

The Pairing Technique of the Moser Medical Group

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In 1992, we introduced the “Moser Method” of hair transplantation in Rio de Janeiro.¹ To our knowledge, as pioneers in the development of large sessions of small grafts, our clinic was the first to produce more than 1,000 slits in a single surgery. The “Moser Method” not only encompasses the removal of epidermis around the hair follicle but also a very careful preparation of the graft by our assistants. Any excess tissue is removed from the graft so only the slim follicular unit (FU) itself is implanted.² We also gently “mash” the grafts with the side of the #10 blade like a spatula, which helps in dissecting these skinny grafts. Because of this way of dissecting, we have more single- and 2-hair FUs compared to other preparation techniques.

By using these techniques, we usually obtain 40% single-hair grafts, 50% 2-hair grafts, and only 10% 3-hair grafts, depending on the patient. In most cases, we will then combine these “skinny” grafts to create “pairs,” thus creating multi-hair grafts composed of only hair follicles (Figure 1). That’s how Moser’s pairing technique—the technique to implant two FUs in one slit—was born. We did this as early as 1993 and therefore have been using the “pairing technique” for over ten years. We believe the pairing technique is very helpful to produce density and naturalness. While the exact figures vary from patient to patient, depending on the density and the natural arrangement of the patient’s follicular units in the donor area, we might create about 1,200 slits in a typical case and actually implant approximately 2,000 grafts into these slits, with most of them being pairs (Table 1). We only charge for the number of prepared slits and not the number of follicular unit grafts implanted.



Figure 1.

For the pairing we combine:

- 1-hair grafts and 1-hair grafts
- 1-hair grafts and 2-hair grafts
- 2-hair grafts and 2-hair grafts
- 1-hair grafts and 3-hair grafts

Table 1. The Moser Pairing Technique: A Typical Case with 2,000 Grafts in 1,205 Slits

Grafts made by assistants	850 1-hair	1,050 2-hair	100 3-hair	2,000 total
Number of sites	160 1-hair slits	260 2-hair slits 100 1+ 1 160 2s	785 3- & 4-hair slits 480 1+ 2, 90 3s 205 2+ 2, 10 3+ 1	1,205 slits

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