Reference Numbers

20. Implant
22. Anchor
22A. Cruciform-Shaped Anchor
22B. Inverted “Y”-Shaped Anchor
22C. Barbed Anchor
22D. Racket-Shaped Anchor
22E. Bar-shaped Anchor
22F. Ovoid-shaped Anchor
22G. Screw-shaped Anchor
24. Vertical Component or Anchor Body
24A. Hair Element Arm
24B. Anchor Arm
24C. Ovoid Anchor Body
26. Bridge
27. Connecting surface 27A and 27B
28. Hair or Hair Element
30. Internal Hair Chamber
32. Distal Orifice
34. Distal End
34A. Upper Surface
34B. Curved Distal Surface
36. Proximal Orifice
38. Proximal Closure of Internal Hair Chamber
40. Proximal End
40A. Proximal End
40B. Proximal End
42. Closed Tunnel (or Closed Void)
42A. Closed Tunnel (or Closed Void)
42B. Closed Tunnel (or Closed Void)
43. Central Point
44. Open Tunnel (or Open Void)

46. Fracture Line
48. Knot Chamber
50. Knot
52. Concavity
54. Proximal Bulbous Shape
56. Epidermis
58. Dermis
60. Follicular Unit
62. Follicle
64. Scalp
66. Undulation
68. Rounded Indentation
70. Protrusion
71. Cup-shaped structure
72. Convexity
74. Horizontal Component or Anchor Body
76. Thread
78. Hair Bundle
80. Ancillary Hair Element
82. Hair Bud Structure

CLAIMS

1. A hair implant suitable for subcutaneous implantation, comprising:

a. a hair strand anchor comprising:

i. an anchor body;

ii. a first hair chamber disposed within said anchor body;

iii. a second hair chamber disposed within said anchor body; and

iv. at least one tunnel disposed through said anchor body, said tunnel further disposed in between said first hair chamber and said second hair chamber, where the tunnel is free of a hair; and

b. at least one hair strand having a portion thereof retained in at least one of the hair chambers, wherein said retained portion of hair strand is encased by said hair chamber;

wherein: (a) said tunnel is configured to support collagen ligature growth after subcutaneous implantation of the hair implant, (b) said tunnel is configured to receive and retain collagen ligatures that are capable of anchoring said hair strand anchor to a hair implant recipient, and (c) the hair strand anchor is unitary in form.

2. The hair implant of claim 1, wherein said hair strand is a human hair strand or a synthetic hair strand.

3. The hair implant of claim 1, wherein said anchor body is constructed from a biocompatible polymer, silicone, silicone polymer, metal, or metal alloy.

4. The hair implant of claim 1, wherein at least one end of the hair strand projects from a distal end of the anchor body.

5. The hair implant of claim 1, wherein said first hair chamber is fluidly connected to said second hair chamber to form a U-shaped hair chamber, wherein said hair strand is retained in said U-shaped hair chamber such that both ends of said hair strand project from a distal end of the anchor body.

6. The hair implant of claim 1, comprising at least two hair strands, wherein a proximal end of each hair strand is disposed and encased within one of said hair chambers.

7. The hair implant of claim 1, wherein the at least one tunnel comprises an open tunnel disposed through the anchor body at a distal end or a proximal end thereof.

8. The hair implant of claim 1, wherein the anchor body has at least two tunnels disposed therethrough.

9. The hair implant of claim 8, wherein the at least two tunnels comprises parallel open tunnels, disposed on opposing ends of the anchor body.

10. The hair implant of claim 8, wherein the at least two tunnels comprise parallel closed tunnels disposed through the anchor body.

11. The hair implant of claim 8, wherein at least one of the tunnels is an open tunnel disposed on a distal end or a proximal end of the anchor body, and at least one of the tunnels is a closed tunnel disposed through the anchor body.

12. The hair implant of claim 1, wherein the tunnel through the anchor body effectively creates a longitudinal fracture line through said anchor body that intersects the tunnel.

