

Mohs Micrographic Surgery Preoperative Checklist

Some important steps will need to be taken in advance to ensure that all goes smoothly the day of surgery. The following instructions apply to all patients. Additional instructions specific to your case may be given at your consultation visit.

10 Days before surgery:

- Minimize sun exposure to the surgical site from this time until 3 months after surgery.
- IF YOU HAVE BEEN INSTRUCTED BY A PHYSICIAN TO TAKE ASPIRIN DO NOT STOP IT. If you take aspirin of your own accord and you have not been instructed by your doctor to take it, please stop it from 10 days before until 1 week after your surgery. Aspirin-containing products include Ecotrin, Anacin, Bufferin, Alka-Seltzer and many others.
- DO NOT STOP PRESCRIPTION BLOOD THINNERS! These include Plavix, Coumadin, Xarelto, Pradaxa, Eliquis, Ticlid, Aggrenox, heparin and Persantine. Continue to take them as prescribed by your doctor.
- Be sure you have notified us if you are allergic to any medications including antibiotics, anesthetics and pain medications.
- Cancel other commitments the day of surgery- you should take it easy for at least 24 hours
- Consider arranging a ride home after surgery. (helpful, but rarely a necessity)

3-4 Days before surgery:

- Stop anti-inflammatory medications such as Advil, Motrin, Nuprin (ibuprofen), Naprosyn, Aleve, Pamprin (naproxen sodium), and Indocin (indomethacin). If you experience significant pain you may continue to take them at the lowest dose and frequency that keeps your pain at a tolerable level. Celebrex does NOT need to be stopped.
- Tylenol (acetaminophen) is the only acceptable pain medication.
- Continue all prescription medications
- Stop ginkgo biloba, vitamin E and all herbal supplements. Multivitamins may be continued.
- Stop all alcohol-containing beverages.
- Stop smoking.
- Be sure to drop off your prescriptions and pick up your medications at the pharmacy!

On the day of surgery:

- Cancel other commitments for the day of surgery- you'll want to take it easy for at least 24 hours.
- Plan to be at our office for at least 3-4 hours on the day of your surgery.
- Consider arranging for a ride home after surgery (helpful, but rarely a necessity)
- **Do not apply makeup** or facial moisturizer if your surgery will be on the face.
- Eat a light breakfast and/or lunch before surgery. Please do not fast.
- Do not consume caffeine (coffee, tea, cola and other soft drinks)
- Take your antibiotic 1 hour before your surgery appointment as prescribed
- Wear comfortable clothing, consider bringing a sweater or blanket, pillow and things to do while waiting for lab work to be completed (books, paper work, laptops, puzzles). Television and music are available at the office for your enjoyment.
- Please arrive a few minutes early for your appointment. Your first 15-30 minutes at the office will be spent explaining your surgery, answering questions, obtaining written consent, taking photographs, preparing the surgery site, administering local anesthetic, etc.