

Post-Operative Instructions for Hair Transplant

# **Immediately After Surgery**

#### 1. Rest and Recovery:

- a. Avoid strenuous activities for the first 48-72 hours.
- b. Keep your head elevated while sleeping (use multiple pillows or a recliner) to minimize swelling.

#### 2. Protect the Grafts:

- a. Do not touch, rub, or scratch the transplanted area.
- b. Avoid wearing hats or caps unless instructed by your surgeon.

#### 3. Swelling Management:

- a. Apply a cold compress to your forehead (not the grafted area) to reduce swelling.
- b. Swelling typically peaks on days 2-3 and subsides by day 5.

#### 4. Medications:

a. Take all prescribed medications as directed, including pain relievers, antibiotics, and anti-inflammatory medications.

# **Hair Washing Instructions**

- 1. First Wash:
- 2. Washing Technique:

- a. You may begin washing your hair 48 hours post procedure. Please use the shampoo provided.
- b. Mix the shampoo with water and pour it gently over the grafted area.
- c. Rinse with lukewarm water without directly aiming the water stream at the scalp.
- d. You may apply the calm spray as needed for itching

#### 3. Drying:

a. Pat the scalp dry gently with a soft towel. Avoid rubbing.

#### 4. Avoid Harsh Products:

a. Do not use hair products such as gels, sprays, or dyes for at least 2-3 weeks.

# **Activity Restrictions**

- 1. Exercise:
  - a. Avoid heavy lifting, intense workouts, or activities that cause sweating for at least 7-10 days.

## 2. Sun Exposure:

a. Avoid direct sun exposure on the grafted area for the first 2 weeks. Wear a loose, breathable hat if you must go outdoors.

## 3. Smoking and Alcohol:

a. Refrain from smoking and drinking alcohol for at least 1 week, as they can hinder the healing process.

## 4. Avoid Swimming:

a. Stay out of pools, hot tubs, and saunas for at least 2-3 weeks.

# **Graft Care and Shedding**

## 1. Crusting and Scabbing:

a. It is normal for small scabs to form around the grafts. Do not pick or scratch them.

## 2. Shedding Phase:

- a. The transplanted hair will shed within 2-3 weeks. This is normal and part of the growth cycle.
- 3. New Growth:

a. New hair typically begins to grow 3-4 months after the procedure, with significant results visible in 8-12 months.

# **Potential Side Effects**

#### 1. Redness and Itching:

- a. Mild redness and itching are normal and should resolve within a few days.
- b. Use surgeon-approved anti-itch medications or creams if needed.

#### 2. Numbness:

a. Temporary numbress in the donor or graft area may occur and usually resolves within weeks to months.

#### 3. Swelling:

a. Swelling may extend to the forehead and eyes but should subside within 5-7 days.

## 4. Bleeding:

a. Minor bleeding from the graft sites is normal. Apply gentle pressure with a clean cloth if needed.

# Follow-Up Appointments

## 1. First Follow-Up:

a. Attend your first follow-up appointment as scheduled (usually within 7-10 days).

## 2. Ongoing Monitoring:

a. Regular check-ins with your surgeon will ensure proper healing and monitor your progress.

# When to Contact Your Surgeon

Contact your surgeon immediately if you experience:

- Severe pain unrelieved by medication.
- Excessive bleeding or drainage from the graft or donor site.

- Signs of infection (e.g., fever, redness, warmth, or pus).
- Persistent swelling or discomfort.