

## **Disclosures**

Nutrafol: Research Grants

Church Dwight: Research Grants

Exocellcio: Advisory Board

Sea Theory: Research Grants

# Why Discuss it?

Treatments for hair loss represent 2<sup>nd</sup> largest segment of aesthetic procedures performed in US

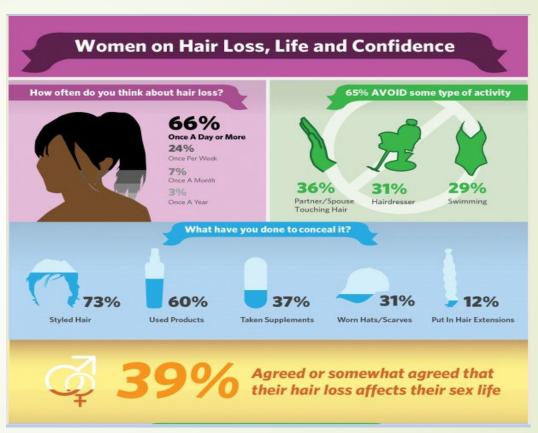
>70 million Americans suffer from hair loss (20 million are female)





# Female Hair Loss – Psychological Impact

- 2000 women,ages 25-55
- 66 % suffering from hair loss think about their hair loss
- 39% hair loss affects their sex life
- 79% less happy, 9% said hair løss makes them depressed.
- •/55% feel judged
- 86% envy thick hair.

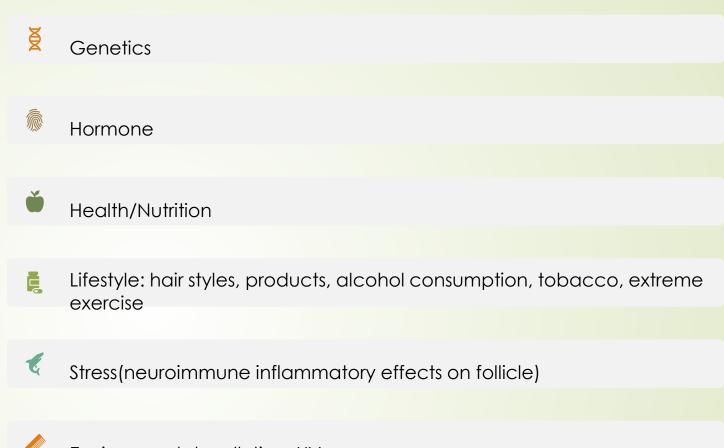


2011 independent survey by Lab42



# Etiology Skin Institute & Research Center

# Multifactorial Etiology of Hair Loss: multiple triggers and Inflammation



- Environmental: pollution, UV
- All TRIGGERS above lead to INFLAMMAGING: which creates\*\*chronic microinflammation, free radicals, oxidative stress around follicle: multiple triggers throw the follicle out of balance

#### A NEW VIEW ON HAIR LOSS

#### INFLAMMATION LEADS TO DYSREGULATED SIGNALING



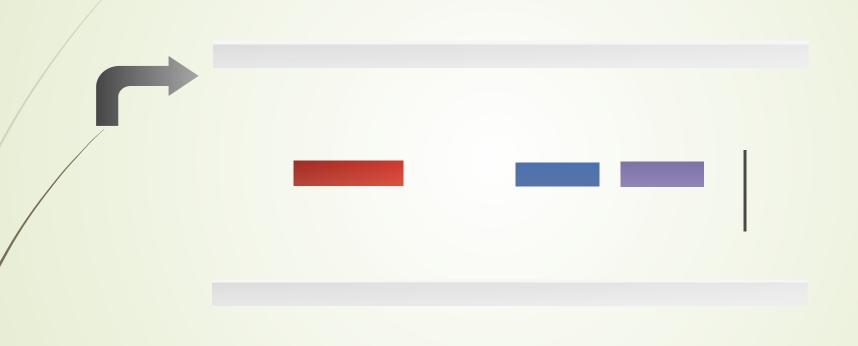
Excess inflammation, free radicals and generated cytokines disrupt the normal signaling molecules responsible for regulating the hair growth cycle and hair production — tipping the scale towards regression

Mahe et al. Androgenetic alopecia and microinflammation. Int J Dermatol. 2000;39(8):576-84



