

WHAT IS ELECTROLYSIS?

Electrolysis is still to this day the only proven method of permanent hair removal. The British Medical Association also stands by this information. Founded in the late 1800's it has been a successful method and obviously preferred to this day.

The treatment involves inserting a fine needle into the hair follicle to the hair root. Sufficient current is then passed down the needle to the top to destroy the hair root, thus enabling the hair to be withdrawn. The current is used to destroy the hair follicle permanently in the **Anagen** phase

Electrolysis can be performed on facial areas (upper lip, chin, neck, sides of face) low hairline, thick eyebrows, between the brows, sideburns, arms, underarms, breasts and between them, all the lower parts (including thighs, feet, toes), including the scrotum. The treatment can be uncomfortable but this can depend on the patient's pain threshold. Skin reaction is a common feature for electrolysis such as erythema (skin redness) and occasional weals or bumps from the follicle. This reaction slowly subsides after treatment

Hair growth cycles

Anagen phase (The growing hair)

The Anagen hair is the active stage, or known as a growing hair, which results in the complete restructuring of the lower follicle. The Anagen cycle is the phase that the electrologists need to achieve complete removal or destruction of hair permanently.

Catagen phase (The transitional hair)

Catagen is the second stage on from Anagen this stage is known as a changing stage or transitional stage where the club hair is formed, looking rather like a black dot at the end of the hair. The dermal papilla detaches from the matrix and the hair starts to rise in the follicle. This hair follicle will produce hair after electrolysis but the hair re-grown will be fair and weaker where damage has occurred.

Telogen (Resting Phase)

Telogen is also known as the resting phase. It is the final stage of the hair growth cycle. Here the follicle remains inactive or dormant until stimulated back into the Anagen phase. The club hair is retained in the follicle until the new hair is produced which pushes the club hair out of the follicle. With Electrolysis, the hair will obviously re-grow when treated in this cycle.

To Summarise there is a 3 in 1 chance of catching the Anagen hair to make the treatment permanent. The British Medical Association consider Electrolysis to be the only guaranteed method of permanent hair removal.