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BOTHERED HER ANYWAY**



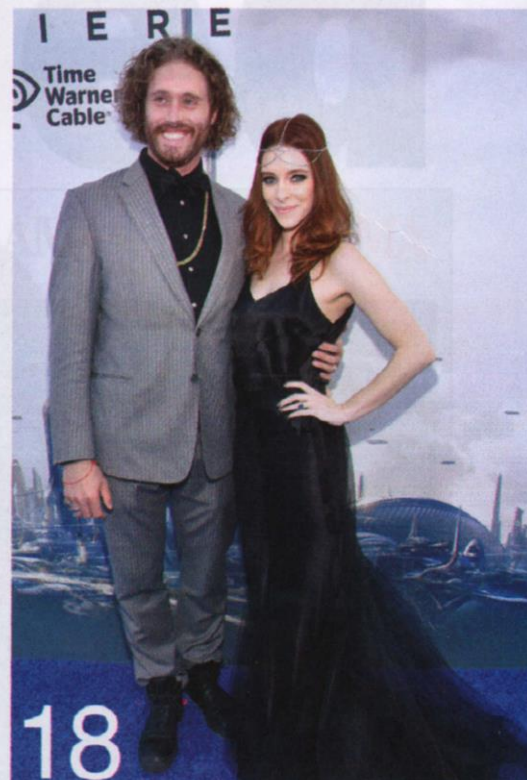
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PLUS



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MORE THAN A FASHION CRAZE

EYEBROW AND EYELASH TRANSPLANTS ARE THE HOTTEST TRENDS IN COSMETIC SURGERY AS THEY CAN BE USED FOR BOTH MEDICAL AND COSMETIC PURPOSES

by Manjula Ramakrishnan

Looking beautiful is everybody's prerogative. Gone are the days when an oddly shaped nose or a protruding chin line had to be endured. Cosmetic surgery today has advanced to the extent that they can enhance the smallest of areas: the eyebrows and eye lashes.

Dr Nic Isse, Plastic Surgeon at the American Surgecenter in Abu Dhabi is certified by the American Board of Plastic Surgery. He says, "Beautiful thick brows and long luscious lashes are great eye features to behold. Unfortunately, not everyone is lucky enough to be born with

these. Good news is that breakthrough cosmetic procedures have already been developed: eyebrow and eyelash transplants are the hottest technology to happen in cosmetic surgery."

Dr Nic answers questions about the procedures, and how both procedures are ideal not only for aesthetic enhancements but for reconstructive treatment as well.

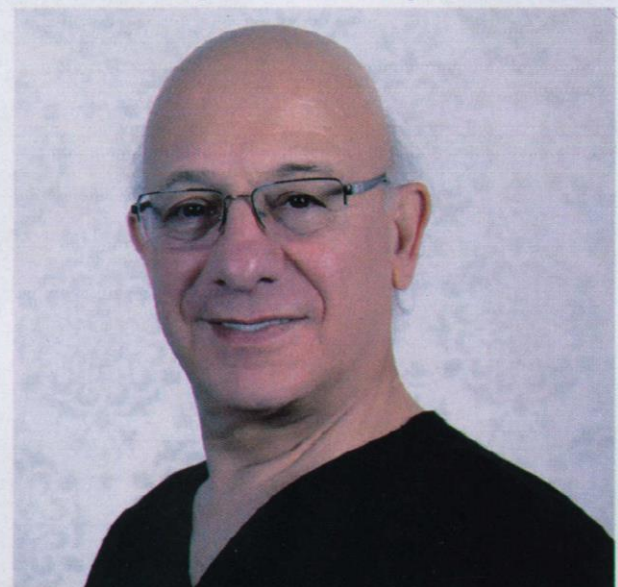
What are eyebrows and eyelashes transplants good for? Are they only for enhancing a woman's looks?

Eyebrow and eyelash transplants are ideal for both medical and cosmetic purposes. As

they are breakthrough techniques in hair restoration they are good not only for aesthetic enhancements but for reconstructive treatment as well. These treatments are recommended for

individuals who are suffering from partial or total loss or thinning of eyebrows or eyelashes due to alopecia, injuries, burns, over-plucking the brows or misuse of eyelash extensions.

Dr Nic Isse, Plastic Surgeon at the American Surgecenter, Abu Dhabi.





Once the implanted brows or lashes grow, they require regular maintenance and trimming.

Ideal candidates also include those who want to improve the thickness or the fullness of the eyelashes.

What makes these transplants better over other treatments such as eyebrow tattoo for sparse brows and eyelash extensions for thin lashes?

The eyebrow and eyelash transplants are one's own hair so you can be assured of a natural look post the procedure. As they are living hair follicles, they grow like your normal hair. So these are permanent solutions to an individual's brow and lash problems, as compared to eyebrow tattoos which require top-ups or eyelash extensions which need to be repeated.

Can you elaborate on the procedure?

The procedures employ state-of-the-art transplantation

technique. Both are micro-surgical transplant procedures and the surgeon should be experienced enough to be able to determine the brow arch shape, the correct thickness of hair and the brow length, or in the case of the eyelashes, the length and thickness are important aesthetic considerations in order to ensure a successful transplant. It is aesthetically challenging on the part of the surgeon because it requires careful consideration as to which part of the scalp it is best to obtain the follicular units from. The degree of coarseness or fineness of the hair and the curvature of the donor hair and the existing hair on the recipient sites should be studied.

The donor hairs or follicular units are obtained from the back or lateral side of the scalp. The grafts are separated into singular hair follicular units. Each of these units is prepared

carefully to ensure they are intact and ready for transplant, and that they are as small and clean as possible — any excess fat, dermis and epidermis is trimmed away as only a minimum of tissue should be left around the bulb. The grafted follicular units will then be placed one at a time into each recipient sites — these are tiny incisions on the brows area or the eyelids. Every hair follicle is implanted individually with utmost care using a very fine transplanting needle to ensure specific placement onto the recipient area.

Is it painful and what are the risks, if any?

The procedures are virtually pain-free and risk-free, although the patient may experience minimal tenderness and some small crust formation on the areas of scalp where the hair graft was taken for about five days. Post operation, the patient will be allowed

light activities for one or two days. Patient should also avoid rubbing the treated area for four to five days, and it has to be washed carefully. Post-operative antibiotics will also be prescribed. Healing process would take approximately five days.

How long will it take to see the final results?

They will grow at the rate of the normal scalp hair. Most of the transplanted hair will stay, while some will fall off temporarily. However, this will allow the hair bulb to form a new hair again, probably between a few months. Once the brows grow, they would require regular maintenance and trimming, and same thing with the eyelashes, after the healing process is complete, a normal grooming of the hair is required and enhancements like mascara, curls, etc. can be done.