NEW NEUROLOGICAL, NEUROENDOCRINE & IMMUNE MECHANISMS BEHIND HOW

#### STRESS INHIBITS HAIR GROWTH



Peters el al. Probing the effects of stress mediators on the human hair follicle substance holds central position. Am J Pathol. 2007;17(6):1872-6

# Non Scarring Alopecia DDx

- Androgenetic alopecia(hair out by roots): patterned hairloss
- Alopecia areata(hair out by roots): autoimmune dz, relapse frequent:
  - ILK 3mg/cc, tacrolimus bid, bimatoprost topically when inflammation under control, JAK inhib for AT or AU
  - Associated with Hashimoto's thyroiditis, pernicious anemia, vitiligo. Addison's dz so check labs
- Telogen effluvium: increase shedding, shift of hairs into telogen phase
  - Malnutrition
  - medication
  - Endocrine
  - stress
- Anagen Effluvium(hair breaks)
  - Anagen hairs receive toxic or inflammatory insult resulting in fracture of hair shaft
  - Chemo induced(antimetabolites, alkylating agents, mitotic inhibitors), heavy metals, cyclosporine, colchicine
- Polycystic ovary syndrome (hair out by roots)
- Associated with Systemic Syndromes:
  - Endocrine Diseases: hyper/hypothyroidism, hypo /hyperparathyroidism
  - Deficiency states (nutrition or metabolic): Kwashiorkor/marasmus, iron or zinc deficiency, AIDS
  - Drugs: Methotrexate, Cyclophosphamide, Colchicine, Prednisone, Heparin, Coumadin, Vitamin A, Propranolol, Levodopa, Thiouracil
  - Syphilis-hair out by roots
- Physical Alopecia-hair breaks
  - Traction alopecia-
  - Trichotillomania
- Hereditary Syndromes: congenital triangular alopecia, Ectodermal dysplasia, Progeria, Werner's Syndrome
- Tinea Capitis-hair breaks





# Scarring Alopecia DDx

- Infection:
  - Bacterial, fungal(kerion), protozoan (leishmaniasis), viral
- Neoplasm:
  - BCC,SCC, adnexal tumors, mets
- Physical/chemical:
  - Burns, radiation, caustic agents, factitial
- Hereditary disorders:
  - Aplasia cutis congenita, epidermal nevi, Ichtyosis, EB(recessive/dystrophic)
- Other:
  - LPP/ Frontal Fibrosing Alopecia\*
  - Central Centrifugal Cicatricial Alopecia\*
  - Folliculitis Decalvans\*
  - Acne Keloidalis
  - Dissecting Perifolliculitis of Scalp
  - Amyloidosis
  - Pseudopelade of Brocq
  - Lupus Erythematosis/DLE
  - Sarcoid
  - Morphea



# It takes seeds and soil to make it grow!

- Stem cells are the seeds (from which the hair grows)
- Microenvironment is the soil(blood vessels, nerves, adipocytes) informs the stem cells where to go and what to do
- Hair is the model for all stem cell research and biology
- NEED TO DETERMINE WHERE THE PROBLEM LIES

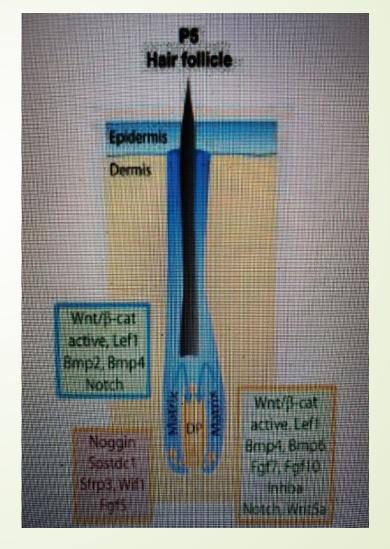




# Hair growth pathways

- Wnt Signaling\*
- MAPK (mitogen activated Protein kinases) Signaling
- TGF beta Signaling
- Signaling between matrix and DP during hair follicle growth

Song et al. Regional Control of Hairless Vs Hair-Bearing Skin by *Dkk2*.*Cell Reports* 2018





