

Androgenetic Alopecia

What is Androgenetic Alopecia?

Androgenetic Alopecia is a common hereditary thinning of hair that occurs in both men and women. The thinning usually presents in the twenties and thirties, and is fully expressed by the age of forty. The genetic trait may be inherited from either side of the family (mother's or father's or both).

What causes Androgenetic Alopecia?

This form of hair thinning is a normal hereditary trait that is caused by two factors: normal male hormone (testosterone) and heredity. The normal male hormone influences each individual hair follicle resulting in hair that is finer and shorter, and over time this hair does not fully cover the scalp. Women usually have a milder form of hereditary thinning than men and do not become completely bald because they have a much higher level of estrogen in their system which helps to protect the hair follicle.

How is Androgenetic Alopecia Treated?

Although there is no cure, several options are available including topical Minoxidil (Rogaine), hair transplants, and utilizing hair pieces or wigs.

If you have any further questions please call the Dermatology Clinic of Idaho at (208) 939-4599 or (208) 376-4776