**ALOPECIA AREATA**

Your child's diagnosis is called: **alopecia areata.**

This is a non-scarring type of hair loss, and it is thought to be a type of autoimmune process. Over time, your child may continue to develop round patches of hair loss in the scalp, even as other patches fill in with new hair growth. Eventually, this process does tend to "burn out" over time in most children, though it is hard to predict when that will happen in all children. Your doctor may prescribe a steroid cream and may also encourage cautious exposure to sunlight, as these may stimulate regrowth of hair in the patches. It is always important to avoid excessive sun exposure and sun burns and to use appropriate sun protection, so please discuss this treatment further with your doctor before starting if you haven't already. Other more advanced or stubborn cases may require different treatment modalities.

The website for the Alopecia Areata Foundation is: http://www.naaf.org/site/PageServer