# 449 Active Studies (recently completed or recruiting) for Hair loss 2023

- Hair Stimulating Complex (HSC) is derivative of hypoxia-induced multipotent cell conditioned media enriched key growth factors
- ▶ 15mg Chelate zinc supplement : additional to standard 5% minoxidil
- Herbal solution in Iran
- Botulinum toxin A
- Topical certrizine !% vs Minoxidil 5%
- Drug: tetrapeptide aldehyde proteasome inhibitor (NEOSH101)-Germany
- Cold atmoshpheric pressure plasma
- Nitrous Oxide gel



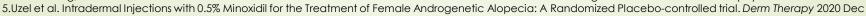
# Treatment Options



# **Treatment Options**

- Treat the cause: Attempt to correct lab abnormalities first
- Start supplements depending on etiology
- Consider Topical biomimetic peptides or topical Finasteride/Minoxidil(with or without microneedling)
- Consider Low Level Light Laser Therapy, home units/LED
- Possible intralesional corticosteroid(3-5mg/cc) injections, donor bone marrow stem cells/exosomes, intradermal minoxidil(4), or PRP with or without microneedling
- Discuss prescription meds (oral minoxidil, oral finasteride, oral spironolactone). Side effects seen with oral meds (1,2,3), oral antibiotics
- Topical Tacrolimus immune modulator
- Jak inhib, methotrexate, oral meds, other depending on Dx
- Experimental Protein injections with Copper
- Talk nutrition and stress management
- Consider transplant
- Always discuss price, frequency of in office visits, and duration of treatment (ie AGA Treatment is forever)

<sup>3 .</sup>Sinclair. Female Pattern Hair loss: a Pilot Study Investigating Combination Therapy with Low-Dose Oral Minoxidl and Spironolactone .Int J Dermatol. 2018 Jan 57(1):104-9
4..lamsumang, er al. Finasteride and Its Potential for the Treatment of Female Pattern Hair Loss: Evidence to Date. Drug Des Devel Ther. 2020 Mar 2(14):951-9





<sup>1.</sup> Randolph, Tosti. Oral Minoxidil Treatment for Hair Loss: A review of Efficacy and Safety. JAAD. 2020Jul(1): S0190-9622

<sup>2.</sup> Sanabria, Vanzela et al. Adverse Effects of Low-Dose Oral Minoxidil for Androgenetic Alopecia. JAAD.2020 Nov

## A. Medical Treatments: Oral meds

#### **Oral Finasteride**

- Inhibits conversion of testosterone into DHT(causes hair miniaturization)
- Binds to sensitive follicles and destroys them
- No proof it helps with frontal hair loss
- Not safe in women of child-bearing age
- Continuous Tx required with AGA

#### **Oral Minoxidil**

- Vasodilator: opens K+ channels, promotes blood flow= hair growth (i> O2)
- Prolongs anagen phase and increases hair follicle size
- Topical vs 0.25mg oral, or 2% soln(1tsp in two cups H2O, drink 1.25tsp qam
- Start 1.25-2.5mg bid, up to 5mg bid in men
- Can cause unexpected hair growth in unwanted places
- Continual treatment required with AGA

\*\*\*\*Arif, et al, "Dutasteride in Androgenetic Alopecia: An Update,"

Curr. Clin. Pharmacol., 2017 (12): 31-5

Vastarella, et al, "Efficacy and safety of oral minoxidil in female androgenetic alopecia," *Dermatol. Ther.*, Nov. 2020;33(6):1423

# A. . Medical Treatments: Compounded prescription strength products

#### **Topical Finoxidil**

- Finasteride or Dutasteride /Minoxidil/Retinoic Acid/
- Adds penetration with retinoic acid
- Likely reduces side effects of oral finasteride (watch for sexual SE)
- No studies in women of childbearing age
- New dutasteride topical even stronger than finasteride

#### **Topical Minoxidil**

- Similar side effects: hypertrichosis, unpleasant texture
- Strong evidence similar to oral minoxidil
- Best results with 5%,
- Safe on men and women

Ramos, et al.Minoxidil 1mg Oraly vs Minoxidil 5% solution
Topically for the Treatment fo Female Pattern Hair Loss JAAD 2019 Aug

Rafi ,Katz, "Pilot Study of 15 Patients Receiving a New Treatment Regimen

for Androgenic Alopecia: The Effects of Atopy on AGA," ISRN Dermatol. Apr 2011 (2011):241953

