Over the course of 21 days after transplantation, imaging was performed five times. Investigators noted new hair follicles on the surface of skin samples.

Source: Society of Nuclear Medicine



DT Extra

Left: Getty Images/Blackstar; Right: T. G. Daily/Imagoe; Photo: Getty Images/Blackstar

need a finer quality of hair. Besides the advantages of a finer consistency compared with head hair, leg hairs do not grow as long. You can use them where you need those attributes to manifest, such as when attempting to advance a receding hairline," Dr. Umar says.

The uGraft Harvester

Dr. Umar has been performing hair transplantation using the leg hairs of patients with androgenic alopecia, and he recently described his technique in a case series published in the February issue of *Archives of Dermatology* (Umar S. *Arch Dermatol*. 2012;148(2):239-2; 2).

He developed the uGraft Harvester, an advanced follicular unit extraction (FUE) technique that allows for in situ extraction of single follicles from traditional donor sites (such as the occipital area) without causing cosmetically significant scarring. According to Dr. Umar, this patent-pending device allows for the acquisition of hairs from any donor site without damaging the hair shaft or follicle during extraction.

"The hair on the body is angled more acutely than the head hair. While head hair grows straight into the skin, leg hair tends to grow with a little bit of angulation in the skin before it grows into the subcutaneous tissue. One of the major advantages of the uGraft Harvester is that it allows you to better extract hairs from any body region without damaging them," Dr. Umar says.

The uGraft Harvester is a rotary tool mounted with modified hypodermic needles (19-20 gauge) and specialized tips that allow for customized follicular unit extraction. The wounds created by the customized needle tips of the device widen with depth, resulting in diminished injury to the targeted follicles, and in turn, accelerated wound closure.

The extracted follicular units are then grafted at the recipient transplant sites through custom-sized slits matching the dimensions of the extracted grafts. Dr. Umar says he removes the leg hairs in a diffuse pattern so as not to create bald spots on the leg. Approximately 1,000 grafts can be transplanted in five to six hours using the uGraft Harvester device, he says.

"In the patients in whom I have used leg hair transplants, the hairline was fully grown and natural-looking at nine months after the procedure. The aesthetic outcomes are sustained at least until the four-year follow-up, minimizing concerns that subsequent hair loss might result

from leg hair cycle variations. My patients are extremely happy with the aesthetic outcome of the procedure," Dr. Umar says.

To date, Dr. Umar has performed the procedure in approximately 10 patients with androgenic alopecia, including female patients. Using the technique, approximately 75 to 80 percent of the transplanted leg hairs grow successfully on the patients' heads, he says.

For patients who have undergone FUE-FUE (follicular unit strip surgery-follicular unit transplantation) for their hairline, the use of leg hairs offers a viable option to other hair transplant surgery techniques, he adds. DT

Disclosures: Dr. Umar is the inventor of the uGraft Harvester, which is still patent-pending.

for the symptoms of
psoriasis and severe eczema

The strength
of a high-potency
steroid in a moisturizing
Emollient base

- Diflorasone diacetate demonstrated clinical efficacy in treating the signs and symptoms of psoriasis and eczema^{1,2}
- Provides the benefits of an emollient-based formulation in a cream vehicle^{3,4}
- Offers flexible QD-TID dosing options based on severity⁵

Instant Savings Card

- Available for eligible patients

Topical corticosteroids are indicated for relief of the inflammatory and pruritic manifestations of corticosteroid-responsive dermatoses.

Safety Information

Topical steroids are contraindicated in those patients with a history of hypersensitivity to any of the components of the preparation.

Systemic absorption of topical corticosteroids has produced reversible hypothalamic-pituitary-adrenal (HPA) axis suppression, manifestations of Cushing's syndrome, hyperglycemia, and glucosuria in some patients.

Pediatric patients may absorb proportionally larger amounts of topical corticosteroids and thus be more susceptible to systemic toxicity (please see adjacent page for full Prescribing Information).

References: 1. Clinical Efficacy of Diflorasone Diacetate Cream in the Treatment of Psoriasis and Eczema. A Randomized, Double-blind, Placebo-controlled Study. J Am Acad Dermatol. 2011;65(5):958-964. 2. Clinical Efficacy of Diflorasone Diacetate Cream in the Treatment of Psoriasis and Eczema. A Randomized, Double-blind, Placebo-controlled Study. J Am Acad Dermatol. 2011;65(5):958-964. 3. Clinical Efficacy of Diflorasone Diacetate Cream in the Treatment of Psoriasis and Eczema. A Randomized, Double-blind, Placebo-controlled Study. J Am Acad Dermatol. 2011;65(5):958-964. 4. Clinical Efficacy of Diflorasone Diacetate Cream in the Treatment of Psoriasis and Eczema. A Randomized, Double-blind, Placebo-controlled Study. J Am Acad Dermatol. 2011;65(5):958-964. 5. Prescribing Information. 2011. Available at: www.pharmaderm.com



ApexiCorr Cream
(diflorasone diacetate cream
USP 0.05% [emollient])
Elegantly effective

PH020001 is a registered trademark of PharmaDerm, LLC. © 2012 PharmaDerm, a division of Pharmacia, Inc. All rights reserved. 100PM020001