

POLICY

Hair Restoration Procedures

Purpose

This policy sets out the requirements for hair restoration procedures.

Background

Hair restoration procedures include the surgical transfer of hair follicles from a donor area to a recipient area (i.e. hair transplant surgery) and the implantation of synthetic hair fibres to simulate natural hair coverage (i.e. prosthetic hair fibre implantation).

Section 13-3(1) of the CPSBC Bylaws under the *Health Professions and Occupations Act (HPOA)* state a facility must have a certificate of provisional or full accreditation to provide a procedure in schedule G. Schedule G procedures, which must only be performed in an accredited non-hospital medical and surgical facility, list hair transplant including follicular unit grafting and robotic techniques.

Division 16 of the CPSBC Bylaws under the *HPOA* outline the activities that may be delegated, specific limits and conditions for delegation, and activities that may not be delegated to a hair transplant technician in a NHMSFAP facility.

Policy

Introduction

The NHMSFAP Committee has adopted the International Society of Hair Restoration Surgery (ISHRS) Position Statement of Qualifications for Scalp Surgery which states that any procedure involving a skin incision for the purpose of tissue removal from the scalp or body, or to prepare the scalp or body to receive tissue (e.g. incising the follicular unit extraction (FUE) graft, excising the donor strip, creating recipient site) by any means, including robotics, is a surgical procedure and as such should be performed by a properly trained and licensed physician who possesses the education, training and current competency in the field of hair restoration surgery. The ISHRS further recognizes the delegation of some aspects of hair restoration procedures to other health professionals under specific criteria.

Appropriate setting

Hair restoration surgery using any method, including but not limited to follicular unit transplant procedure (FUT) (i.e. strip harvesting), FUE (i.e. punch harvesting), robotics or any other method (e.g. prosthetic hair fibre implantation), must be performed in an accredited non-hospital facility.

Credentialing and privileging

Physicians requesting privileges for hair restoration at a non-hospital facility must contact CPSBC's licensing department to facilitate a change in scope of practice.

Medical directors cannot grant privileges for hair restoration until the physician's training or scope of practice change has been approved by the licensing department.

Prior to receiving training or practicing in a non-hospital facility, physicians must be appointed to the medical staff by the medical director. The medical director must follow the NHMSFAP credentialing and privileging and notification processes.

Physician responsibilities

- The physician is responsible for all of the surgical steps of the procedure which include but are not limited to:
 - Harvesting from the donor zone by either FUT or FUE
 - Making the micro-incisions where the donor or prosthetic follicles will be implanted, both hairline design and all recipient site creation
 - Inserting the follicular unit graft into the micro-incisions
 - Injecting any local anesthetic/tumescent
- RNs or LPNs with a patient-specific order from the physician may perform the following surgical steps of the procedure:
 - Harvesting from the donor zone by FUE only
 - Inserting the follicular unit graft into the micro-incisions made by the hair restoration physician or physician-operated robotic system
- Hair transplant technicians through delegation by the medical director physician qualified in hair restoration procedures may perform the following surgical steps of the procedure:
 - Harvesting from the donor zone by FUE only
 - Inserting the follicular unit graft into the micro-incisions made by the hair restoration physician or physician-operated robotic system
- If a robotic system is used, the physician is also responsible for:
 - Selecting and confirming the algorithm(s)/parameters for the harvest zone(s) (e.g. size of harvest grid, punch size, dissection depth)
 - Activating/deploying/operating the robotic system
 - Remaining in the procedure room at all times while the robotic system is in use (i.e. in direct observation of the patient and in close proximity to the robotic system console/monitor)
- If prosthetic follicles are used, the physician is also responsible for:
 - Selecting the number of fibres per prosthetic hair fibre implant, the colour(s) and the shape of the prosthetic hair fibre implants

- The physician is responsible for supervising any surgical assistants/technicians who perform non-surgical steps of the procedure which may include:
 - Removing the FUE grafts that have been incised by the hair restoration physician or physician-operated robotic system
 - Processing the harvested graft(s) (i.e. dissecting, trimming) for insertion
- The physician must remain on site for the duration of the entire procedure (i.e. harvesting and inserting the follicular unit graft into the micro-incisions)

Delegation to a hair transplant technician

- The hair transplant technician must be an employee of the NHMSFAP facility to perform a delegated activity
- The medical director is responsible for delegating restricted activities to a hair transplant technician or a student being trained as a hair transplant technician
- The medical director may only delegate the following restricted activities to a hair transplant technician or a student being trained as a hair transplant technician:
 - Performing a procedure on tissue below the dermis (i.e. harvesting from the donor zone by FUE only, inserting the follicular unit graft into the micro-incisions) and
 - Administering a schedule III drug orally on a patient-specific order (i.e., acetaminophen)
- The medical director cannot delegate the following to a hair transplant technician or a student being trained as a hair transplant technician:
 - the making of a diagnosis identifying a disease, disorder or condition (i.e., infection) or
 - administering schedule I, IA or II medications by any method (i.e., local anesthesia, sedatives, codeine)
- The medical director delegating to a hair transplant technician must:
 - be qualified to provide or perform the restricted activity being delegated
 - be satisfied that the delegated restricted activity will be performed in accordance with the ethics standards and practice standards applicable to physicians
 - ensure the hair transplant technician who performs the restricted activity is clearly identified in the patient's medical record and
 - ensure that the hair transplant technician who performs the restricted activity has professional liability protection or professional liability insurance against liability in British Columbia for negligence in the provision of services or, in the event of a professional liability claim, will be covered by their employer or their employer's insurance
- The medical director is responsible for any aspect of practice or restricted activity that they delegate to the hair transplant technician

References

ABHRS: American Board of Hair Restoration Surgery [Internet]. Munster, IN: American Board of Hair Restoration Surgery; c2019. Certification and requirements for ABHRS and IBHRS certification; [cited 2019 Nov 5]; [about 2 screens].

CPSA: Cosmetic Practice Standards Authority [Internet]. London: Cosmetic Practice Standards Authority [cited 2019 Nov 5]; [about 4 screens].

ISHRS: International Society of Hair Restoration Surgery [Internet]. Chicago, IL: International Society of Hair Restoration Surgery; 2019. ISHRS position statement on qualifications for scalp surgery; [cited 2019 Nov 5]; [about 1 screen].

International Alliance of Hair Restoration Surgeons: a consumer organization [Internet]. International Alliance of Hair Restoration Surgeons; c2019. The basics; [cited 2019 Nov 5]; [about 7 screens].

International Alliance of Hair Restoration Surgeons: a consumer organization [Internet]. International Alliance of Hair Restoration Surgeons; c2019. Follicular unit transplant; [cited 2019 Nov 5]; [about 4 screens].

Williams G, Farjo N, Nassab R, Sadri A, Armstrong A. Hair transplant surgery standards [Internet]. London: Cosmetic Practice Standards Authority; 2018 [cited 2019 Nov 5]. 21 p.

Williams G, Farjo N, Nassab R, Sadri A, Armstrong A. Prosthetic hair fibre implantation standards [Internet]. London: Cosmetic Practice Standards Authority; 2018 [cited 2019 Nov 5]. 16 p.

Core curriculum in hair restoration surgery [Internet]. Chicago (IL): International Society of Hair Restoration Surgery; 2017 [cited 2020 Dec 16]. 26 p.

Contact

For further information, please contact the Non-Hospital Medical and Surgical Facilities Accreditation Program at nhmsfap@cpsbc.ca.