

Why Australian and New Zealand Patients Are Choosing Turkey for Hair Transplants

ISTANBUL, TURKEY, June 12, 2026 /EINPresswire.com/ -- As Turkey continues to strengthen its position in global medical tourism, Istanbul stands out for international patients seeking advanced hair transplant procedures, patient focused care, and a unique travel experience.

Interest in [hair transplant Turkey](#) searches and international consultations has been rising among patients from Australia and New Zealand, reflecting a broader shift in how people evaluate elective medical procedures. Industry observers cite a combination of mature medical tourism infrastructure, experienced clinical teams, evolving hair restoration techniques, and structured international patient services, alongside the appeal of pairing treatment with time in one of the world's most visited cities.



Dr. Gökay Bilgin & Dr. Mehmet Erdogan

Turkey's Growing Role in Global Medical Tourism

Over the past decade, Turkey has developed a recognizable footprint in international medical travel. Istanbul in particular has become a hub for elective procedures, supported by a wide clinical ecosystem, hospitality capacity, and multilingual patient coordination services. For hair transplantation, this growth has come with increased focus on standardized planning, modern surgical workflows, and coordinated post procedure support. These are factors international patients often prioritize when they are traveling long distances for care.

What's Driving Interest from Australia and New Zealand

Patients from Australia and New Zealand commonly weigh several considerations when exploring hair transplantation abroad.

Clinical experience and dedicated teams: Many patients look for clinics that perform hair restoration procedures routinely and can demonstrate structured clinical processes.

Technique options and personalization: Methods such as Follicular Unit Extraction, also known as [FUE](#), and Direct Hair Implantation, also known as [DHI](#), may be offered depending on candidacy, donor characteristics, and design goals.

International patient services: Logistics support such as pre travel planning, clear instructions, interpreter availability, accommodation coordination, transfer planning, and structured follow up can be important for patients traveling from the Southern Hemisphere.

Cost differences compared with local markets: While pricing varies widely by clinic, technique, and graft planning, Turkey is frequently considered more cost accessible than many domestic options. Patients are advised to evaluate value through the lens of safety, transparency, and clinical standards rather than cost alone.

For many patients traveling from Australia and New Zealand, the decision to undergo a hair transplant abroad involves more than comparing techniques or costs. Their experiences often reflect the importance of clear communication, structured planning, travel coordination, hotel and transfer arrangements, and ongoing aftercare support.

What Australian and New Zealand Patients Say

Sam H

I had a wonderful experience with Smile Hair Clinic. Even travelling all the way from Australia, everything was smooth, professional, and well organised from start to finish.

The team made me feel comfortable and supported the entire time. They explained each step clearly, were extremely attentive, and genuinely cared about my comfort and outcome. The clinic itself was modern and spotless, and the level of care exceeded my expectations.

I wouldn't hesitate to recommend Smile Hair Clinic to anyone considering a hair transplant, even if you're travelling internationally. It was absolutely worth the trip.

Malcolm G.

To the Smile Hair clinic, the hero's of the hair restoration team. I can't thank you guys enough for the support and generosity you guys provide to your patients/clients.

When entering the clinic I felt a special welcome from the lovely guest relations team, meeting up with Bahar, Nursefa, Ceren, Damla, and Aysegul you guys were amazing and helpful, providing information and reassurance, to the nurses Şirin, Gökçe, Batuhan, Kübra and Dr.

Firdavs Ahmedov I am forever grateful for you guys for the hard efforts you put into my procedure in restoring my hair (11 hrs)! I hope you all had a good night's rest afterwards lastly Günacar from the Social media department and Berat whom I chatted with on WhatsApp before the procedure thank you for answering my questions, will definitely recommend Smile Hair Clinic to all my friends, co-workers and family here in Australia.

Cnr S

I've posted a review before about how I travelled from Australia to smile hair clinic and my experience with them on arrival, the procedure and the staff which was all great. Clean clinic, great staff. Six months on from the procedure the after care has been great, the staff always check in asking for updates and genuinely care. I can say the results have been outstanding, only six months and I look completely different the hair has grown a lot. All I can say is if you're thinking of getting it done, get it done, it's worth it and smile hair clinic is the place to do so! Definately glad I came to the clinic, thanks to all the staff and doctors, amazing results so far.

Gosavi

It's been 15 days now. Everything is going good for now. It's a long process and needs a lot of patience.

My name is Gosavi and I'm Australia. It has been a great experience with Smile clinic until now. From the start until now everything is according to the plan. Initial consultation, booking, airport pickup, hotel arrangements was absolutely on point. The pickup and drop pre op and post op was perfect as well. They really take care of you until the end that's for sure. I wasn't expecting that great dedicated service from any clinic.

The food at hotel is pretty good no space for any complaints.

On day 15 now and my case manager is perfectly assisting me every single day for any questions that I have.

