

Post-Mohs Reconstruction

Your fellowship trained Mohs surgeon has received extensive and advanced training in reconstructive surgery and will consider all options for the optimal functional and aesthetic result.

When your Mohs surgery is complete, **there will be a defect in the area that the skin cancer occupied.** In the vast majority of cases, your Mohs surgeon will perform your reconstruction on the same day as the skin cancer removal. More advanced, time consuming reconstructions may be scheduled for another day.

You will be given typed instructions for home wound care.

Additional information:
skincancermohssurgery.org

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Our Fellowship-Trained Mohs Surgeons



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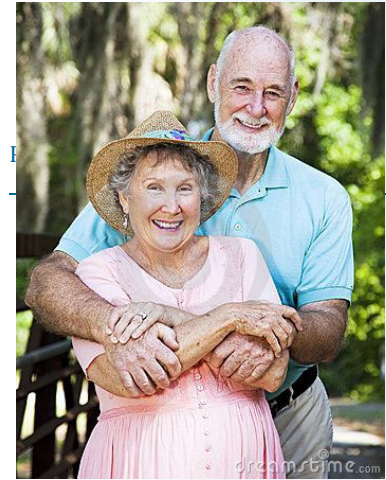
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Mohs Micrographic Surgery



Mohs Micrographic surgery is a highly specialized technique to treat skin cancer.

- Surgeon performs the microscopic evaluation, allowing for seamless patient-pathology correlation
- 100% margin assessment
- Microscopic cancer “roots” are eliminated
- Wound reconstruction performed by Mohs surgeon after skin cancer cleared
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Mohs is recognized as the skin cancer treatment with the highest cure rate—up to 99%, as compared to a cure rate of 85-92% for standard skin cancer surgery.

Because Mohs involves complete margin assessment, it results in the removal of the least amount of healthy tissue—this means a smaller scar than with other techniques.



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The Mohs Surgical Procedure

Mohs surgery is done on an outpatient basis in a procedure room with a nearby laboratory that allows the surgeon to examine the tissue after it is removed.

Measurements and photos of the treatment site will be taken throughout the day.

Each tumor and each patient is unique—the procedure may be complete within 2 hours or may require an entire day. It is not possible to predict duration of surgery, as the extent of the skin cancer “roots” cannot be estimated in advance.

Step 1

To prepare you for surgery, the area to be treated is cleansed and injected with a local anesthetic. The anesthetic numbs the skin, so you won't feel pain during the procedure

Step 2

The surgeon uses a scalpel to remove the visible cancer, along with a thin layer of additional tissue.

Step 3

Once removed, the tissue is divided into sections and goes to the lab for processing, resulting in microscope slides. This portion of the procedure typically takes the longest amount of time, often requiring one hour or more to complete.

Step 4

The surgeons examines the tissue under the microscope and maps where any residual tumor is present. Additional tissue is removed where cancer is present and the process is repeated until all of the margins are clear.

Step 5

Your Mohs surgeon will discuss wound healing/reconstruction options once the cancer is clear.

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Preparation for Surgery

The best preparation for Mohs surgery is a good night's sleep.

The morning of your surgery, follow your normal routine.

- Bathe or shower and wash your hair before surgery, as your wound and dressing may have to remain dry for up to 72 hours
- Please DO NOT wear makeup, perfume or cologne
- Eat breakfast and take your regular prescription medications
- If you are on prescription pain, anxiety or muscle relaxer medications, do not take them the morning of surgery until you have consented for the procedure
- If you need any additional medications throughout the day, please bring them with you
- If you are diabetic and check blood glucose during the day, bring your testing materials with you
- If you require supplemental oxygen, please plan accordingly to avoid running out throughout the day

DO NOT DISCONTINUE any blood thinner medications if they were prescribed by a physician or provider.

Examples include: Coumadin© (warfarin), Plavix© (clopidogrel), Ticlid© (ticlopidine), Brilinta© (ticagrelor), Lovenox© (enoxaparin), Eliquis© (apixaban), Xarelto© (rivaroxaban) or Effient© (prasugrel).

If you have appointed a medical power of attorney, please bring the corresponding document for inclusion in your medical record.

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Expect “down time” during your Mohs surgery day— this procedure can sometimes last several hours. We advise that you do not make other appointments for your Mohs day. Plan ahead: Bring snacks, books or magazines to help you pass the time.

Dress comfortably. Wear loose fitting, comfortable clothing, preferably a button down shirt that does not need to be pulled over your head. Dress in layers so that you can easily adapt to the room temperature.

If your skin cancer site is near an eye, you should arrange for someone to pick you up in case the postoperative bandage covers the eye.

In general, it is wise to have a someone accompany you on your surgery day. However, given the present Coronavirus pandemic, companions may be asked to wait outside or return to collect you at a later time. Everyone in our office is expected to wear a mask.

If you are scheduled for Mohs at our office and have questions, please call our Surgery Coordinator, Kristy Williams, at

(423) 722-0563



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