

"One ship drives east and another west

While the same breezes blow:

'Tis the set of the sail and not the gale

That bids them where to go"

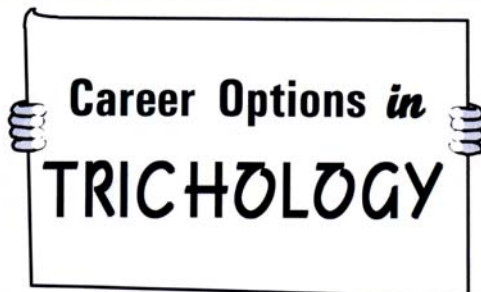
....Ella Wheeler Wilcox

In contemporary times, wellness and self image are two important ingredients that give a person confidence and ability to face the challenges of this dynamic globalised world. But hairloss, baldness, dandruff, scaling and itching are some of the problems from which many people suffer damaging one's self-image. What can be better than receiving proper remedies under legally licensed and qualified professionals one can trust for medication and care? An educational program in 'Trichology' has therefore been developed at the University of Southern California under the guidance of David Salinger. 'Trichology' is one discipline of hair and scalp which combines the study of science with beauty and looks and is today being recognized world over.

What is Trichology? Trichology can be defined as the scientific study of hair and scalp disorders. The word 'Trichology' is derived from the Greek word 'Trikhos' meaning 'hair'. It is a disciplined area of study that deals with hair, its anatomy, growth and diseases. It includes hair thinning, male and

female pattern baldness, seborrhea dermatitis, scalp eczema & psoriasis, scalp itching, premature graying, head lice, hair breakage & damage. The study of Trichology also enables one to succeed in understanding hair transplantation, hair extensions and hair enhancements. With the popularization of paramedical sciences, this field has gained much importance in the recent years.

The scope of this study is very wide and growing. Though persons working in this area at present are few, but there is an increasing potential for employment growth. After having super specialization in the field of hair and scalp, one can practice as a super specialist doctor. A trichologist can also offer consultancy to beauty saloons & multinational companies. A person with knowledge of Trichology can also work as a clinical researcher for hair & scalp, or as an expert witness in the court of law. Self employment and assistance to doctors and paramedical specialists are other viable options. A trichologist works in close association with dermatologists, endocrinologists,



dentists, nutritionists, psychiatrists and cosmetologists.

A trichologist always thoroughly questions the client about his health, diet, family history, hair care, etc. during consultation. This is because Trichology tells you how hair and scalp, individually and in unison reflect the status of the many systems that make the human being function. To gain an understanding of this complex system and relationship a trichologist therefore studies such areas as body systems nutrition, chemistry and physiology of the hair and skin both.

Institutes like, MET-Richfeel Institute of Trichology conducts two courses: Diploma and Degree in Trichology. Both the courses are conducted twice in a year. The I.A.T. (Australia) sets the curriculum and the examination paper for the same, and also certifies both the Diploma and Degree programmes. Besides the Diploma and Degree programmes being conducted by the institute, MET-Richfeel Institute of Trichology also provides for the clinical training programme for

international students directly registering abroad with the I.A.T.

John Erskine once said, "Nature is everything a man is born to, and art is the difference he makes in it".

Trichology in the true sense of the term is not only a science; it is also an art.

Truly, it is one of the most thriving professions today. There is a huge demand for professionally well-trained trichologists in India; especially with its huge patient base, low cost advantage and strong improving infrastructure and technology. The job opportunities in this field are just opening up as this is a largely unexplored industry and can be exploited by those that enter early in the race. This emerging career offers the perfect balance of self growth and the satisfaction of making a difference to lives. A young deserving candidate can earn anything between Rs20000 to Rs50000 per month and thereafter when one is established, sky is the limit. I highly recommend this course, as it promises a world of opportunity and at the same time, enormous job prospects.



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