

## Operation Information

### DHI Hair Transplantation

#### Introduction

Hair transplantation is a form of surgical procedure. The optimal growth may be observed at the end of 10-12 months and may vary with the individual. It may not be possible to guarantee a successful result, or even to assure that an outcome brings full satisfaction. There are risks involved in any surgical procedure. Hair transplantation is generally a safe procedure, however on rare occasions, complications may result. The procedure will only proceed after mutual agreement between the doctor and a client.

#### Possible Risks and Complications

1. Drug allergies:  
Drug allergies is possible to occur. Patients please inform the doctor of history of allergy or untoward reactions to any medication. Allergy to local anaesthetic (lignocaine) is rare, and occurs in less than 0.1% of cases.
2. Infection and bleeding:  
Although hair transplantation is a low risk procedure, post operative wound infection and / or bleeding is still a possibility. Infection is rare, less than 0.1% and the risk is further minimized with antibiotics. The amount of bleeding is very small and may be reduced with the injection of vasoconstrictor drug.
3. Donor site numbness or discomfort:  
Small nerve fibres situated beneath the skin where the hair follicles are removed may be damaged. There may be a small risk of donor site discomfort and / or numbness after the procedure. This may last a few months or more.
4. Scarring:  
In general, if the patient does not usually develop big scars, such as keloid scars after an injury, scar formation after this process is an unusual complication. Hypertrophic scarring and keloids are extremely rare with the FUE technique, less than 0.01%.
5. Hair loss:  
Hair loss is a continuous process. This procedure has the potential to cause weak hair that is going to be lost in the future to fall out sooner, but this loss is usually temporary, the hair will regrow in a few months.
6. Pain:  
Though there is very mild pain during the injection of local anaesthetic, the whole course of procedure should be a painless one. The post-operative pain is also mild and can be adequately controlled with simple analgesics.

\*\* It is impossible to mention all the possible complications that may happen and the above is only a few important complications which may occur. Before agreeing for the operation, please appreciate the fact that no matter how ideal the situation may be, these events may occur.

Remarks: Should you have any enquiries, please consult your doctor.

#### Reference

1. Roberts S Haber and Dowling B Stough(2006). Procedures in cosmetic dermatology: Hair Transplantation. USA:Elsevier Saunders.
2. Walter P Unger and Ronald Shapiro (2004). Hair Transplantation (4<sup>th</sup> ed.). USA: Marcel Dekker.
3. Wikipedia (2010). Lidocaine. Retrieved from <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lidocaine.com>.

Compiled by Union Hospital Consent Form Taskforce

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