So far so good. Keen on the further journey. Will keep my comments updated.

Turkey's Safety and Strategic Location Strengthen Its Position in Hair Transplant Tourism
Turkey has become one of the world's leading destinations for hair transplantation, supported by its advanced healthcare infrastructure, international patient experience, strong transportation network, and strategic position at the crossroads of Europe. For Australian and New Zealand patients, Istanbul stands out not only for its medical expertise, but also for its close connection to Europe, neighbouring countries such as Greece and Bulgaria, and its strong global flight accessibility.

Each year, thousands of international patients choose Turkey to complete their treatment journeys in a safe, comfortable, and well-organized environment. Safety, one of the key considerations for patients travelling abroad for medical care, remains an essential part of Turkey's health tourism experience. With modern healthcare facilities, developed airport infrastructure, reliable urban transportation, a wide range of accommodation options, and professional support services for international patients, Istanbul offers an accessible and secure healthcare tourism ecosystem for patients from around the world.

Istanbul as a practical, culturally rich setting for care

Beyond the clinical side, Istanbul's accessibility and established tourism infrastructure can reduce friction for international visitors. Patients often cite the city's major international airport, frequent flight connections, wide range of accommodation options, and experience in welcoming international travelers.

For those who feel well enough during the recovery period and with their clinical team's guidance, Istanbul's cultural offerings, historic neighborhoods, Bosphorus views, museums, and culinary tradition can provide a comfortable backdrop to a planned medical trip.

A Typical International Patient Journey: From Consultation to Aftercare

While processes differ by clinic and patient needs, a common pathway for international patients includes:

Online consultation: Review of medical history, scalp photos, and an initial suitability discussion.

Personalized planning: Hairline and density goals, donor evaluation, technique selection such as FUE or DHI, and a review of risks and recovery expectations.

Procedure day: Clinical preparation, blood tests, face to face consultation with a doctor, local anesthesia, extraction, and implantation according to the agreed plan.

Early recovery in Istanbul: Instructions on washing, swelling management, sleep positioning, and activity restrictions.

Aftercare support back home: Scheduled check ins, guidance on shedding and regrowth timelines, and advice on when to seek in person evaluation if concerns arise.

Clinicians stress that aftercare is not an extra service. It is part of the medical process, particularly for patients traveling long distances.

Combining Treatment with an Istanbul Experience

For Australians and New Zealanders, travel time is significant, so many aim to make the trip worthwhile. Istanbul's appeal often includes historical landmarks such as Hagia Sophia, Topkapı Palace, and the Blue Mosque, Bosphorus scenery, waterfront walks and ferry rides, Turkish hospitality and cuisine, traditional breakfast, regional dishes, coffee culture, bazaars, contemporary districts, and museums.

Medical teams typically advise patients to plan activities responsibly, follow post procedure guidance closely, and prioritize rest, especially in the first days after treatment.

Smile Hair Clinic on Safety, Planning, and International Patient Care

Dr. Mehmet Erdoğan and Dr. Gökay Bilgin, co-founders of Smile Hair Clinic in Istanbul, said the clinic has seen growing interest from patients in Australia and New Zealand who are looking for a structured, medically guided, and well-coordinated hair transplant experience. They emphasized that Istanbul continues to be a major international healthcare destination, geographically separated from the current regional tensions in the Middle East and supported by a well-established medical tourism infrastructure.

"For international patients, the priority should always be safety and transparent planning before technique or travel details," said Dr. Mehmet Erdoğan. "In hair transplantation, a natural looking outcome starts with individualized assessment. Donor evaluation, the safe zone approach, and a hairline design that suits the patient's facial features and potential future hair loss are essential parts of this process. We also place strong emphasis on aftercare support, because patients return home and still need reliable clinical guidance during recovery."

Dr. Gökay Bilgin also emphasized that international patient care extends beyond the clinical procedure itself. "For patients traveling from distant countries such as Australia and New Zealand, every step of the journey needs to be clearly planned in advance. Accommodation, airport transfers, clinic transfers, appointment flow, and post procedure instructions are coordinated as part of the patient experience. This allows patients to focus on their treatment, rest, and recovery without having to manage the details of their medical trip on their own."

About Smile Hair Clinic

Smile Hair Clinic is a hair transplant clinic based in Istanbul, Turkey, founded in 2018 by Dr. Mehmet Erdoğan and Dr. Gökay Bilgin. The clinic is known for its patient centered approach, experienced medical team, personalized hair transplant planning, and international patient services. Smile Hair Clinic follows its True™ Philosophy, built around True Planning, True Hair Line Design, True Execution, and True Innovation. The clinic is also the world's first and only hair transplant clinic to receive A Rated TEMOS International Healthcare Accreditation, highlighting its commitment to international healthcare quality standards, patient safety, and continuous improvement.

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