electrolysis

A COMPLETE GUIDE TO HAIR REMOVAL

■ **Over a hundred years ago** a doctor discovered a highly effective way to remove troublesome hairs from a patient's face. Charles E. Michel, M.D., treated them with a needle attached to a wire that he had connected to a dry cell battery. Since that day in 1875, millions of men and women plagued by unwanted hair have benefited from his idea, now known as electrolysis.

■ **Probe electrolysis is the only method** of permanent hair removal approved by the International Guild of Professional Electrologists, Inc. and the Food and Drug Administration. Electrologists are professionals who use specialized equipment to achieve hairfree, carefree results.

■ **Causes of unwanted hair.** If you have a bothersome, even embarrassing hair problem, you are not alone. Superfluous hair is a problem that may affect as many as 90% of all men and women to some degree. Heredity is the key culprit as well as medications and normal hormonal changes at different stages of your life.

Stress can be a contributing factor. Any situation that sets off the adrenal glands can trigger a hormonal reaction that can permanently cause fine, soft body hair to grow in as coarse, more noticeable dark hair. The services of a professional electrologist seem to be in greater demand as more men and women face stress in their daily lives.

■ **How electrolysis works.** The electrologist inserts a very fine probe alongside the hair in the hair follicle. A very slight amount of electrical current is then applied through this probe which destroys the hair root, permanently ending further hair growth. The skin is not punctured or harmed in any way, and for most people the entire procedure causes very little discomfort. (According to Guild studies, most patients report tweezing and waxing to cause more discomfort than electrolysis treatments.)

■ **Electrolysis treatment programs are tailored** to meet each individual patient's needs. Certain factors determine the number and the length of treatments required, such as the number of hair follicles contained in the area of treatment, the sensitivity of the skin, the particular area to be treated, and previous methods of hair removal. Patients should ask their electrologists to provide them with a treatment schedule upon the first visit. Most patients find that a weekly session of 15-60 minutes is the most effective. The closer you adhere to your treatment schedule, the more effective your treatment program will be in helping you free yourself of superfluous hair forever.

■ **Many other hair removal methods** provide only temporary relief to the problem of unwanted hair and, in some even compound the condition. Waxing and plucking strengthen the hair root, resulting in darker and thicker regrowth and, in some cases, cause ingrown hairs.

■ **After treatment care.** Electrolysis is a safe and effective method of permanent hair removal with few or no side effects. It is perfectly normal for some slight reddening and/or swelling of the skin to occur along the treated areas. This usually subsides within a few minutes to one hour. Occasionally slight scabbing, which is a natural part of the healing process, may appear two to four days after treatments. This should be left alone and will disappear in a few days. Most electrologists recommend the application of a good antibiotic cream or an antiseptic lotion to enhance the healing process.

Cosmetics should not be worn for 24 hours, and you are also advised to stay away from strong sunlight for a few days to avoid temporary freckling.

■ **When you consider the cost of electrolysis,** tally up a lifetime's bills for razors, creams, waxing and the hours of your time spent pursuing temporary results. In fact, the cost of a lifetime of temporary methods is often more expensive than electrolysis.

Today's fees are flexible enough to fit most pocketbooks, but never take chances with your health. In the case of electrolysis, you pay for the professional service you receive and competent, quality treatment is worth the cost.

■ **In choosing an electrologist** take as much care as you would in selecting a doctor or dentist or any personal service. Keep these general rules in mind:

1. An electrologist should be a member of the International Guild of Professional Electrologists, Inc. Membership should be current and a dated certificate should be on display.
2. The electrologist should be a graduate of a qualified school of electrolysis.
3. The office should be private and very clean. Many electrologists provide a complimentary consultation. Take advantage of this service to ask questions and observe.
4. You should never have the **feeling of a hair being tweezed** during treatment. Only in unusual cases is it possible to feel the hair leave the skin.
5. The International Guild of Professional Electrologists, Inc., will provide the names and addresses of Guild members in any particular area. Upon request, the Guild will also provide a leaflet outlining standards for the treatment of permanent hair removal.

Member: A&A ELECTROLYSIS ASSC
815 WASHINGTON ST.
NEWTONVILLE,MA 02160

1-617-965-9622

Contact: **INTERNATIONAL GUILD OF PROFESSIONAL ELECTROLOGISTS**
202 Boulevard, Suite C
High Point, NC 27262
(919) 841-6631

© Copyright 1982
International Guild of Professional Electrologists, Inc.
None of the material contained within this brochure may be duplicated or reprinted without the written permission of the International Guild of Professional Electrologists, Inc.