

Patient Name: _____

Appointment time: _____ Appointment Date: _____

MOHS Surgeons: () **Dr. Edward Glassberg** () **Dr. Joanna Chan**

MOHS SURGERY

PRE-OPERATIVE:

1. **Avoid Aspirin, Ibuprofen** (Motrin, Advil, Bayer), or Aspirin containing products such as (Ecotrin or Alka Seltzer). Avoid these products 10-14 days prior to surgery unless specifically required by your physician. If aspirin is medically necessary, discuss with your MOHS surgeon & internist about temporarily stopping before surgery.
2. If you take blood thinning agents such as **Coumadin (warfarin), Heparin or Plavix, please notify your MOHS surgeon and discuss with your internist** whether you can stop these medications 2-3 days prior to surgery.
3. **Stop any fish oil, Vitamin E, or herbal remedies** 10 days prior to surgery (can make you bleed).
4. **Reduce or avoid alcohol** for 1-2 days prior to surgery.
5. If you have any known allergies to any antibiotics, local anesthetics or other medications, please notify your MOHS surgeon prior to surgery.
6. If you have **artificial heart valves, stents, artificial joints, history of endocarditis, pacemaker, defibrillator, history of mitral valve prolapse, or if you routinely get antibiotics before dental work, please notify us** 2-3 days before surgery. You may need to start antibiotics the morning of surgery.
7. **Please read the MOHS brochure** provided to you in the office at the time of the referral. Your MOHS surgeon will answer any questions on the date of surgery or prior to surgery.

DAY OF SURGERY:

1. Make sure to **eat a good breakfast or lunch** prior to surgery. Consider bringing a snack.
2. You may bring a relative or friend for company, or **bring something to read or do**, since there will be spans or time where we will be waiting for the processing of the tissue.
3. Due to unpredictable nature of the tumor and the repair that may be needed, the entire **procedure can last anywhere from 1 hour to 4 hours or more**. Much of the time is spent waiting for tissue layers to be processed and read, so some reading material is usually a good idea.
4. In most cases, you will be able to drive yourself home unless the tumor is very close to your eye. If a dressing must cover the eye your vision may be impaired and you would need a driver. All procedures are done under a local anesthesia which would not impair your mental faculties.
5. Occasionally, if you are extremely anxious prior to the procedure, a small dose of Valium or similar medication may be used to calm anxiety. In this case, you **MUST** have someone pick you up after the procedure. Notify us ahead of time if you think you will need Valium.

POST-OPERATIVE

1. Please follow any wound care and dressing instructions carefully (separate handout).
2. If your skin cancer is on the head or face, please try to sleep with elevation of 1-2 pillows for the first 1-2 nights.
3. Continue to avoid aspirin, alcohol or other blood thinning products for 3-5 days after surgery.
4. Any oozing of blood post surgery can usually be controlled with 15-20 minutes of direct, uninterrupted, firm pressure.
5. If any questions or unexpected changes occur, or signs of infection or persistent bleeding, please call the doctor at (562) 997-1144.

LASER SKIN CARE CENTER / DERMATOLOGY ASSOCIATES

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