



DERMATOLOGICAL SURGERY

COMPARISON OF GRAFT CHARACTERISTICS AMONG SOUTH INDIAN POPULATION UNDERGOING FOLLICULAR UNIT EXTRACTION IN A PRIVATE CLINIC

Sandeep Mahapatra⁽¹⁾

Dermasolutions, Dermatology, Bangalore, India⁽¹⁾

Introduction: Androgenetic alopecia (AGA) is the most common cause of hair loss among males. The most effective & permanent way of hair restoration is Follicular Unit Extraction (F.U.E.). In FUE, the grafts are extracted as individual follicular units in a two-step or three-step technique whereas the method of implantation remains the same as in the traditional FUT. Despite the magnitude of the problem, there are limited studies done in F.U.E. and factors affecting outcome of the surgery.

Aims: To compare the graft characteristics among the South Indian population

Materials and Methods: This is a retrospective cross sectional study where the selection criteria of the population was random south Indian male patients undergoing Hair transplant with Follicular Unit Extraction (F.U.E.) method in a hair transplant clinic in Bangalore. The age group of the population was between 25 to 35 years old. The grading of alopecia was determined using Hamilton Norwood grading and patients with grade III to VII were incorporated in the study.

Results: Out of 100 patients incorporated, 23(28 \pm 2.33) patients were from Andhra Pradesh, 53 patients from Karnataka (28 \pm 3.014), 17 patients from Tamil Nadu (30 \pm 2.08) and 17(27 \pm 1.04) patients from Kerala.

The average follicle to graft ratio in Andhra Pradesh was 2.1, Karnataka was 2.5, while the characteristic of grafts were chubby and curly in Kerala patients, it was short and fine in Andhra patients.

Conclusion: The study determined that people with Andhra Pradesh origin had a lower follicle to graft ratio & the grafts were fine and short compared to other South Indian regions.