# **B.Oral Hormonal Therapies**

#### **Spironolactone**

- Efficacy is good, weak evidence
- Side Effects: rare, hyptension, irreg menses, incr urination, avoid with renal failure.
- Best for FPHL, but not for pregnant women or kidney dz
- Decreases testosterone prod in adrenal gland affecting 17 alpha hydroxylase and desmolase, competitive inhib of androgen receptor
- 100-200mg qd

#### Flutamide/Bicalutamide

- Efficacy is good, but weak evidence
- Side Effects:liver toxicity, hot flashes/Bicalutamide, lower toxicity for prostate cancer Tx, but GI complaints
- Compliance: Moderate for flutamide/ high for bicalutamide
- Interacts with other meds, black box warning hepatic failure
- Antiandrogen
- 250mg qd



D. B. Johnson and S. Sonthalia, "Flutamide," in *StatPearls*, Treasure Island (FL): StatPearls Publishing, 2020.

# C. Complimentary and Alternative Mgt: (I)Supplements

# Nutraceutical Supplement with Standardized Botanical Extracts

- Different versions for women, men, postpartum, women's balance(menopause)
- Ashwaghanda: Stress adaptogen
- Biocurcumin: anti-inflammatory
- Tocotrienols: anti-oxidant
- Saw Palmetto: natural DHT-inhibitor
- piperine: increase bioabsorption
- Different versions for women, men, postpartum, women's balance(menopause)

# Deep Sea Marine Protein Supplement

- Amino Mar: 28% Marine Protein Complex: (ECM components of shark and mollusks)
- Vitamin C
- Horsetail extract, Flaxseed extract
- Biotin
- Fumed Silica
- Apple Extract

G. Ablon, "A 6-month, randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled study evaluating the ability of a marine complex supplement to promote hair growth in men with thinning hair," *J. Cosmet. Dermatol.*, Dec. 2016.;15(4):358-66

Ablon, Kogan, "A Six-Month, Randomized, Double-Blind, Placebo-Controlled Study Evaluating the Safety and Efficacy of a Nutraceutical Supplement for Promoting Hair Growth in Women With Self-Perceived Thinning Hair," *JDD*, May 2018 17(5):558-65



# C.CAM: (I)Supplements cont.

#### Serenoa Repens

- Efficacy: moderate, evidence weak
- Side Effects: rare
- Possibility of missing early prostate cancer detection
- Saw palmetto: inhib 5 alpha red'ase
- Best on vertex scalp hair growth

Murugusundram, "Serenoa Repens: Does It have Any Role in the Management of Androgenetic Alopecia?," *J. Cutan. Aesthet. Surg.*,. Jan 2009 (2):31-2

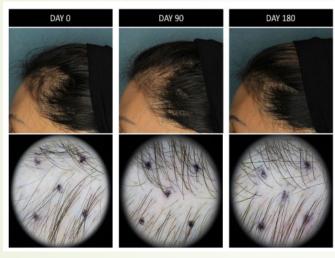
#### **Plant Based Oils**

- Efficacy: unknown, need clin trials, anecdotal evidence
- Side Effects: SE GI discomfort, reduce PS
- Compliance: good
- Cost: affordable
- Ethics: need studies
- Coconut oil, castor oil, amla oil, rosemary oil, tea tree oil, pumpkin seed oil

Panahi, et al "Rosemary oil vs minoxidil 2% for the treatment of androgenetic alopecia: a randomized comparative trial," *Skinmed* Jan 2015 (13):15-21



# Supplement Studies



Ablon, Kogan. A Randomized, Double-blind, Placebo-controlled Study of a Nutraceutical Supplement for Promoting Hair Growth inPerimenopausal, Menopausal and Postmenopausal Women with Thinning Hair. JDD Jan 2021 20(1):55-61



Burgess, Roberts, Downie, Kogan. A Closer Look at Multi-Targeted Approach to Hair Loss in African American Women.JDD Jan 2020: 19(1):95-98

# D. Complimentary and Alternative Tx

### (I) Devices:Low level laser Therapy

- Clinical Evid:strong, excellent efficacy
- Side Effects: none
- Compliance: moderate, need more studies for standardized protocols
- Ethics: best data of efficacy of all treatments, but expensive
- Energy Dispersed from Laser Array, Monochromatic (same wavelength) and Coherent Energy (NOT scattered) Red Spectrum (< 500 mW, no heat)</li>
- BioStimulation Effect (hypothesis as mech unknown): decrease inflam, activate Wnt pathway, mitochondrial oxidative metabolism & stimulation of transcription factors promote blood flow by stimul Nitric Oxide
- Stimulation of epidermal stem cells hypothesis, shifts follicle back into growth cycle:



