



Hair Transplant Service Standards 2016

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Acknowledgement

Dubai Health Authority (DHA) is pleased to present the “Hair Transplant Service Standards”, which represents a milestone towards fulfilling the DHA strategic objective to “Improve quality standards in health facilities”.

This document places an emphasis on facility design and service criteria with a focus on quality of services and safety of patients and healthcare professionals based on international standards of best practices in this domain, while taking into consideration the local and federal laws.

The Health Regulation Department (HRD) has developed this document in collaboration with Subject Matter Experts (SMEs). The contribution of these SMEs is invaluable and HRD would like to gratefully acknowledge these healthcare professionals and thank them for their dedication to quality in health and their commitment in undertaking such a complex task.

Health Regulation Department
Dubai Health Authority

I. Scope

This document applies to any health facility that wishes to provide hair transplant services subject to licensure under the Dubai Health Authority (DHA) establishment law, including governmental and semi-governmental, private and health facilities operating in free zone areas excluding Dubai Health Care City (DHCC).

DHA has the right to amend these standards stipulated herein without prior notice; the latest version shall be published on the DHA website www.dha.gov.ae

II. Purpose

DHA is the sole responsible entity of ensuring that all health facilities and healthcare professionals in the Emirate of Dubai provide the highest level of safety and quality patient care at all times. This document outlines the basic mandatory requirements for a health facility to be able to provide hair transplant services.

III. Definitions

Hair transplantation is a surgical method of hair restoration.

IV. Acronyms

DHA	:	Dubai Health Authority
DHCC	:	Dubai Health Care City
HRD	:	Health Regulation Department
ISHRS	:	International Society of Hair Restoration Surgery
PPE	:	Personal Protective Equipment
SME	:	Subject Matter Expert
UAE	:	United Arab Emirates

1. Introduction

- 1.1. Hair transplantation is a surgical method of hair restoration. Contemporary hair transplant surgery offers results that are natural and undetectable. It is an excellent treatment option for male and female pattern hair loss. Patients undergoing hair transplantation are encouraged to use medical therapy in conjunction to help protect their surgical results and prevent ongoing thinning of the surrounding hair.
- 1.2. Methods of hair transplant
 - 1.2.1. Follicular unit hair transplantation is the gold standard method of hair transplantation; it preserves the natural architecture of the hair units and gives natural results.
 - 1.2.2. Mini-micro-grafting is a method of hair transplantation involving randomly assorted groups of hair, without consideration of their natural configuration of follicular units, under loupe or naked eye examination. Mini-grafts consist of 4-5-6 hairs while micro-grafts consist of 1-3 hairs.
- 1.3. Hair transplant services can be provided in:
 - 1.3.1. Hospitals
 - 1.3.2. Day surgical centers
 - 1.3.3. Outpatient Facilities

2. Facility Design Requirements

- 2.1. Hair transplantation is a minor surgery that can be conducted in a procedure room.
- 2.2. The procedure room shall have a minimum floor area of eleven (11) square meters and shall host the procedure chair and the hair transplant equipment.
- 2.3. The procedure room shall be equipped with facilities for monitoring and handling complications and side effects like injection of the local anesthesia in incorrect doses or incorrect areas, allergic reactions, irritation of the areas post-surgery, etc.
- 2.4. The room door swing and direction of the procedure chair shall consider patient privacy.
- 2.5. There should preferably be one (1) procedure chair per room.

- 2.6. In case of multiple procedure chairs placed in a room, the procedure chairs shall be surrounded by cubicle walls to ensure privacy which shall have a minimum floor area of nine (9) square meters.
- 2.7. The procedure room shall be equipped with medication and equipment to handle clinical emergencies.

