

Electrolysis



You've got it, you know you don't want it, and it can appear anywhere.

Unwanted hair is common on the upper lip, the chin, cheeks, on the back, legs, fingers, feet or toes. It can be caused by a variety of factors, including genetics, certain medications such as hormones or steroids, or even medical abnormalities, such as higher androgen (male hormone) levels or conditions of the endocrine system, such as polycystic ovarian syndrome.

Have you already tried plucking? Most people can get used to this painful method, but it won't work effectively on large areas covered with unwanted hair. There are several hair removal strategies, but be warned: None is 100% permanent.

Hair Removal Strategies

There are several ways to remove your unwanted hair, e.g. shaving, plucking, depilation creams, hot waxing, threading (a form of plucking practised in India. Amber H&B can offer such treatments) – there are more, and some illnesses can stimulate hair growth, There are also over-the-counter methods and those administered under a doctor's care. With most of these methods, the hair eventually grows back.

Electrolysis is a way of economically removing individual hairs from the face or body. Today's medical electrolysis devices destroy the growth centre of the hair with chemical or heat energy. A very fine probe is inserted into the hair follicle at the surface of the skin. The hair is then removed harmlessly with forceps. At Amber H&B we use the computerised Apilus Machine.

What causes unwanted hair growth?

Hair growth is the result of heredity and hormonal levels. Also, some drugs, temporary methods of [hair removal](#) e.g. shaving, plucking, depilation creams, hot waxing, threading – there are more, and some illnesses can stimulate hair growth. Usually, hair growth is desirable. But when the hair is the wrong part of your body—a woman's upper lip or chin, the hands or arms—you may be **considering electrolysis**. For large areas – Legs, Arms, Bikini line; waxing (or sugaring, which we do not carry out) may be the more cost related economical treatment, although it is not permanent, it does progressively reduce the strength of the individual hair follicle. Amber Health, Beauty and Sports Injury Clinic are not licensed to carry out Laser Hair Removal treatments, which are also very expensive – but worth considering.

Electrolysis - How many treatments will I need?

Since many factors influence hair growth, you will need to return for several visits. The total number of sessions needed to remove hair permanently from a particular area will vary from person to person. Most clients return once a week or every other week, as necessary. But the unwanted hair will be gone forever once the series of treatments have been completed. Each treatment lasts between 15 minutes and one hour.

Myths about electrolysis

Electrolysis is painful. The truth is, electrolysis usually does not cause much discomfort. Modern electrolysis methods have reduced the discomfort to a mere tingling. A topical anesthetic may be used in some cases.

The electric Tweezer method is permanent. The truth is, the Food and Drug Administration and the American Medical Association recognize only electrolysis as a permanent method of removing hair. In fact, some states prohibit those who use the electric Tweezer—which can also be purchased for consumer use—from claiming it provides permanent hair removal. At **Amber Health, Beauty and Sports Injury Clinic** we do not use the Electric Tweezer method, nor do we recommend its use.

Temporary methods of hair removal are better. The truth is that while chemical depilatories (liquids or creams) are often used to remove body hair, these products contain irritating chemicals, and can be time-consuming and messy. Likewise, bleaches contain harsh chemicals and do little to disguise dark hair. They may also discolour the skin. Waxing is another temporary method of hair removal and is usually done in Beauty Salons. A hot wax is applied to the skin and removed once it has dried over the hair. The hair is stripped off when the wax is removed. Waxing can be painful and costly. At **Amber Health, Beauty and Sports Injury Clinic** we use up to seven different waxes, depending upon which part of the body is being treated (Male or Female). Home waxing kits are available, but they can be difficult to use and messy. There are electrical electrolysis devices available for home use that tries to copy the devices used by professionals. These devices are often unsafe for use by anyone who is not trained in electrolysis.

Facts about electrolysis

Electrolysis is a time-tested method that was invented more than 100 years ago to remove irritating, in-grown eyelash hairs. Most areas of the body can be treated with electrolysis, including the eyebrows, face, thighs, abdomen, breasts, and legs.

There are no permanent side effects. Sometimes, a slight reddening of the skin occurs during or immediately after treatment, but this will only last for a short time. Electrolysis is very safe and, unlike depilatories or bleaches, no harsh chemicals are used.

How do I choose an electrologist?

Electrologists are people who have undergone training to professionally administer the electrolysis procedure. If you are considering undergoing electrolysis, it is very important that you do your research before committing to an appointment. The wrong decision can mean extra sessions and cost and unnecessary discomfort. By following the guidelines listed below, you can take comfort in knowing that you will be making an educated and informed decision when choosing an electrologist.