# D. Complimentary and Alternative Tx:(II) Devices: Light Emitting Diodes

- Clin Evid:moderate, Efficacy:good
- Home devices easier for pt access: dual band 620nm, 660nm
- Similar to LLLT promoting blood flow by stimulating nitrous oxide but also blocks DHT by downregulating 5-AR
- Noncoherent
- **■** Witric Oxide:
  - binds to free thiol in enzyme active site, stopping DHT production
  - enhances growth factors, reduces inflammation and increases blood flow to the hair follicle
  - Improves blood flow: increase cellular respiration, angiogenesis and vasodilation
- 10min qd



## Before and 6 Months After LHG



# Before and 4 Months After LHG

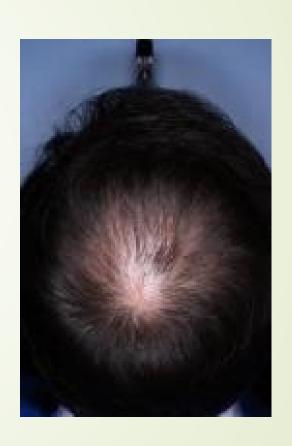


**Actual Patient of Dr Glynis Ablon** 



# LED 6 month Daily Use





# D. Complimentary and Alternative TX(III) Devices: Microneedling

- Clin Evidence: weak to moderate, Efficacy:good
- Side Effects: rare, pain, bruising, folliculitis
- Works by releasing GF and dermal papilla assoc stem cells and activating wound regeneration mechanisms.
- Add GF topicals or topical OTC, PRP, exosomes

Neerja, "A study on the efficacy of microneedling with minoxidil solution versus microneedlingwith hair multivitamin solution for the treatment of androgenetic alopecia," *Int. j. dermatol. clin. res.*, Mar 2020(6):10-2



# D. Complimentary and Alternative Therapy:

## (IV)Platelet Rich Plasma

- Clinical evidence: strong, Efficacy: excellent
- Side Effects: scalp pain, HA, burn sensation
- deep dermis or subcutaneous injxn at a vol of 4-8 cc's/sessn, q mo, 3-4 sessions
- activated within 10 min,95% secr by 1hr
- 94% platelets: contain proteins, cytokines, bioactive factors
- Enhanced prolif, differentiation and angiogenesis of dermal papillae and stem cells in bulge
- Usually injected but can be introduced by novel devices



Girijala, et al, "Platelet-rich plasma for androgenic alopecia treatment: A comprehensive review," *Dermatol. Online J.* Jul 2018(24) \*Gupta, Banimore. Platelet-Rich Plasma Monotherapies for Androgenetic Alopecia: A Network Meta-Analysis and Meta-Regression Study. JDD Sep 2022

# Key Growth Factors



#### **EGF** (Epidermal Growth Factor) Promotion of epithelial cell growth,

angioegenesis, promotion of wound healing



#### **PDGF**

(Platelet Derived Growth Factor)

Cell growth, new generation and repair of blood vessels, collagen production



#### **IGF**

(Insulin-like Growth Factor) Induces anagen phase



#### **FGF**

(Fibroblast Growth Factor)

Tissue repair, cell growth, collagen production



#### **VEGF**

(Vascular Endothelial Growth Factor)

Growth and new generation of vascular endothelial cells



TGF-β1 (Transforming Growth Factor)

Induces cell apoptosis



# 3 months after therapy (4 PRP sessions)



<u>Tawfik, Osman.</u> The Effect of Autologous Activated Platelet-rich Plasme Injection on female pattern hair loss: A Randomized Placebo-controlled Study. J of Cosmetic Derm Feb 2018: 47-53 <u>Supta, Versteeg, et al.</u> The Efficacy of Platelet-Rich Plasma in the Field of Hair Restoration and Facial Research Center

Aesthetics-A Systematic Review and Meta-analysis, J. Cutan Med Sura, 2019 Mar/Apr:23(2):185-203

## E. CAM: Other

#### Lanatoprost

- Clincial Evidence: weak, Efficacy: good
- Side Effects: rare pain, bruising, folliculitis, hypertrichosis
- Only tried in mild AGA
- Prostaglandin analog, orig to treat glaucoma
- Prolong anagen phase

