

A new device for measuring hair breakage severity and its response to treatment

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The loss of hair mass due to breakage can be significant in longhaired women. It is often underappreciated, and the recovery of hair mass following treatment is impossible to quantify. Hair professionals can now measure breakage severity and the efficacy of its treatment thanks to Cross Section Trichometry technology. A casually collected bundle of uncut hair is isolated from any area on the scalp and measured with the HairCheck device at two sites along its length – proximally at the root and distally half way out along the bundle's length. The device then automatically calculates the percentage of hairs that are no longer than the length at the distal site. For example: If the isolated bundle is 20 cm in length, the device will determine what percentage of hairs are no longer than the distal measurement site of 10 cm. (or at any distal site along the length of the bundle). The value is displayed on an LED screen as the Hair Breakage Index (HBI) and expressed as "Percent breakage at a distance of ___cm.". When the breakage has been successfully treated with conditioners, the HBI will reduce in value. CST technology, for the purpose of breakage quantification, has been recently described in a major textbook and multiple scientific articles. CST will not provide accurate measurements if the patient has a layered hair cut style, or if the patient is in the recovery phase of telogen effluvium. In that situation, the device will misinterpret new re-growing short hairs as "broken."

Biography

Bernard Cohen is a Clinical Professor of Dermatology (Voluntary Faculty) and former director of Surgical Training at the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine. He received his medical degree from Columbia University in 1967, and is board certified in both Dermatology and Hair Restoration Surgery. Dr Cohen has published over 25 articles and textbook chapters, has been listed in "Best Doctors in America" since 1999, and was recently granted the International Society of Hair Restoration Surgery's Platinum Follicle award for outstanding contributions to hair science. He is semi-retired and practices part-time in Coral Gables, Florida.

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