3. Professional Requirements

- 3.1. Physicians performing hair transplant services shall be responsible for demonstrating defined experience and exposure to the discipline's cognitive and technical challenges.
- 3.2. As with other interventional procedures, it is essential that the physicians carrying out hair transplant services receive suitable training and are assessed as competent to perform it.
- 3.3. The physicians have to undergo advanced/ specialized training and achieved a certain minimum level of skills to safely perform hair transplant services and to recognize and treat complications and side effects.
- 3.4. The following physicians can perform hair transplant services:
 - 3.4.1. Plastic Surgeons with valid DHA license
 - 3.4.2. DHA licensed Dermatologists and General Surgeons who shall fulfill the below requirements:
 - 3.4.2.1. Acquire an accredited certificate in hair transplant/ restoration or any equivalent certificate from one (1) of the following certifying bodies:
 - 3.4.2.1.1. American Board of Hair Restoration Surgery
 - 3.4.2.1.2. International Society of Hair Restoration Surgery (ISHRS)
 - 3.4.2.1.3. American Hair Loss Association

- 3.4.2.2. Have two (2) years of current experience in hair transplant along with a logbook with cases for procedures performed and the procedures outcomes.
- 3.4.2.3. Clear DHA assessment
- 3.5. Hair transplantation is a team effort. Hair transplant technicians help assist the above physicians to conduct hair transplantation.
- 3.6. Hair transplant technicians could be:
 - 3.6.1. Healthcare professionals with BSc or diploma (minimum three (3) years course duration) in allied health with emphasis in hair transplant OR
 - 3.6.2. BSc degree in nursing and certificate confirming on job training and indicate the following:
 - 3.6.2.1. Training conducted in a licensed hair transplant centre
 - 3.6.2.2. Training performed by licensed plastic surgeon
- 3.7. Hair transplant technicians shall have two (2) years' experience in the related field and perform a minimum of twenty (20) procedures/ year.

4. Patient Selection

- 4.1. Any person with good donor area, in good general health and reasonable expectations with pattern hair loss can undergo hair transplantation.
- 4.2. In very young patients whose early alopecia is still evolving, patients with Norwood grade VI or VII with poor hair density, patients with unrealistic expectations and patients with significant systemic health problems, physicians should exercise caution.

5. Preoperative Counseling and Informed Consent

- 5.1. As per article (7) of the Federal Law number 10/2008 concerning Medical Liability and the Cabinet Decision No. (33) of 2009 promulgating the bylaw of the medical liability law, Informed Consent shall be obtained by the treating physician prior to procedure/ surgery and/ or interventions (excluding emergency cases), after discussing the complication, risks, benefits and alternatives.

- 5.2. Consent documentation shall be maintained in the patient's health records.
- 5.3. The patient should sign detailed informed consent form listing details about the procedure and possible benefits, risks and complications.
- 5.4. The consent form should specifically state the limitations of the procedure and if more procedures are needed for proper results, it should be clearly mentioned.
- 5.5. Patient should be provided with adequate opportunity to seek information through brochures, computer presentations, and personal discussions.
- 5.6. Need for concomitant medical therapy should be emphasized.
- 5.7. Patients should understand that proper hair growth can be expected after about nine (9) months after transplantation.
- 5.8. Preoperative laboratory studies to be performed include Hb%, blood counts including platelet count, bleeding and clotting time (or prothrombin time and activated partial thromboplastin time), blood chemistry profile including sugar.

6. Patient Care

- 6.1. The health facility shall provide a comfortable care environment for the service with focus on patient safety and privacy.
- 6.2. The health facility should accommodate the needs of patients from different cultures and languages; this may include but not limited to, providing information brochures in several languages and providing accessible translators when required.
- 6.3. The health facility shall maintain a documented policy for immunization and shall arrange for Hepatitis "B" vaccination for all healthcare professionals providing hair transplant service.
- 6.4. Most patients will need concurrent medical treatment since the process of pattern hair loss is progressive and may affect the remaining hairs.
- 6.5. Follow up visits shall be arranged to ensure outcome of the procedure and continuity of care

7. Infection Control

- 7.1. When healthcare professionals providing hair transplant services adhere to infection control and safety precautions, risks of infection to patients and healthcare professionals is greatly reduced.
- 7.2. Infection control measures shall be used in the health facility to prevent or reduce the potential for disease transmission, measures shall include but, not limited to the following:
 - 7.2.1. Hand Hygiene
 - 7.2.2. Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)
 - 7.2.3. Sterilization and disinfection of patient care items
 - 7.2.4. Environmental infection control
 - 7.2.5. Medical Waste Management

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