



## FACTSHEET

a programme of  
 irish cancer society

information on **drug therapy**

# Hair loss and hairpieces

This factsheet has been written to help you understand more about hair loss and hairpieces. A list of hairpiece suppliers is also given.

### HAIR LOSS

Losing your hair is a common side effect of chemotherapy given for breast cancer. You may have thinning, some loss or complete hair loss (alopecia). Before starting Chemotherapy, your doctor or nurse will discuss the possibility of hair loss with you. If hair loss happens, it usually occurs within a few weeks of treatment. Underarm, body and pubic hair may be lost as well.

It is important to remember that your hair will grow back once your treatments are completed. It may take several

months to grow back fully, depending on what treatment you have had.

For further advice about caring for your hair during and after treatment speak to a specialist hairdresser. Most of the hairpiece suppliers have this service or can refer you to a specialist hairdresser. You can contact individual suppliers for further details on their products and services available. Most of the hairpiece suppliers have this service or can refer you to a specialist hairdresser.

### COPING WITH HAIR LOSS

Many women who are treated for breast cancer will have some form of hair loss. Even if this loss is small or complete, any change to your body image can be upsetting. Each person's response is different so do not worry too much if you feel you are not coping as well as someone else you know in a similar situation.

If you are struggling or feeling isolated, there are people who can help you. Tell your family and friends how you feel so they can support you. Or you may want to talk to your breast care nurse.

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You might find it easier to share your feelings with someone who has had a similar experience to you. Reach to Recovery is a programme set up to help and support women who have recently had a breast cancer diagnosis. The programme works on the principle of personal contact between the patient and a Reach to Recovery volunteer. Carefully selected and fully trained volunteers are available to give advice and reassurance at a time when a woman is most in need of both.

For more information on individual support or support groups in your area, call the National Breast Cancer Helpline on freephone 1800 30 90 40.

### **ENTITLEMENTS**

If you have a medical card, you are entitled to up to two free or subsidised hairpieces every year. The subsidy depends on what HSE area you are covered by and the type of hairpiece you choose.

You can find out your HSE area by visiting the website [www.hse.ie](http://www.hse.ie) or by calling the Infoline from 8am to 8pm Monday to Saturday, callsave 1850 24 18 50, email [info@hse.ie](mailto:info@hse.ie). You can also talk to the medical social worker at the hospital you are attending for further advice and information.

Patients without a medical card can claim tax back on their purchase using a MED 1 health expenses form. For further information, see [www.revenue.ie](http://www.revenue.ie)

For information on your cover from your health insurance, please contact your individual provider. See page 4 for the contact details.

### **HAIRPIECE SUPPLIERS**

The following is a list of hairpiece suppliers. The list gives information only. If a company appears on the list, it does not mean that Action Breast Cancer recommends (endorses) their hairpieces.

#### **DUBLIN**

##### **VELVET WIG & HAIRPIECE SPECIALISTS**

31 Ormond Quay  
Dublin 1  
Tel: 01 878 8940 / 878 8667

##### **ALAN & MONICA HARROP**

Suite 4, Fleet Chambers  
22 Fleet Street  
Dublin 2  
Tel: 01 671 0911

##### **SNIPS**

113 Middle Abbey Street  
Dublin 1  
Tel: 01 873 3251

##### **EVOLVE IRELAND**

Unit 1, Seatown Business  
Campus, Swords  
Co. Dublin  
Tel: 01 840 0825  
[www.evolveireland.com](http://www.evolveireland.com)

##### **VERSACCHI**

175 Lower Kimmage Road  
Kimmage  
Dublin 6W  
Tel: 01 490 0570

##### **ROCHES WIG CENTRE**

153 Lower Kimmage Road  
Kimmage  
Dublin 6W  
Tel: 01 492 6829

##### **VOLUMED IRELAND**

9 Greenmount House  
Harolds Cross  
Dublin 6  
Tel: 01 453 2459

##### **WIGWAM**

St. Stephen's Green Shopping  
Centre (Ground Floor) &  
Powerscourt Town House  
Centre (Level 1)  
Dublin 2  
Tel: 01 478 1290  
[www.wigwam.ie](http://www.wigwam.ie)

