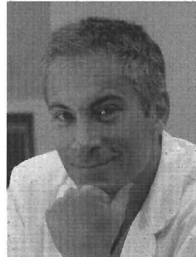


Preface
Hair restoration and removal



Jeffrey S. Epstein, MD
Guest Editor

Hair restoration is one of the most exciting, innovative surgical fields in medicine today. Improvements in technique are occurring almost monthly, with results continually becoming more and more natural-appearing. I have had the wonderful opportunity to witness first-hand as a practitioner the development of the tremendous innovations in the field over the past 10 years as the specialty has evolved from large grafts and plugs and scalp flap surgery to a largely microscopic technique, in addition to how these innovations have benefited our patients.

For this issue of the *Facial Plastic Surgery Clinics of North America*, I have attempted to present an overall picture of the field by inviting its most respected leaders to present articles that focus on their respective areas of expertise. Representing three continents (North America, South America, and Australia) and a variety of medical and surgical specialties (plastic and facial plastic surgery, dermatology, internal medicine, family practice, and emergency

medicine), they are a reflection of the mosaic of doctors that make this such a colorful specialty in which to practice.

The different articles cover some of the more important topics in hair loss treatment, including medical management, technologic developments in cloning and surgical techniques, anatomic studies, donor site issues, hairline design, treatment for women, transplantation to other parts of the body besides the scalp, and repair of prior work. Furthermore, given its related nature, a contribution on laser hair removal is also included to round out the educational curriculum. The hope is that the information presented proves to be an outstanding learning experience for anyone interested in solidifying or advancing his or her knowledge in hair restoration.

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