

## COLUMNS

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## ISHRS Achieves ACCME Accreditation!

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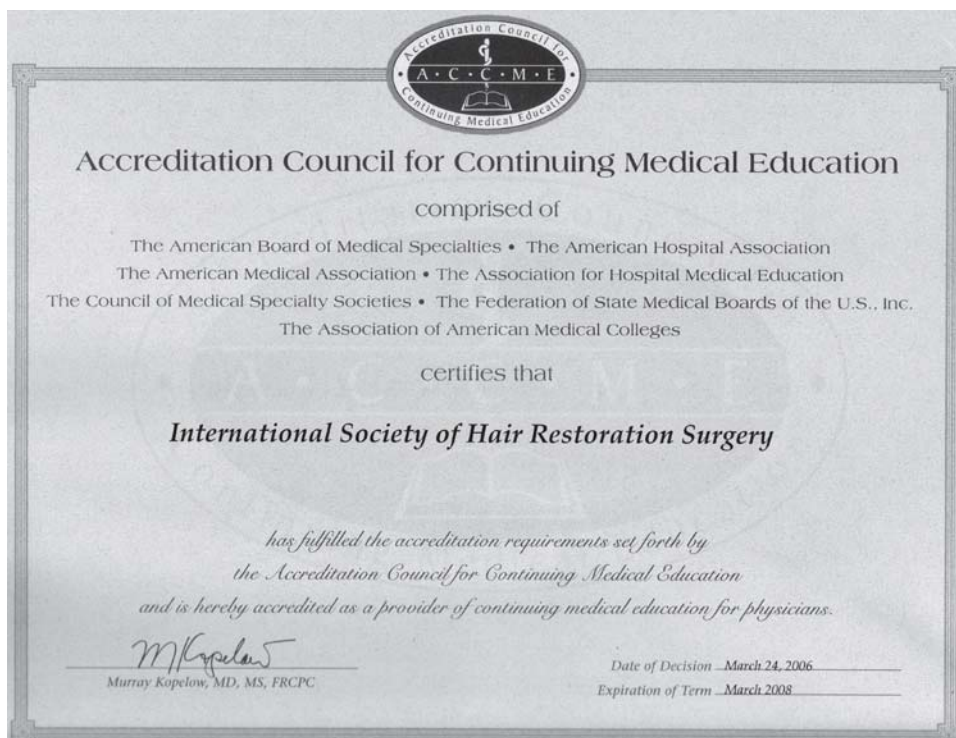
**G**reat news! In March of 2006 the ISHRS, for the first time, became accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME). This is an important milestone for the ISHRS and will assure our members and meeting attendees that all ISHRS educational events are top-notch, high-quality continuing medical education (CME) that will result in improved patient care.

We are now able to designate ISHRS educational activities with *AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™*. All physicians are eligible to be awarded this credit. For U.S. physicians, our meetings will be more valuable because they can directly apply this credit. In the United States, physicians must earn a certain number of CME credits each year to maintain and renew their licenses to practice medicine. *AMA PRA Category 1 Credits* are nationally-recognized in the United States by all state licensing boards, hospitals, and medical specialty boards as official CME credits. The number of CME credits required varies by state; 40 states require some number of CME for license renewal.

### What Is PRA?

As a way to simplify the medical re-licensure process, the American Medical Association (AMA) created the Physician Recognition Award (PRA). To earn the PRA, physicians must participate in at least 50 credits per year of educational activities that meet AMA standards. Thirty-four of the 50 U.S. states accept the PRA as proof of completion of their CME requirement (American Medical Association (AMA) website, [www.ama-assn.org](http://www.ama-assn.org)). The AMA oversees the PRA program and the AMA PRA Credit system.

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Registration is  
now open for the  
**ISHRS**  
14<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting

**Hotel del Coronado**  
**San Diego, California**  
**October 18-22, 2006**