



# forum

Volume 12, Number 1

January/February 2002

## Brave New World

Gerard Seery, MD *Carmichael, California*

**E**volve or perish. This phrase may be relevant to the dilemma that the ISHRS now faces. What dilemma? Let me explain.

As recently as about five years ago, the art and science of hair restoration was in reasonably good shape. The mini-crisis precipitated by the numerical drop-off of patients had stabilized and denigratory advertising seemed to be on the decline. A sense of collegial civility was beginning to prevail in a young Society beginning to find its feet.

The specialty itself was moderately multidimensional with several treatment options available to practitioners. Scalp reduction was declining in popularity but there was always the

The benefits of FUHT, once recognized, were embraced to the virtual exclusion of all other modalities of hair restoration. The change, although profound, was insidious and not the subject of much discussion in hair restoration circles despite its potential for changing the way hair restoration is delivered.

### So What's the Problem?

Hair restoration, as it exists today, is virtually a one-dimensional, one hammer, and one nail treatment. The universal acceptance of FUHT has had a stultifying effect on hair restoration by crowding out all other modalities of treatment. The result is that a lay individual can deliver

This is not a criticism of FUHT. It is an undesirable side effect of its success. Please don't kill the messenger.

*continued on page 8*

**Members should represent themselves not as practitioners of hair restoration, but as practitioners of hair restoration and scalp surgery. ISHRS should consider changing its name to the International Society of Hair Restoration and Scalp Surgery.**

possibility that Patrick Frechet might yet restore it to at least a semblance of its former glory.

At this juncture, a great new treatment modality, follicular unit hair transplantation (FUHT), came on the scene. Ironically, it was this that triggered the present dilemma.

the present treatment modality with only a few months training. This may have undesirable consequences for patient and practitioner alike in that the ease with which hair restoration can be effected will not go unnoticed by those motivated only by the desire to make a quick buck with the minimum of effort.

### Regular Features

President's Message .....	2
Editors' Message .....	3
Notes from the Editor Emeritus .....	4
Salute to Surgeon of the Month .....	12
Life Outside of Medicine .....	13
Cyberspace Chat .....	14
From the Literature .....	17
Letters to the Editors .....	22
Surgical Assistants Corner .....	23

### Feature Articles

An Argument Against Tissue Removal During Hair Transplantation:	
Incisions vs Punches .....	5
The Scalp Laxity Paradox .....	9
Apoptosis, Androgenetic Alopecia, and the Hair Cycle .....	18
Follicular Unit Extraction .....	19
Reply on Commentaries to	
<i>Tissue Laxity Based on Donor Tissue Ballooning</i> .....	20
Making the Most of What Matters .....	21