Blume-Peytavi, "A randomized double-blind placebo-controlled pilot study to assess the efficacy of a 24-week topical treatment by latanoprost 0.1% on hair growth and pigmentation in healthy volunteers with androgenetic alopecia," *J.AAD*, May 2012 (66):794-800

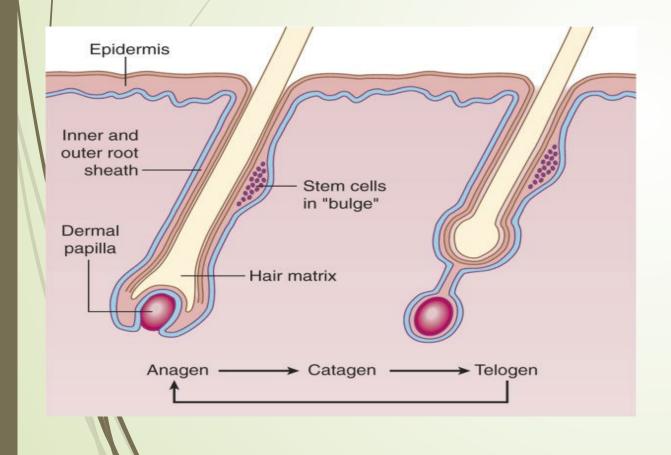
#### **Bone Marrow Mesenchymal Stem Cells**

- Sourced: regulated donor banks
- GF and cytokines flitered from stem cells to create conditioned media to coordinate repair
- Conditioned media primed with WNT pathway signaling growth factors delivered via nano lipid carriers (anti-inflam, no DNA)
- MRNAs stimulate good biosignals for hair growth
- Master regulator of biological fn, antiinflammatory, pro-healing: 12 recombinant GF specific to follicle regeneration

Hicok et al.Exosomes Origins: Why the Cell Source Matters. Stem Cell & Regen Med Dec 2019

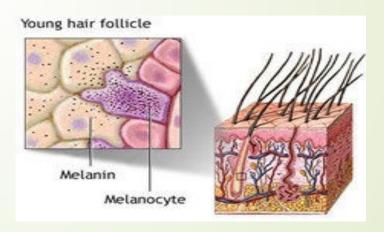
#### **Wnt Pathway Hair Regeneration**

WNT Pathway regulates the growth and development of hair follicles.





Treatment of MSCs with Wnt1a- conditioned medium activates
 DP cells and promotes hair follicle regrowth.





#### F. Exosomes

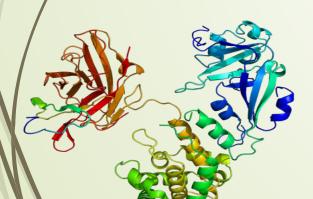


- BILAYER MEMBRANE MICRO-VESICLES
  SECRETED BY VARIOUS TYPES OF CELLS SUCH
  AS STEM CELLS THAT CARRIES GROWTH
  FACTORS
- EVs target and repair damaged tissue at sites of inflammation to transfer their content resulting in phenotypic functional changes
- EVs contain growth factors, mRNA and miRNA, lipids and cell-signaling proteins to repair and regenerate cells
- Reliable and robust safety profile and are acellular= no DNA or cellular material
- Source: Bone Marrow mesenchymal stem cells, Umbilical Cord Stem Cells, Plant Stem cells, Adipose Stem cells

## Components of Exosomes

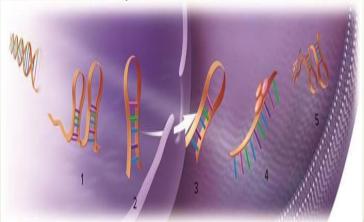
#### Growth Factors

- Stable protein bio-signals
- Manage inflammation and regeneration(enhance collagen and elastin synthesis)
- Used to enhance healing in aesthetic dermatological treatments



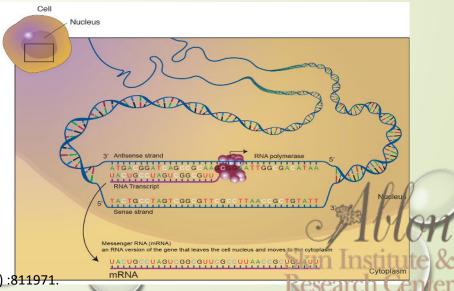
#### Micro RNA

- Regulate gene expression
- Promote keratinocyte migration
- Interact with messenger RNA
- Re-epithelialization of skin in



#### Messenger RNA

- Moderna COVID Vaccine
- Cancer Research
- Key component of Exosomes
- Natural vs. Synthetic



Chen et al. Review on Strategies and Technologies for Exosome Isolation and Purification. Front Bioeng. Biotechnol. 2022(9):811971.

