



## HELP US TO ADVANCE HAIR GROWTH RESEARCH AT THE UCD CHARLES INSTITUTE OF DERMATOLOGY

## Introduction

Title of research: Hair Growth Regulation Research

Researcher: Prof. Desmond J. Tobin

Location: Charles Institute of Dermatology, School of Medicine, UCD, Dublin, Ireland

## **Important Information**

What is this research about? While much progress has been made over recent decades in our understanding of how the hair follicle works, there remain very few treatment options available. This research will focus on how the hair follicle is targeted in conditions that lead to hair loss.

Why am I doing this research? Prof. Tobin has been involved in hair research for over 20 years looking at a) pattern baldness, b) an immune-related hair loss called alopecia areata, as well as c) hair pigmentation. This research requires access to small skin samples from patients with hair loss.

Why have you been invited to take part? Scientists need access to skin samples and/ or scar tissue for their research. As you are undergoing a hair transplant procedure, it is possible for your surgeon to safely remove a skin sample to be used for research.

**How will your data be used?** The data derived from research using your skin tissue will be analysed and compared with data from other participants.

What will happen if you decide to take part in this research study? A skin sample removed during your surgery will be placed in a nutrient fluid and collected by researchers at the UCD Charles Institute of Dermatology who will then process the tissue for research.

**How will your privacy be protected?** Your sample will be fully anonymous. It will not be possible to link any scientific data from your sample back to you. The only information about you we need will be your gender, age, skin color and body site of sample. We are not a diagnostic laboratory, so we will not assess your skin for disease status. Rather it will only be used for research purposes.

What are the benefits of taking part in this research study? Your involvement will help to advance our scientific knowledge of hair growth, which would hopefully help with new therapy discovery.

What are the risks of taking part in this research study? There should not be any risks involved in taking part in this study.

Can you change your mind at any stage and withdraw from the study? Yes, you can change your mind any moment up to collection of the tissue at the day of surgery.

**How will you find out what happens with this project?** General results of our Institute research will be shared via academic outputs (scientific publications, presentation at scientific meetings, etc.). However, researchers will not be able to communicate back to individual patients as your tissue will have been anonymized.

Contact details for further information: http://www.ucd.ie/charles/