##### **WIG WORLD**

26 St. Mark's Grove  
Clondalkin, Dublin 22  
Tel: 01 474 4935 / 085 1029116

#### **GALWAY**

##### **THE WIG CLINIC, MIRIAM MOYLETTE**

Regional Medical Centre  
32 Newcastle Road  
Co. Galway  
Tel: 091 583638 / 086 8385097

##### **WIGS AT BELLISSIMO**

Galway Retail Park  
Co. Galway  
Tel: 092 568555

#### **CORK**

##### **WIGS AT ADORE**

129-130 Oliver Plunkett St.  
Co. Cork  
Tel: 021 427 0031

##### **WIG CLINIC**

133 Barrick St.  
Co. Cork  
Tel: 021 427 0031  
11 Deal Yard, Mallow  
Co. Cork  
Tel: 021 4318468 / 086 0621249  
Boots Pharmacy, Wilton  
Shopping Centre  
Co. Cork  
Tel: 021 431 8468

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information on **drug therapy****HAIR LOSS & HAIRPIECES****VERSACCHI**

B Plaza  
6 South Ring Business Park  
Kinsale Road, Co. Cork  
Tel: 021 496 7474

**TRANQUILITY**

Hair Speciality Clinic  
Rochestown Road  
Co. Cork  
Tel: 021 436 2253

**HAIR RETAIN**

8 South Mall  
Co. Cork  
Tel: 021 4276474 / 086 2202407

**WESTMEATH****THE WIG CLINIC, MIRIAM MOYLETTE**

4 Garden Vale, Athlone  
Co. Westmeath  
Tel: 090 6491716

**MEATH****WIGS BY RAPUNZEL'S**

Carrick St., Kells  
Co. Meath  
Tel: 046 9293822 / 087 2036607

**LONGFORD****CK'S HAIR & WIG BOUTIQUE**

Catherine Kilgallon  
Main Street  
Edgeworthstown  
Co. Longford  
Tel: 043 72457

**LIMERICK****BELLISSIMO**

Mt. Kenneth Dock Rd.  
Co. Limerick  
Tel: 061 317541

**HAIR RETAIN**

16 Davis Street  
Co. Limerick  
Tel: 061 416222 / 086 2202407

**WIG CLINIC**

(located in a private suite in  
Boots Pharmacy)  
4-5 William Street  
Limerick  
Tel: 021 431 8468 / 086 3005804

**MARBLES HAIR & BEAUTY SALON**

35 Crusis St.  
Co. Limerick  
Tel: 061 410955

**MAYO****GRUAWIG, WIG SALES AND AFTER CARE, LOUISE KILLEEN**

23 Cashel Park, Castlebar  
Co. Mayo  
Tel: 087 2250704  
loulourodgers@yahoo.co.uk

**SLIGO****WIGS AT NATURELLE'S HAIR STUDIO**

1 Hyde Bridge  
Co. Sligo  
Tel: 071 914 3030

**MARION DINEEN'S SALON**

Unit 3 West Gardens  
20-21 High Street  
Co. Sligo  
Tel: 071 914 2266

**WATERFORD****WIGS MEDICAL, BERNI MURRAY**

Viewmount House  
Dunmore Rd. (Opposite  
Waterford Reg. Hospital)  
Co. Waterford  
Tel: 051 879651 / 086 3897739  
www.wigsmedical.com

**DONEGAL****PATRICK GILDEAU**

Church Lane, Letterkenny  
Co. Donegal  
Tel: 074 916484

**WEXFORD****WIGS AT ANNA FURLONG HAIRDRESSING SALON**

53 South St., New Ross  
Co. Wexford  
Tel: 051 421287

**KERRY****CHANGES HAIR & BEAUTY SALON**

97 Church Street, Listowel  
Co. Kerry  
Tel: 068 23662

**WIG CLINIC**

(located in a private suite in  
Boots Pharmacy)  
Deerpark Retail Estate  
Killarney  
Co. Kerry  
Tel: 021 431 8468 / 086 3005806  
www.wigclinic.com  
Email: info@wigclinic.com

