

Megasessions:Dense Packing

by William Rassman, M.D.

(Los Angeles, California)

The following are guidelines for Megasessions and dense packing of hair transplants:

1) Create a graded transition zone of hair starting with one hair grafts (3-5 mm zone), then two hair grafts (3-5 mm zone) and finally three hair grafts. The higher the skin/hair color contrast or the more coarse the hair, the thicker the zone should be.

2) For coarse hair, or straight hair, or higher skin/hair color contrast, limit grafts to two hairs each (sometimes three behind the hairline). For curly hair, fine hair or low skin/hair color contrast, these rules are less stringent.

3) Hair grafts can be placed in slits less than 1 mm apart or punch holes of 0.75 mm. Stints require more space

between grafts so skills must be developed to place

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hairs into holes fast and efficiently without stints. Staff training usually takes 6 months (variable).

4) Graft placement must be expeditious and without delay or swelling will limit the ability to place grafts close together

as they will be extruded when placed. Contingency plans are needed when significant swelling occurs. It is critical for the physician to have the technical skills to assist staff and overcome placing complications when they occur.

5) Team work is essential. It is not unusual to have four people placing at the same time (two in the front and two in the crown). It is not unusual to have 6-9 people cutting grafts when numbers of grafts per session significantly exceed 1500. Staff fatigue is a major problem with Megasession transplants.

6) To avoid overdosage or significant bleeding, use low concentrations of Xylocaine and Marcaine with additional added Epinephrine. Be careful that systemic effects of Epinephrine are carefully controlled.

7) Beware of people who have had significant work and particularly those with many procedures in the past. Scarring can impact the entire process.

I hope these tips respond to your questions on Megasessions.

Fig. 2. Same patient as cover, different view. Megasession consisting of: 300 one hair grafts & 700 two hair grafts within the frontal two inches; 1258 two hair grafts in the top and crown; for a total of 2258 grafts in one session.



Fig. 1. 1400 grafts (1-3 hairs each) tightly packed in the frontal hairline including the side hairline in one session. At the same time he also had approximately 400 grafts in the crown area making a total of approximately 1800 grafts in one sitting.

