

What Makes You an Ideal Candidate for FUE?

With many available hair transplantation options, one of the considerations is, are you the right candidate for a particular procedure? Today, we will examine what makes a good FUE (follicular unit extraction) candidate.

To paraphrase Oscar Wilde's "there's no such thing as a perfect husband" - hair surgeons say that "there's no such thing as an ideal candidate." We deal with percentages, and we try to get as close to meeting the patient's goals as medically possible.

However, if you are generally healthy, and are set on a goal of having a full head of hair, you're on the right track. Here are some other variables that you should consider:

Age and Health

While you can have FUE at any age for hair thinning or hair loss, people over the age of 30 make better candidates as their hair loss pattern has been established. For the traditional FUE method, any hair length is accepted. However, for the more precise ARTAS robotic technology, hair has to be cut short before the procedure. This is a consideration that clients have to decide upon.

Also, if you have chronic health problems, such as high blood pressure, make sure to discuss them with your doctor.

Family History of Hair Loss

If your pattern of baldness - male or female - has been established, or is distinct, or follows that of your relatives (that is, it's hereditary), it is a good time for a consultation. The pattern of hair loss is also useful to your doctor to project the baldness that may still be to come, so it's a good time to come up with a treatment plan together.

Cause of Baldness

If your bald spots are caused by trauma (burns, surgical procedures, scarring) or alopecia (traction alopecia or alopecia marginalis), you are a great candidate for FUE. You may also want to speak to your family doctor about medical issues that may be causing or contributing to your hair loss or thinning.

Donor Hair Density

While FUE can be performed on men and women with advanced baldness, you should take advantage of the consultation with the surgeon to ensure that you have enough donor hair for the FUE procedure. If you're completely bald, you might be too late.

Realistic Expectations

Although hair transplants are permanent, hair loss may not be. An ideal client is one who understands that they might have to come back if the hair loss persists. However, the good news is that this procedure can be repeated.

Waiting for Results

The results of an FUE procedure take up to a year to fully show. Most of the time significant hair growth will appear in 4-6 months. If you're willing to wait that long, FUE is the right procedure. Patience is a virtue in this case, and it pays off with increased self-esteem, confidence and overall a better psychological and physical well-being.

New Technology

Keep in mind that the field of hair transplantation is leaping forward at an incredible pace. FUE is typically done by hand, but now, there's an ARTAS robotic arm that does the same thing as the surgeon, but with more precision, less error, and, of course, without ever getting tired.