# One session exosomes



6 wks after 1 session

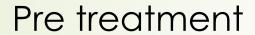
One year later







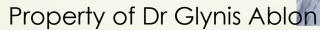
# Single Exosome Treatment

















# H. New and Upcoming Treatment Options

|   | Ti. How and opening hearthern ophens  |   |  |  |
|---|---|---|--|--|
|   | Clascoterone  | Setipirprant  | Oral JAK inhib   |  |
| / | Antiandrogen<br>(resembles DHT and<br>spironolactone)                                   | Oral CRTH2<br>antagonist: inhib<br>proinflam effects in<br>allergic response  | AA =autoimmune attack<br>on hair follicles with IL-<br>15 production in<br>response to interferon-γ<br>secretion:  |  |
|   | Antagonizing androgen rec on DP and inhib DHT on hair miniaturization and dermal inflam | Antagonist for Prostaglandin D2 receptor- blocks PGD2 mediated inflammation; CRTH2 (chem oattractant receptor- homologous molecule expressed on Th2 cells | Mediated by JAK 1/2 and JAK 1/3 signaling in T cells via a positive feedback loop. JAK inhibitors disrupt this cycle and cause reentry of hair follicles into anagen phase, lead to hair growth. |  |

Sun and Sebaratnam, "Clascoterone as a novel treatment for androgenetic alopecia," Clinical and Experimental Dermatology, 2020 (45): 913-4

"A Safety and Efficacy Study of Setipiprant Tablets in Androgenetic Alopecia in Males." <a href="https://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/results/NCT02781311">https://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/results/NCT02781311</a> (accessed Feb. 16, 2021)

Yale, et al. "At the crossroads of 2 alopecias: Androgenetic alopecia pattern of hair regrowth in patients with alopecia areata treated with oral Janus kinase inhibitors," J4AD

Case Rep., vol. 6, no. 5, pp. 444–446, May 2020.

## I. Others

- Synsapeum Seed Oil
  - Del Campo, Zhang, Wakeford. Effect of Miracle Fruit Seed Oil on the Measurable Improvement of Hair Breakage in Women with Damaged Hair JCAD. Nov 2017;10(11):39-48
- Change hair styles, products, blow dry low heat
- PDO threads, anecdotal
- Injectable peptides with Copper
- Estrogen Creams, anecdotal
- Scalp Tattooing
  - Park, Kim. Effectiveness of Scalp Medical Tattoo Technique for the Treatment of Advanced Male Pattern Baldness. Int. J. Dermatol; 2018 Nov
- Hair Transplant



# My Approach to the Hair Challenged Patient

- Determine type of hair loss/etiology
  - Includes lab work:
    - free/total testosterone
    - DHEA-S
    - Prolactin
    - Thyroid function tests
    - Ferritin
    - S\ANA
  - Possible biopsy
  - Trichoscan
  - Micro/macrophotography
- Discuss treatment options:
  - Treat the cause
  - Start supplements, topical solutions (OTC or Compounded)
  - LLLT, LED
  - Possible intralesional corticosteroid injections/PRP
  - Topical biomimetic peptides, growth factors, exosomes with or without microneedling(or new delivery devices), especially if failed topicals
  - Discuss prescription meds
  - Consider hair transplant

## Conclusion

- Take your time with patient:
  - review mechanism of hair loss
  - Work up causes of hair loss before starting treatments
  - Review all treatment options, including prices, time frame, frequency
- Indefinite use of any modality chosen for androgenic alopecia
- Combination works best: need combo studies
- Discuss hair thinning with all patients
- Address stress issues, nutrition, lifestyle

Nestor, Ablon, et al. Androgenic Alopecia: Efficacy and Ethics of Treatment. JCD. March2023



# Glynis Ablon, MD, FAAD

Ablon Skin Institute & Research Center

Manhattan Beach Studios, Calif

@drablon

www.abloninstitute.com





**Associate Clinical Professor - UCLA** 









