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Combining FUT with FUE in hair restoration—where are we?

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H air transplant surgery, being an aesthetic procedure, the naturalness of the results is desirable. With modern techniques of implantation there is no doubt on the results, but the density of the grown hair as a result of single surgery may concern many surgeons. When the patient has low class of androgenic alopecia (II-IV), there is almost no problem arising as far as density is concerned. Problem of poor density appears in patients with high classes of male pattern hair loss (V–VII classes by Norwood) with poor donor supply. For obtaining good results, they need huge number of follicular unit (FUs), i.e. around 6000–12,000 FU transplantation. It's quite difficult to maximize the donor harvesting as only 2500–3500 grafts can be taken out from most of the patients in a single session and sometimes the patient may need multiple sessions for full coverage and good density, which may bother the patients. Transplantation of 4000–8000 FUs is intended for patients with high level of baldness (Norwood IV–VII classes). Many technical advancements have been proposed in recent years to increase the number of harvasted grafts. Combining follicular unit transplantation (FUT) with follicular unit extraction (FUE) technique is one of the best options to obtain such kind of high yield graft in a single session.

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