



**Did you know more than half a million Australians live with Alopecia Areata?**

### **ALOPECIA AREATA: THE FACTS**

Alopecia Areata is an autoimmune condition which causes hair loss on the scalp and body.

It affects 2% of the population and can occur in any gender, age, and ethnicity.

There are many different types of Alopecia Areata.

Many people who experience the condition regrow their hair.



# **You've found a bald patch. Now what?**

A GUIDE FOR HAIRDRESSERS

## **WHAT TO DO IF YOU FIND A BALD PATCH ON A CLIENT'S HEAD**

### **HELP THE CLIENT STAY CALM**

Patches of hair loss are quite common. There are many reasons why someone might have a bald patch. Most of them are treatable. The client will often take their reaction cues from you. As such, it's important to remain tactful and refrain from asking misleading questions like if they have been stressed.

### **ASK IF THE CLIENT KNOWS ABOUT IT**

Discretely let the client know that you have seen the patch, and ask if they are already aware of it. They may already know.

### **CHECK ON HOW THEY WOULD LIKE TO PROCEED**

If the client already knows about the hair loss, ask if they have any particular needs for this appointment, including how they like their hair styled around the patch. If they were unaware of the patch, ask if they are comfortable continuing the appointment, and, if appropriate, discuss styling options.

### **PROVIDE INFORMATION**

Let the client know that there are many reasons why someone might lose a patch of hair. They may need to visit their doctor or seek advice from a dermatologist. If you are familiar with Alopecia Areata, you can also let them know that information and support is available through the Australia Alopecia Areata Foundation at [aaaf.org.au](http://aaaf.org.au)