



MAY OR MAY NOT OCCUR

Swelling: It may be minimal or quite significant, but will go away in 2-3 days. Continue taking your prednisone as directed (if you have it) and continue sleeping upright until the swelling is gone. Ice to the forehead (**never on top of the grafts**) may help to prevent swelling.

Numbness: Numbness can occur specially in the grafted and donor areas. This will go away within several weeks or months.

Tenderness: This is normal especially in the donor area and will go away. Taking pressure off of the donor area by sleeping at a 45-degree angle or in a lounge chair, can help with the pain. Use a neck pillow or a rolled-up towel behind the neck to keep pressure of the donor area. Use your pain medication if needed.

Redness: This is normal in the grafted areas and can last a couple of weeks. In some skin types it can even last longer but it is not permanent. The scalp can easily be sunburned so wear a loose fitting hat and sunscreen after scabs are off.

Crusts/Scabs: 5 to 7 Days after surgery after showering when scabs are soft, you can rub the grafted area gently to remove the scabs. **DO NOT PICK** at them with fingernails, just rub. These scabs need to be rubbed away in order for the grafts to have a healthy environment. Some of the hairs will come out with the scabs, this is normal and they will grow back, so don't worry.

Ingrown Hairs: These look like pimples and occur mostly in the grafted area and sometimes in the donor area. These may appear after 3-4 months. It is important to pop these ingrown hairs while they are small. They heal quickly once popped. If you have a large ingrown hair that you cannot pop, call the office for an appointment and we'll take care of it for you (usually the same day).

Shock loss: You may have temporary hair loss in the grafted areas or notice them falling out with the scabs, this is normal. The root of the hair stays in the scalp and will start to grow in 3 – 4 months.

Hiccups: In rare cases, Prednisone can cause hiccups – if severe and nonstop, stop using the Prednisone.