

# Scientists 'close' to cure for baldness

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Harder

Scientists say they believe they are close to finding a cure for baldness. This is welcome news for millions of people worldwide who are losing their hair or who are bald. Researchers from a medical institute in California have been working on developing stem cells that can regenerate hair growth. The scientists say their technique has been successful in implanting and developing fresh growth in a way that replicates natural hair reproduction. Researcher Alexey Terskikh said: "Our new protocol overcomes key technological challenges....Now we have a robust, highly controlled method for generating natural-looking hair that grows through the skin using an unlimited source of human stem cells."

Baldness affects approximately half of men worldwide by the age of 50. Products for hair replacement and hair transplants have developed into a multi-billion-dollar global industry. Hair transplant surgery can cost up to \$50,000. Scientists have been working on finding a cure for decades. The process of hair loss usually begins in men when they are in their early twenties or thirties. This can lead to anxiety and a loss of self-confidence. Many men worry about receding hairlines, bald spots and baldness. Baldness is also a problem for women. Many women suffer from thinning hair later in life. A doctor said: "Hair loss profoundly affects many people's lives."



Sources:  
[independent.co.uk /](http://independent.co.uk/)  
[yahoo.com / sky.com](http://yahoo.com/sky.com)



1. The article said the possible cure is welcome news for bald people. T / F
2. Researchers from a university in London are behind the cure. T / F
3. The cure is not any making use whatsoever of stem cells. T / F
4. It costs an average of \$50,000 for a hair transplant. T / F
5. The article says the balding process starts in men in their early 20s. T / F



1. Why does baldness affect mainly men ?
2. What advice would you give bald men suffering from anxiety ?
3. How does 'hair loss profoundly affect many people's lives' ?
4. How does baldness affect women differently ?
5. What are the good things about baldness ?