

# Hair loss service for patients with Alopecia

Information for Patients

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## Introduction

Many people feel their hair is important to their appearance and self-image. Losing your hair can be a distressing experience, and some patients feel anxious when they find out they have a condition, or require treatment, that will affect their hair.

### The aim of this booklet is:

- to try to answer some of the questions you may have about your hair loss and how it may affect you.
- to try to help you make the best of your appearance.

## What are some of the causes of hair loss?

Some skin or other conditions, may result in you losing your hair. If you are experiencing any more hair loss than what is normal for you, you may be experiencing some type of alopecia.

## How do I get referred to the hair loss service?

Referrals can be made by your GP with a **confirmed** diagnosis of alopecia following a consultation with a dermatologist.

A referral may also be sent direct from the dermatologist with a confirmed diagnosis of alopecia.

You may also have hair loss due to treatment for another medical condition. We will require a referral from the doctor who is treating you.

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Health information and support is available at [www.nhs.uk](http://www.nhs.uk)  
or call 111 for non-emergency medical advice

Visit [www.leicestershospitals.nhs.uk](http://www.leicestershospitals.nhs.uk) for maps and information about visiting Leicester's Hospitals  
To give feedback about this information sheet, contact [InformationForPatients@uhl-tr.nhs.uk](mailto:InformationForPatients@uhl-tr.nhs.uk)

## Hair Loss Service

The University Hospitals of Leicester (UHL) NHS Trust Hair Loss Service is based in the Macmillan Information and Support Centre, Ground Floor ,Osborne Building ,Leicester Royal Infirmary, LE1 5WW

Telephone : 0116 258 6189

We have a wide range of **synthetic fibre** wigs in stock. In this way we can offer a similar, or better, service than most non-NHS wig shops, at much more competitive prices. For information on NHS wig charges please contact the Macmillan Information and Support Centre.

**Please note we do not provide real hair wigs.**

You must have an appointment to choose and have your wig fitted. We can only provide wigs at NHS charges if you have been referred to the service by a UHL consultant or other health care professional.

If you wish to purchase a wig privately no referral is needed but you will require an appointment.

**Private consultations will have an additional consultation fee and cost of wig on request.**

You can be assured of an expert consultation in a private room and in a relaxed atmosphere. If you wish to bring someone with you they are welcome.

## How much will my wig cost?

Wigs supplied to patients through the NHS wig service are subject to a charge payable by the patient. NHS charges are reviewed on April 1st each year and we can provide you with details of current charges. Please note that we are only able to accept payment by card or cash. You can get **free** wigs if you are receiving certain benefits. Please see the attached leaflet for details of these.

**Please note: you will not be able to take your wig home until we have seen evidence that you are entitled to free (or reduced cost) wigs.**

**Please note: when you receive your wig you will be given a copy of our returns policy and care instructions. Please read carefully.**

For more information about help with the cost of your wig please contact the Macmillan Information and Support Centre on 0116 258 6189.

## Frequently asked questions

### Will my wig fall off?

There is an adjustable band inside each wig to ensure a secure fit so your wig should not fall off. Alternatively if you have not lost all your hair or if it has started to grow back you can use hair clips to help to secure your wig.

There are other products available for example wig tape which you can find online.

Please see Alopecia UK Website: [www alopecia.org.uk/general.faq's](http://www alopecia.org.uk/general.faq's)



## Other sources of information

### Alopecia UK

Website: [www alopecia.org.uk](http://www alopecia.org.uk)

### British Association of Dermatologists

Website: [www bad.org.uk](http://www bad.org.uk)

### Help with Health Costs

Website: [www.nhs.uk/nhs-services/help-with-health-costs/wigs-and-fabric-supports-on-the-nhs/](http://www.nhs.uk/nhs-services/help-with-health-costs/wigs-and-fabric-supports-on-the-nhs/)

### Help with Health Costs– HC11

Website: [www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk](http://www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk)

اگر آپ کو یہ معلومات کسی اور زبان میں درکار ہیں، تو براہ کرم مندرجہ ذیل نمبر پر ٹیلی فون کریں۔  
على هذه المعلومات بلغةٍ أخرى، الرجاء الاتصال على رقم الهاتف الذي يظهر في الأسفل

જો તમને અન્ય ભાષામાં આ માહિતી જોઈતી હોય, તો નીચે આપેલ નંબર પર કૃપા કરી ટેલિફોન કરો

ਜੇ ਤੁਸੀਂ ਇਹ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਕਿਸੇ ਹੋਰ ਭਾਸ਼ਾ ਵਿਚ ਚਾਹੁੰਦੇ ਹੋ, ਤਾਂ ਕਿਰਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ ਹੇਠਾਂ ਦਿੱਤੇ ਗਏ ਨੰਬਰ 'ਤੇ ਟੈਲੀਫੋਨ ਕਰੋ।

Aby uzyskać informacje w innym języku, proszę zadzwonić pod podany niżej numer telefonu

Previous reference:

If you would like this information in another language or format such as EasyRead or Braille, please telephone 0116 250 2959 or email [equality@uhl-tr.nhs.uk](mailto:equality@uhl-tr.nhs.uk)