The new growth in hair loss research

Has there ever been more pressure to have a full and ***luscious*** head of hair? With such anxieties magnified by the digital world, it's little wonder that the impact of male and female pattern baldness has been increasingly linked to various mental health conditions.

luscious　甘美的；芬芳的　　ingenious　机灵的

But there is increasing hope for those experiencing hair loss, as while we're no closer to finding a way to prevent balding happening in the first place, scientists are developing increasingly novel and ***ingenious*** ways to either replace or regenerate the lost hair.

With no drug to prevent your hair from falling out, cosmetic surgery has looked to fill the void. Over the past two decades hair transplants — which take hair ***follicles*** from DHT-resistant "donor areas" at the back and sides of the ***scalp*** and relocate them to cover up bald patches — have offered new hope for hair loss sufferers.

follicle　卵泡；囊　　scalp　头皮

Instead of relying on donor hair, the way forward could be to use patient stem cells to grow whole hair follicles completely from scratch in the lab. These follicles could then be grown in unlimited quantities, and grafted on to the scalp.

In the future, 3D printing could even help do this on a large scale. At Columbia University in New York, Angela Christiano is working on creating "hair farms" using a grid of 3D-printed plastic moulds which ***mimic*** the exact shape of hair follicles. Growing them in an artificial, hair-like environment helps ***stimulate*** them to make a hair, but scientists still have to solve some aesthetic challenges.

mimic　模仿；模拟　　stimulate　刺激