

McCracken Eye and Face Institute Provides Solution for Hair Loss Sufferers



If you are like most adults, you no longer have that thick head of hair you had as a teen or even as a twenty-something. Instead, when you look in the mirror you see some of the dreaded and telltale signs of hair loss – a receding hairline, balding at the crown, or maybe thinning hair along the part line.

You are not alone. Millions of men and women experience hair loss.

For most, it is a natural part of the aging process (male- or female-pattern baldness) and for others, it is the result of illness, medication, stress and even hormone changes. Regardless, its impacts can be terrifying and devastating to a person's self-esteem and emotional health.

"When people don't feel good about how they look, it affects their happiness and many aspects of their life, especially their selfperception, their confidence, and their relationships," says Dr. Michael McCracken, a Colorado plastic surgeon.

Dr. McCracken is a skilled surgeon with more than a decade of experience in cosmetic and reconstructive surgery. He is also the founder of McCracken Eye and Face Institute with offices in Parker and Boulder. Among the many procedures his offices provide, he also offers hair transplant surgery to help patients turn back the clock to look and feel their best.

Hair Transplants on the Rise

Today, hair loss suffers don't have to sit back idly and suffer. Instead, many choose hair transplants for a long-term solution. In fact, hair restorations increased 76 percent from 2006 to 2014, according to the International Society of Hair Restoration Surgery. "Modern techniques can give a person more natural looking results," says Dr. McCracken.

Advances in Technology

"Follicular unit extraction, also referred to as FUE, is becoming the new standard for hair transplant surgery because it has a high success rate and also minimizes scarring," says Dr. McCracken. "NeoGraft's FUE hair transplant technology system is helping even more men and women suffering from hair loss."

The FUE procedure is the surgical removal of hair follicles or "grafts" from the back of the head one-by-one and transplanting the grafts to the balding area (receptor site) one at a time.

Dr. McCracken and his team prefer NeoGraft's special surgical device for this vital and delicate task because it aids in better follicle removal and minimizes trauma to the hair graft. The follicles are then individually implanted to the new area. There's no scalpel, no incision and little to no discomfort.

Dr. McCracken believes FUE and NeoGraft provide a better option than "strip harvesting," also known as follicular unit transplantation (FUT), which is the other common method used today. In an FUT procedure, a strip of scalp is cut from the back of the head, then the strip is dissected to obtain individual hair follicles. An FUT hair transplant patient will have a large, permanent linear scar, and will have to deal with sutures or staples postoperatively.

"The FUE method together with NeoGraft's system are the next generation of hair transplant technology," says Dr. McCracken. "It is the optimum choice for age-related hair loss, as well as corrective or reconstructive hair surgery."

The NeoGraft system is an FDA cleared follicular harvesting and implantation system. It has pneumatic vacuum and air pressure controls that enable exact harvesting and placement to deliver better results. With NeoGraft there is an increased rate of hair implant survival because of reduced injury to the follicle's living tissue.

Who is a Hair Transplant Candidate?

Nearly all men and women, except those with extreme balding, are good candidates for hair transplants. The out-patient procedure is minimally invasive and has a short recovery time, making it ideal. The procedure lasts only a half to full day depending on the extent of the transplant. After, patients report little pain or discomfort and many patients return to normal daily activities after just a few days.

What are the results?

NeoGraft transplant patients see new hair growth after just a few months. The transplanted hair will continue to grow and blend into a natural looking, fuller head of hair in about a year. Since the transplanted hair is their own, transplant patients can cut, color and style as usual.

The First Step to Fuller Hair

For anyone considering a hair transplant or interested in learning more about the procedure, the first step is scheduling an appointment with Dr. McCracken.

"In this meeting, I'll answer your questions and conduct a patient evaluation including examining the extent of your hair loss and the pattern of loss. I'll also inspect your hair in the back of your head where hair follicles are generally more durable and genetically tend to grow throughout life," says Dr. McCracken.

Patients and Dr. McCracken also discuss expectations, details about the procedure including cost and ways to make a transplant affordable with payment plans.

Most importantly, Dr. McCracken and patients discuss where the hair grafts will be implanted to give the patient a natural looking hairline.

About 80 million people in the United States have hereditary thinning or baldness, reports the American Academy of Dermatology.



The Results Speak for Themselves NeoGraft Before & After









(left) Traditional scalp strip incision leaves permanent scarring (right) NeoGraft removes individual hair follicles, or "grafts" leaves no visible scarring with little to no discomfort.

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