13. A hair implant suitable for subcutaneous implantation, comprising:

a. a hair strand anchor comprising:

   i. an anchor body;

   ii. a first hair chamber disposed within said anchor body;

   iii. a second hair chamber disposed within said anchor body; and

   iv. at least one tunnel disposed through said anchor body, said tunnel further disposed in between said first hair chamber and said second hair chamber, where the tunnel is free of a hair; and

b. at least one hair strand having a portion thereof retained in at least one of the hair chambers, wherein said retained portion of hair strand is encased by said hair chamber;

wherein: (a) said tunnel is configured to support collagen ligature growth after subcutaneous implantation of the hair implant, (b) said tunnel is configured to receive and retain collagen ligatures that are capable of anchoring said hair strand anchor to a hair implant recipient, and (c) the at least one tunnel comprises a closed tunnel disposed through the anchor body.

14. A hair implant suitable for subcutaneous implantation, comprising:

a. a hair strand anchor comprising:

   i. a first anchor body;

   ii. a second anchor body; and

iii. at least one bridge connecting said first anchor body to said second anchor body so as to bridge at least one void between said anchor bodies, said void being free of hair; and

b. at least one hair strand having a portion thereof retained in at least one of the anchor bodies, wherein said retained portion of hair strand is encased by said anchor body;

wherein: (i) said bridge connecting said anchor bodies is configured to support and retain growth of collagen ligatures after subcutaneous implantation of the hair implant, (ii) said collagen ligatures are configured to anchor said hair strand anchor to a hair implant recipient and (iii) the hair strand anchor is unitary in form.

15. The hair implant of claim 14, wherein said hair strand is a human hair strand or a synthetic hair strand.

16. The hair implant of claim 14, wherein said hair strand anchor is constructed from a biocompatible polymer, silicone, silicone polymer, metal, or metal alloy.

17. The hair implant of claim 14, wherein each of said anchor bodies has a hair chamber disposed therein.

18. The hair implant of claim 17, comprising at least two hair strands, wherein a proximal end of each hair strand is disposed and encased within one of said hair chambers.

19. The hair implant of claim 17, wherein said hair chamber of the first anchor body is fluidly connected to said hair chamber of the first anchor body to form a U-shaped hair chamber, wherein said portion of the hair strand is retained in said U-shaped hair chamber such that both ends of said hair strand project from a distal end of the hair strand anchor.

20. The hair implant of claim 19, wherein a portion of said U-shaped hair chamber is disposed in said bridge.

21. The hair implant of claim 14, wherein said at least one void effectively creates a longitudinal fracture line through said hair strand anchor that intersects said bridge.

22. A hair implant suitable for subcutaneous implantation, comprising:

a. a hair strand anchor comprising:

i. a first anchor body;

ii. a second anchor body; and

iii. at least two bridges connecting said first anchor body to said second anchor body so as to bridge at least one void between said anchor bodies, said void being free of hair; and

b. at least one hair strand having a portion thereof retained in at least one of the anchor bodies, wherein said retained portion of hair strand is encased by said anchor body;

wherein: (i) the at least two bridges connecting the anchor bodies are configured to support and retain growth of collagen ligatures after subcutaneous implantation of the hair implant, and (ii) the collagen ligatures are configured to anchor the hair strand anchor to a hair implant recipient.

23. The hair implant of claim 22, wherein a second bridge of the at least two bridges is parallel to a first bridge of the at least two bridges.

24. An anchor comprising:

(a) a first hair chamber configured to receive at least one hair strand;

(b) a second hair chamber configured to receive at least one hair strand; and

(c) at least one tunnel disposed through said anchor between the first hair chamber and the second hair chamber,

wherein: (i) the anchor is configured for subcutaneous implantation with at least one hair strand fixed in at least one of the first hair chamber and the second hair chamber; (ii) the tunnel is configured to support collagen ligature growth after subcutaneous implantation by receiving and retaining collagen ligatures that are capable of anchoring the anchor to a hair implant recipient; and (iii) the anchor is unitary in form.

25. The anchor of claim 24, wherein the at least one tunnel defines a longitudinal fracture line through the anchor that intersects the tunnel, such that the anchor is configured to fracture along the fracture line upon application of sufficient force to facilitate removal.