



The Dermatology wig service

Your dermatology doctor has prescribed a wig suitable for your needs. This is because you have recently been referred for or have been diagnosed as having significant hair loss due to a long-term dermatological condition which cannot be covered up easily. This leaflet aims to provide you with all the information you need regarding the prescribing of your wig.

Your wig prescription

A Royal Berkshire NHS Foundation Trust (RBFT) dermatology doctor can give you a wig prescription letter of authorisation.

- You will be prescribed a stock size modacrylic fibre wig (without monofilament nylon tops).
- You will only be prescribed human hair wigs if you have a proven allergy to a modacrylic wig.
- You will be expected to pay the current standard Appliance Prescription charge unless you fulfil specific exemption criteria and demonstrate this at the time of the appointment. If you fulfil the exemption criteria but cannot prove exemption at your dermatology appointment you can reclaim the prescription charge using NHS exemption form HC5(W).

Changes to your wig prescription

- Unfortunately, you will not be able to pay to change your wig prescription.
- If you would like to have more than one wig you will be able to purchase more yourself from the local NHS wig suppliers.
- It is not possible to 'upgrade' your wig prescription from acrylic to real hair.

Who will pay for my wigs to be cleaned and repaired if needed?

The RBFT Dermatology Department **will not pay** for any repairs or cleaning needed for the wig prescribed. You will need to fund this yourself.

How can I get more wig prescriptions?

If you need a replacement wig then you will need to make an appointment to see your GP.

Recognised wig suppliers

Hair Advisory Clinic Royal Berkshire NHS Foundation Trust London Road Reading RG1 5AN Tel: 0118 322 8722	Hair World Ltd Algores Way Wisbech Cambridgeshire PE13 2TQ Tel: 01945 466616	Raoul Hairdressers 34 Craven Road Paddington London W2 3QA Tel: 0207 723 7173
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Contacting us

Dermatology

Level 2 Centre Block

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Tel: 0118 322 8145

Further information

Information on hair loss and wigs, contact Alopecia UK www alopeciaonline.org.uk

Information about NHS charges for wigs www.nhs.uk/nhs-services/help-with-health-costs/wigs-and-fabric-supports-on-the-nhs/

To find out more about our Trust visit www.royalberkshire.nhs.uk

Please ask if you need this information in another language or format.

RBFT Department of Dermatology, April 2026

Next review due: April 2028