



We have compiled a few tips to help your surgical experience go as smoothly as possible. Please print it off and bring them with you to your Mohs surgery appointment.

Mohs Surgery Patient Checklist:

- Have breakfast on the day of your surgery and bring along some light snacks and reading material.
- Wear comfortable, warm clothing and avoid wearing light colours that may stain easily.
- Arrange to have someone drive you to and from the surgery centre.
- Have a shower on the morning of your surgery as you may have dressings that will need to stay dry for days afterwards.
- Be prepared to spend the whole day with us.
- Check with your doctor before stopping any medications prior to surgery.
- Stitches need to be removed in 1-2 weeks so plan for your follow up care.
- Stop smoking before surgery and abstain from alcohol two days before and after surgery.
- Be prepared to rest. Avoid exercise and heavy lifting for a week after surgery.

Medications:

- Take your medications as you normally would the morning of surgery.
- Bring all your medications with you to the surgery centre.

Helpful supplies to have after surgery:

- A gentle skin cleanser
- New box of Q-tips for cleaning and wound care around sutures
- A fresh pot of Vaseline ointment for wound care
- Tylenol for pain control
- A Package of gauze for wound care
- Ice pack
- Scar gel



Mohs Surgery Consent Form

PLEASE READ, SIGN AND BRING THIS FORM TO YOUR APPOINTMENT

Please read below for the most common and important risks of Mohs surgery:

- 1) Scarring: it is not possible to perform skin surgery without leaving a scar. The aim of Mohs surgery is to leave the least-noticeable scar possible while completely removing the skin cancer.
- 2) Infection: the rate of wound infection is very low with this surgery, generally less than 1 person out of 100. We reduce this risk by cleaning the skin and occasionally recommending antibiotics after surgery.
- 3) Bleeding: there is a risk of bleeding whenever we perform surgery on the skin. We reduce this risk by cauterizing any blood vessels during the surgery. Rarely, bleeding may occur after the surgery. Please call the office if bleeding is difficult to control. If you are on a blood thinning medication this risk will be higher.
- 4) Bruising and swelling: this is common and usually begins the day after surgery. It may persist for weeks while the skin is healing.
- 5) Pain: some discomfort is expected after surgery; usually it is minor and controlled with Tylenol.
- 6) Numbness or loss of nerve function: occasionally, nerves can be damaged or removed during the cancer surgery. This damage may lead to areas of decreased sensation (numbness) or a loss of muscle function.
- 7) Recurrence of the tumour: Mohs surgery provides the highest cure rate of any form of skin cancer surgery. However, it is not a 100% cure rate.
- 8) Additional procedures: the need may arise for additional procedures that will help reduce scarring, swelling, redness or thickening the skin after your initial surgery.
- 9) Photographs: throughout your surgery we will often take a photograph of the skin cancer, the reconstruction and the post operative closure. These photographs are used for your chart but in some circumstances, they will be used for teaching purposes. You may revoke this permission or decline photographs being taken at any time.

I have read and understand the above.

Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____