
A technique to cleanse follicular grafts



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SURGICAL CHALLENGE

Extracted follicular grafts during hair transplantation surgery are often riddled with coagulated blood. This renders them sticky making the subsequent procedure of implantation very cumbersome.¹ Cleansing of such grafts is of paramount importance. To our knowledge, there is no proper method described in the literature to cleanse the said grafts. However, cleansing the grafts with the help of a spray bottle is a common practice among surgeons. We used a simple stainless-steel sieve or strainer² and bowl, common Indian household kitchen items, to cleanse the grafts.

SOLUTION

The extracted follicular grafts are collected on an autoclaved stainless-steel sieve immersed in a metal bowl containing sterile normal saline (Figs 1 and 2). The grafts are rinsed and dabbed gently to get rid of congealed



Fig 1. An autoclaved stainless steel sieve, with the congealed grafts, being dipped in a bowl full of normal saline to cleanse them.

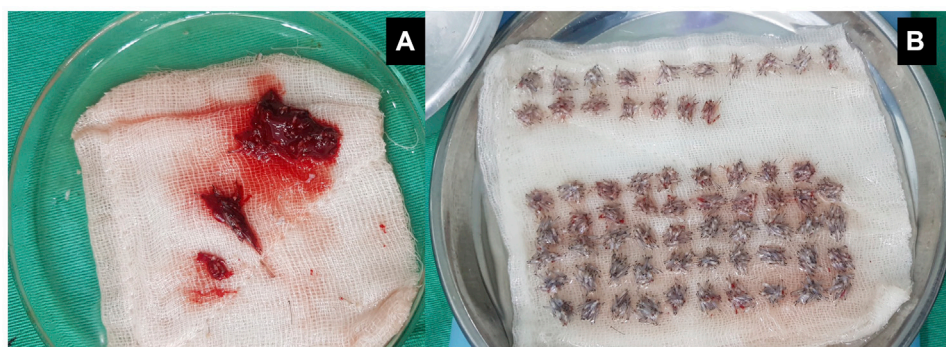


Fig 2. **A**, Follicular grafts congealed with blood, rendering them sticky. **B**, The same grafts after being washed, rendering them nonsticky and making implantation easy.

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blood. This process renders them not sticky and easier to place during implantation. An added benefit of using a steel sieve and metal bowl is that they are autoclavable.

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