



forum

Volume 12, Number 2

March/April 2002



Review of the 9th Annual Meeting of the ISHRS * Puerto Vallarta *

James Arnold, MD *Saratoga, California*

The 9th Annual Meeting of the ISHRS was almost canceled at the last minute. Although the meeting Chairperson, Marc Avram, MD, expected last minute complications, who would have ever planned for the tragic events of September 11th. A significant number of registered members, including important speakers, abruptly canceled their plans to attend after 9/11. Suggestions to cancel the entire meeting were voiced, however, the meeting was held as scheduled. Despite early moments of anxiety, the meeting was a grand success and quite entertaining.

Many attendees arrived early to attend pre-conference seminars. There was a review course for the ABHRS exam and the Beginner's Workshop. The Beginner's program, organized by William Parsley, MD, and John Cole, MD, has become very popular for both beginning surgeons and experienced surgeons wishing to learn the latest techniques of hair transplantation. The workshop was well received, and of great value was the workshop manual given to each attendee. The *Beginner's Program Training Manual* is available for purchase through the ISHRS central office and is highly recommended.

Drs. Parsley and Cole received an abundance of gratitude and recognition for their contributions to this workshop.

The main conference began with Richard Shiell, MBBS, giving a short historical perspective of hair transplantation. Dr. Shiell emphasized the similarity of the original work performed in Japan with the surgery of today. The Japanese pioneers used 1-3 hair grafts placed in needle incisions for almost 20 years prior to the rediscovery of hair transplantation in the West.

The first clinical report on the schedule was reserved for a joint study performed by Walter Unger, MD, and David Seager, MD. They investigated hair survival rates of both follicular unit grafts and 2mm round grafts. Both types of grafts allowed good survival but what was most interesting, or confusing, to the audience was the surplus of hairs found after transplantation. For example, with some of the follicular unit grafts, for each 100 hairs transplanted they found 133 hairs growing 11 months later. An explanation for the additional hairs was elusive for everyone despite much speculation. Michael Beenher, MD, also reported an excess of post-transplant hairs (111%) in a few follicular grafts, although other

continued on page 33

Regular Features

President's Message	30
Co-Editors' Messages	31
Notes from the Editor Emeritus	32
Cyberspace Chat	42
Salute to Surgeon of the Month	58

Feature Articles

Dutasteride for Androgenetic Alopecia— Words of Caution	35
Sagittal vs Coronal Slits in the Coronal Corner	37
Incisions: Coronal vs Sagittal (Pro Sagittal)	39
Scalp Pathology for the Hair Transplant Surgeon	41
A Look Back at Puerto Vallarta	44
Recipient Site Anesthesia and Hemostasis	47
Commentaries on Dr. Marc Pomerantz's "Follicular Unit Extraction"	49, 52
Call for Nominations	55
Longitudinal Study on Hair Growth after Hair Transplantation	57

