

FORUM

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HAIR TRANSPLANT FORUM INTERNATIONAL

IN THIS ISSUE

The Value of Long Hair
Preview in Body Hair
Transplantation

Eyebrow Reconstruction in Scalp Avulsion Victims from the Amazon

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In 2014, when I was beginning my work in the hair transplantation field, I participated in a Congress of the Brazilian Association of Hair Restoration Surgery (ABCRC; Associação Brasileira de Cirurgia de Restauração Capilar), which took place in Maresias and where I had the opportunity to attend a class by the late Dr. Alonso Aymoré. He presented patient cases of his volunteer work in performing eyebrow transplantation in scalping accident victims from the riverside villages in the Amazon region. The presentation was extremely impactful, and his work was beautiful showing the victims' happiness with their results, even with the constraints of a procedure performed with a limited donor area and transplantation in scar tissue.

Every year, hundreds of women and children from riverside communities are victims of accidents that occur in boats used for transportation (Figure 1). Traumatic injury occurs due to sudden traction, followed by scalp avulsion, as the force of tension and firm adherence of the skin leads to the yanking of the scalp at the subaponeurotic layer.¹ This in turn causes hemorrhaging and can even lead to a state of hypovolemic shock,² as well as several physical, psychological, and social sequelae.

Scalping accidents generally occur because the shaft, which transfers the engine power to the propeller and extends from inside to outside the boat hull, is often uncovered and exposed while rotating at a speed of 1,800 rotations per minute (Figure 2). When boats become inundated, the crew and passengers act quickly to remove the water, and this is usually when the accidents occur (Figure 3). A momentary lapse of caution can result in long hair becoming entangled in the motor shaft, which, upon rotating at high speeds, causes the avulsion.^{3,4}

FIGURE 1. The typical boat used as transportation for the riverside communities of the Amazon region. Photo courtesy of Érico Hiller (@ericohiller).



FIGURE 2. The shaft transfers the engine power to the propeller and is often uncovered and exposed. Photo courtesy of Érico Hiller (@ericohiller).



FIGURE 3. Passenger helping to remove the water from the inundated boat. Photo courtesy of Érico Hiller (@ericohiller).



PLAN TO ATTEND!



31ST WORLD CONGRESS
NOVEMBER 1-4, 2023



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