- Know their qualifications. The UK requires that electrologists be licensed or certified, by the local council in order to practice electrolysis. Be sure the practitioner's certificate is current and fully on display. **At Amber Health, Beauty and Sports Injury Clinic our principal Practitioner has been carrying out electrolysis for over 15 years.**
- Ask around. One of the best ways to find any good service is to ask friends and family for recommendation. If you know anybody who has undergone electrolysis, ask for his or her input.
- Get a consultation – at Amber H&B it is free. Many places will give you a free consultation. During the consultation, be sure that any and all of your questions about the procedure are answered. Some of the questions you can ask include: how the procedure will feel; an estimate on the number of visits you will likely need; the cost of each visit (this will vary from place to place, and it is best to call around); the length of each session; how long they have been in business; and the number of clients they have treated.
- Make sure they use the right technique. Make sure the practitioner uses needle electrolysis, which is the only permanent form of hair removal. Some places may advertise electrolysis, but in reality they use electronic tweezers or photo epilators. These are not permanent hair removal procedures.
- Use common sense. When you go to your consultation, look around. Does the place look clean? Do the workers look clean? Do they use disposable gloves or probes? Ask to meet to person who will be performing the electrolysis for you. Does he or she strike you as professional? If you are not personally comfortable with somebody, do not go to him or her. Personal comfort is essential to knowing you have made the right decision in choosing an electrologist.

Professional electrolysis - expensive but useful

Doctors don't recommend to make use of do-it-yourself electrolysis. Most people, even those who had managed to perform it at home, say that it's easier and more convenient to get it done professionally. Every procedure must be done with professional electrolysis machines and electrolysis equipment. In that way you may expect a great result from your treatment. Here you will find some electrolysis equipment and machine history facts, from the first days of its inception to the present time. At Amber Health, Beauty and Sports Injury Clinic we use the Apilus Computerised Electrolysis Machine – because we believe it to be the best.



Apilus technology offers an advanced virtually pain free hair removal system. Suitable for the face or body. **Apilus** delivers more effective and more comfortable treatment as well as much more rapid permanent results than any other electrolysis machine. The Gentle way to 100% permanent hair removal

History of Modern Electrolysis

The very first person that started using professional electrolysis as a means of hair removal was Doctor Charles Michel (years of life-1833 to 1913), an ophthalmologist from Missouri, the town of St. Louis, who in 1875 reported his results of electrolysis application in ingrown eyelashes (scientifically called trichiasis). The doctor had been using an electrolysis method since the year 1869.

Doctor W.A Hardaway, a dermatologist from Missouri, the town of St. Louis, praised the results that Doctor Michel achieved. In his paper Doctor Hardaway explained his own results and the the results attained by other doctors, a proof that other physicians were also performing professional electrolysis.

Electrolysis usage became renowned at the very end of the nineteenth century (1880 - 1900). At that time Dan Mahler established electrolysis practices and, consequently, a special firm for selling electrolysis equipment. The business of the family still exists these days as the well-known Instantron Company that has been functioning constantly for over a century. And it is now one of the largest suppliers of the electrolysis equipment in the world.

Paul Kree from New York developed a multiple-needle system for galvanic electrolysis, which happened in 1916. He was helpful in the improved marketing of electrolysis service to the society. The method of electrolysis was employed enthusiastically from medical professionals to lay electrologists. Kree Company has been dominating the presentation and education of electrolysis in North America until the late 1970s. Doctor Henri Bordier from France, the city of Lyon, developed a new method of thermolysis in 1924 (also known as diathermy, short wave, high-frequency and so on).

Different medical literature of this period indicates that this new method came into being as far back as the year of 1910 in Germany and was invented by Doctor Eitner. Doctor Rostenberg appeared in thermolysis into the Northern American journals about medicine in the year 1925. Doctor Mildred Trotter put in publishing her classical article which proved that shaving didn't affect hair growth. This happened in 1928. The new equipment for electrolysis removed the basic spark-gap diathermy electrolysis machines that provided very unpredictable performance. Thermolysis turned out to be more widespread later with the use of a basic and more consistently dependable vacuum tube equipment.

Works of Hinkel and St. Pierre were brilliant both conceptually and technically. And they also became of a tremendous help to a better scientific acceptance of electrolysis. Equipment for

electrolysis became much more trustworthy and easy to use with the development of transistorized gear during 1960s and 1970s. In November 1979 the Copperwaites from Toronto established the International Hair Route, which was a publication that continues to be printed widely and is still of a great interest to all electrolysis specialists.

Electrolysis equipment that started using computers became much smaller, a lot more reliable, and easy to use in the 1980s. Mark Van Orden from the Fischer Company managed to include formula of Hinkel into a programmable computerized epilator. The threat of viruses of AIDS stimulated the development of pre-sterilized and disposable needles. In the early 1980s, Doctors Toshio Kobayashi and Shiro Yamada explained their method of high-powered thermolysis that is performed with the use of an insulated needle. As we are getting further into the twenty-first century the standardized training and state-of-the-art equipment will for sure make electrolysis a lot more popular and more accessible for people around the world. This happened in the 1990s.

There are some kinds of professional electrolysis and professional electrolysis equipment: Electro-Blend Classic, Electro Blend UC-2, Electro Blend UC-3+, Microprocessor controlled Multi-Needle Galvanic Epilator, Compact Model 360 Galvanic Epilator, Nova2000 Multi-needle, Thermolysis Generator, Ultrablend, Apilus SX-500, Apilus Senior II, Apilus Junior Plus, Cleo, Epilatron, Guibor Microelectrolysis Unit 18, Model MC160, Ease-Multi-Mode Epilator, HR-5000 Electrosurgical device (Kobayashi-Yamada), Epitron Super, Epilot 80 S, LPS 33 Epilator, Auto-Blend Epilator.