

## In the News...

### Botox® and Baldness

Botulinum toxin, now available in the United States as both Botox® and Dysport™, may not only help with wrinkles but may also grow hair. A Beverly Hills plastic surgeon has been treating patients for several years with Botox® for hair loss after noticing hair regrowth in a cancer patient being treated for headaches with Botox® ([Click here for the original article](#)). [Studies](#) are underway to determine if this treatment is appropriate for patients suffering from alopecia areata. While considered an off label use of the medication, if you are interested in learning more about botulinum toxin for hair loss, consider a consultation with Dr. Verret by calling [972.608.0100](tel:972.608.0100).

### For your information

#### What are my options for hair loss?

There are many options for treating hair loss. For some cases, there is an underlying medical cause which, once the medical disease is treated, the hair will grow back. For other patients, especially those with male and female pattern baldness, surgical and non-surgical methods exist which are aimed at recreating a natural appearing hairline.

#### What are the non-surgical options for hair restoration?

Non surgical options include diet modifications and herbal and dietary supplements. Currently there are three medications which can be used for hair loss. Minoxidil and finasteride have specific indications for hair loss. Bimatoprost ophthalmic solution was recently approved for eyelash growth. For some people suffering from hair loss, hair systems may be a good option. Toupee's or wigs have come a long way. Costs, methods of application, need for replacement and upkeep, and look all play into the decision to purchase a hair replacement system.

#### What are the surgical options for treating hair loss?

Hair transplants, scalp reductions, scar revisions, and local flaps are all options for treating hair loss. The exact surgical methods and options which may be best for each individual patient are beyond the scope of this article. Determining the best option for an individual patient relies on consultation with an experienced hair restoration surgeon. A patient's cause for hair loss, desires for hair restoration, and other medical conditions will all play into what procedure may be appropriate or best for an individual.

#### What is the first step in the evaluation of hair loss?

The first step is always consulting with a trained and knowledgeable physician. If the loss is due to a medical condition, fairly to properly treat the disease can result in additional irreplaceable loss. For some patients, the diagnosis is straight forward. For some, it may require additional testing.

#### What doctors are qualified to treat hair loss?

Many doctors are qualified to diagnose the cause for hair loss. In some cases, a primary care physician can easily diagnose the cause. In some more advanced cases, referral to a dermatologist may be necessary to get an answer. When it comes to surgical correction of hair loss, there are no set guidelines for whom to consult. A good starting point is a dermatology, plastic surgeon, or facial plastic surgeon who specializes in hair transplant surgery.

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