**DERRY****HAIR AFFAIR**

86 Duke Street, Waterside  
Co. Derry  
Tel: 048 7134 3636

**MAIL ORDER****URSULA'S HEADWEAR**

37 Beechpark, Athlone  
Co. Westmeath  
Tel: 090 6475462 / 086 3899026  
Email: hanleyursula@eircom.net

information on **drug therapy****HAIR LOSS & HAIRPIECES**

## HELP FROM ACTION BREAST CANCER

Action Breast Cancer, a programme of the Irish Cancer Society, provides breast cancer information and support, and funds breast cancer research. Our services are free, confidential and accessible.

For more information call the National Breast Cancer Helpline on Freefone 1800 30 90 40 or visit [www.cancer.ie/action](http://www.cancer.ie/action)

## OTHER ORGANISATIONS

### Action Breast Cancer

43/45 Northumberland Road  
Dublin 4.

National Breast Cancer  
Helpline Freefone:  
1800 30 90 40  
Email: [abc@irishcancer.ie](mailto:abc@irishcancer.ie)

### Irish Cancer Society

43/45 Northumberland Road  
Dublin 4.

Freefone Helpline:  
1800 200 700  
Email: [helpline@irishcancer.ie](mailto:helpline@irishcancer.ie)

### VHI Healthcare

IDA Business Park  
Dublin Road  
Kilkenny  
Callsave: 1850 44 44 44  
Monday to Friday 8am to  
6pm, Saturday 9am to 3pm  
Website: [www.vhi.ie](http://www.vhi.ie)

### QUINN-healthcare

Mill Island, Fermoy, Co. Cork,  
Lo Call: 1890 89 1890  
Monday to Friday 8am to  
7pm, Saturday 10am to  
3.30pm  
Website:  
[www.quinn-healthcare.com](http://www.quinn-healthcare.com)

### Hibernian Aviva Health

*Postal Address:*  
PO Box 764, Togher, Co. Cork  
*Head Office:*  
Hibernian Aviva Health  
One Park Place, Hatch Street  
Dublin 2  
CallSave: 1850 717 717  
Monday to Friday, 8am to  
8pm  
Website: [www.hibernian.ie](http://www.hibernian.ie)

## USEFUL WEBSITES

**Irish Cancer Society**  
[www.cancer.ie](http://www.cancer.ie)

**Breast Cancer Care UK**  
[www.breastcancercare.org.uk](http://www.breastcancercare.org.uk)

**Cancerbackup**  
[www.cancerbackup.org](http://www.cancerbackup.org)

**The Susan G. Komen  
Foundation**  
[www.komen.org](http://www.komen.org)

**Europa Donna**  
[www.europadonnaireland.com](http://www.europadonnaireland.com)

**Manual Lymph Drainage  
Ireland**  
[www.mldireland.com](http://www.mldireland.com)

**Lymphoedema Ireland**  
[www.lymphireland.ie](http://www.lymphireland.ie)

## ABC – ACTION BREAST CANCER

Action Breast Cancer, a programme of the Irish Cancer Society, is the leading provider of breast cancer information and support in Ireland. Each year we reach over 25,000 women who are concerned about breast cancer or breast health. Our services are free and include:

- **National Breast Cancer Helpline** 1800 30 90 40 – staffed by specialist cancer nurses.
- **Patient care programmes** – providing emotional support and practical assistance for those living with breast cancer.
- **Health Promotion** – providing community and workplace programmes on breast awareness and leading a healthy lifestyle.
- **Advocacy** – providing a voice for those affected by breast cancer in Ireland.
- **Professional support** – complementing the services offered by those caring for breast cancer patients.
- **Research** – funding vital Irish research that will have a significant impact on the diagnosis and treatment of breast cancer.

ABC is funded entirely by donations from the public. If you would like to support our work or make a donation please contact us.

action  
breast  
cancer

a programme of  
irish cancer society

**Freefone Helpline**  
**1800 30 90 40**

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