

Resource Guide for Treatment-Related Hair Loss

Wigs, Hats, Scarfs & More



**Michigan Medicine
Rogel Cancer Center**



About this Resource Guide

This resource guide has been made to help patients find resources for hair loss products.

About Hair Loss

Chemotherapy and radiation therapy used in the treatment of cancer may cause hair loss. The amount of hair loss varies by treatment and dosage. Hair loss can occur on the head, face, arms, legs and underarms. Hair loss from cancer treatment is most often temporary and hair grows back after treatment ends. Ask your health care provider what you can expect about hair loss with your individual treatment plan.

Managing Hair Loss Due to Chemotherapy/Radiation

Management of hair loss is a personal decision. You need to do what feels right for you. For some, that's embracing being bald, for others, it's wearing a wig, head scarf, or cap. If you choose not to wear a head cover, make sure to keep your head covered from the cold and from the sun. The following are options to consider, the best option is the one that is most comfortable for you:

- **Short Hair** - Cut your hair short if you are expecting hair loss during chemotherapy/radiation. Since hair often does not fall out evenly, some find losing short hair less distressing. Some people shave their heads once their hair begins to fall out.
- **Wigs** - If you are interested in purchasing a wig, the best time to do this is before you lose any hair. This helps the stylist create the best match. Many insurance companies will pay for a wig, so be sure you have it written as a prescription from your health care provider (usually written as "cranial prosthesis").
- **Scarves, Caps/Hats, Turbans**, - Some people find that these are the easiest and most comfortable options. You can use what you already own, or you may purchase custom items made for people who are undergoing chemotherapy/radiation.

University of Michigan Rogel Cancer Center Resources

These services are available to cancer patients and their families at the University of Michigan.

Wig Bank

Through generous donations, the Wig Bank offers one free wig to any UM patient. There are two places where you can meet with a wig consultant:

1. Patient Assistance Center (PAC) on Level 1 of the Cancer Center, room 1139.
2. Guest Assistance Program (GAP) office (near the Cashier's office), second floor, room 2B203 of University Hospital.

To schedule an appointment, call the Wig Bank at 1-800-888-9825. You may also walk-in for a consultation.

Patient and Family Resource Center

The center offers a variety of resources for cancer patients who are experiencing hair loss:

- Information about hair loss due to cancer treatments.
- Vendor catalogs of wigs, hats, and other headpieces.
- Videos about hair loss, how to wear and use scarves and turbans.
- Internet availability for searching hair loss topics and services.

For more information on cancer, visit the center on Level B2/Ground Floor of the Cancer Center, or call (734) 647-8626. The center is open Monday-Friday, 8:30 am to 4:30 pm.

Community Resources

Look Good/ Feel Better®

This is a free program offered through the American Cancer Society (ACS) within local communities.

The program is designed to help women and men undergoing cancer treatment learn to cope with appearance-related side effects. Hands-on instruction is offered by cosmetologists and skin care experts; tips on wigs, turbans and scarves; and complimentary cosmetics. The program is offered in group format, one-on-one consultation or as self-help materials. Registration for the Look Good/Feel Better® program is required. Please call, 1-800-395-LOOK to find a program near you, or to ask for free of charge self-help materials for women and men.

For Women

Visit, <http://lookgoodfeelbetter.org/programs/women> for more information.

For Men

Visit, <http://lookgoodfeelbetter.org/programs/men/#main> for more information.

Frequently Asked Questions

If you decide to purchase a wig, there are few things to think about. We suggest calling beforehand to make sure the store or salon specializes in helping cancer patients.

Possible Questions for Stores/Salons:

- Is there a private room for my consultation/fitting?
- Does the store/salon provide consultations for men and women?
- Are walk-ins welcome, or do I need to make an appointment?
- Does this store/salon offer discounts to cancer patients?
- What is the average price for a natural wig?
- What is the average price for synthetic (man-made) wig?
- Do you carry a variety of wigs, bangs and hair pieces?
- Do you help with insurance reimbursement or must I do this myself?
- Is it possible to return the wig if needed? (Many state's health regulations do not allow this.)
- Do you carry a selection of head scarves, turbans and hats? If so, is there someone who can teach me how to style my scarf or turban?

Websites that offer Wigs and Other Solutions for Hair Loss related to Chemotherapy/Radiation

If you purchase wigs online, there's no way to tell what you are really buying until it arrives at your door. If you do buy a wig online, be sure you can return it for any reason.

The University of Michigan Rogel Cancer Center does not endorse any of these sites. We have listed them for educational purposes only.

Wigs, scarves, and other head wear

Website	Address
Anokhi Scarves	http://www.anokhiusa.com
Chemo Savvy	http://www.chemosavvy.com
Doma Designs	http://www.domadesigns.com
Hats, Scarfs and More	http://www.hatsscarvesandmore.com
Headcovers Unlimited	http://www.headcovers.com
Hello Courage	http://www.hellocourage.com
Shear Pointe, Inc.	http://www.shearpointe.com
Soft Hats	http://www.softhats.com
TLC Catalog	http://www.tlcdirect.org

Wigs and Salons

Website	Address
Advanced Hair Solutions	http://www.advancedhairsolutions.com
All About Women's Health Boutique	http://allaboutwomenshealthboutique.com/dnn
Another Look Hair Institute	http://anotherlookonline.com
Baron Unlimited	http://store.baronunlimited.com
Brown & DeLine	http://brownanddeline.com
Comfort Wigs, ETC	http://www.comfortwigsetc.com
Dennis Todd Hair Salon	http://www.dennistoddwigs.com
Envy Wigs	http://www.envywigs.com
Feke Wigs	http://www.fekewigs.com
InSpirit Salon and Spa	http://www.stjoeshealth.org/body.cfm?id=7460&fr=true
Mane Street Wigs	http://www.manestreethair.com

NU Generation/Looks Hair Design	http://www.nuhairgeneration.com
Raydiance & Tru-Fit	http://www.raydianceforwomen.com
Shop Well with You	http://www.shopwellwithyou.org
Susan's Special Needs	http://www.susansspecialneeds.com/wigs
Wig.com	http://www.wig.com
Wigs4You	http://www.wigs4you.com
Wigs Outlet	http://www.wigs.com

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