

## **Basic Procedure for Conducting a Hair & Scalp Examination Using a Hand-Held Camera Microscope**

Plug in scope and turn on computer or TV to make sure all is working properly before the client arrives.

### **For Scalp Examination**

1. Make sure the tip of the lens has been cleaned with a sterilizing agent, such as alcohol or other antibacterial solution.
2. The 50x magnification is recommended for viewing hair density of the scalp, the 100x or 200x magnifications are recommended for closer examination of the follicle or scalp surface.
3. Select the area of the scalp you would like to view and part the hair with two fingers, exposing an area of the scalp to examine.
4. Touch the tip of the lens directly to the exposed scalp. Adjust focus by turning the focus ring or wheel if needed depending on your model camera microscope.
5. Identify the condition of the scalp and follicles and show the condition to the client on the screen.
6. Touch the capture button on the camera to save an image of the scalp to the computer (digital versions only).
7. Choose any other part of the scalp to examine using the same method as above starting at #3.
8. After a scalp examination is complete, sterilize the tip of the lens before use with the next client/patient.

### **For Hair Shaft Examination**

1. Make sure the tip of the lens has been cleaned with a sterilizing agent, such as alcohol or other antibacterial solution.
2. The 400x or 500x magnification is recommended for viewing the hair shaft and hair tip.
3. Before using the 400x or 500x lens on hair, it helps to focus the lens on a flat surface like a table, magazine page, or you own clothing. Touch a flat item and adjust focus first.
4. Select the area of hair you would like to view and press the hair flat against the scalp with two fingers. It may help to slide one finger away from the other to line up the hairs next to each other and decrease overlapping hairs. Ask the client/patient to keep their head steady for you.
5. Touch the tip of the lens flat against the surface of the hairs.
6. Focusing on the flat surface beforehand helps with focus; here are few focusing tips with the high magnification lenses:
  - a. simply tip the camera slightly to the side while keeping the tip pressed against the hair, this brings the hairs closer or further easily and quickly
  - b. press the tip of the lens more firmly or less firmly against the hairs
  - c. adjust focus manually with the lens focus
7. Identify the condition of the hairs and show the condition to the client on the screen.
8. Touch the capture button on the camera to save an image of the hairs to the computer (digital versions only).
9. Choose any other section of hair to examine using the same method as above starting at #4.
10. After a hair examination is complete, sterilize the tip of the lens before use with the next client/patient.