



Before Mohs Surgery

- Do:** Do shower and shampoo the night before and the morning of surgery.
Do Eat Normal Meals Before Surgery: Bring a snack and reading material or other pastime.
Do tell the doctor if you have any allergies to medicines or have a bleeding problem.
Do be sure you have a complete list of or bring all bottles of all of your medicines. Take all of your medicines unless the doctor tells you not to.
Do wear an old shirt that buttons down. Wear no jewelry. If the surgery is on your face, wear no make-up and have your hair pulled back.
Sometimes A/C can become cool, please bring a sweater or a throw and wear warm socks to the office.
Do tell the doctor if you have a cold or don't feel well.
Depending on location of your surgery, you may want someone to drive you home from the doctor's office after surgery. One adult person may keep you company in the reception area or we can call your ride to pick you up one half hour before you are ready to leave.
Expect to be in the office ½ day to full day for procedure.
- Don't:** Don't have alcohol for ONE WEEK BEFORE and ONE WEEK AFTER SURGERY.
Don't take herbs, vitamin E, turmeric, niacin, fish oils tablets (omega-3 fatty acids) or non-steroidal anti-inflammatory medicines (Motrin, Advil, Alleve, Excedrin, Nuprin, etc.) for one week before surgery. They can cause bleeding.
Don't apply lotions near the surgery site on the day of surgery or the bandages will not stick.
If your doctor has prescribed Aspirin for your heart TAKE THE ASPIRIN YOUR DOCTOR SUGGESTED UNLESS YOUR DOCTOR SAYS YOU CAN STOP ASPIRIN FOR 1 WEEK BEFORE SURGERY. Ask your doctor BEFORE stopping aspirin.
Over-the-counter TYLENOL can be taken any time it's needed for pain and/or headaches before or after the surgery **because it does not cause bleeding.**
Don't stop Coumadin before surgery but ask the doctor to verify that your INR is less than 2.5.
Let your Mohs surgeon know if you are on any other blood thinner.
Don't smoke excessively (it slows healing). It's best NOT to smoke at all. NO NOT smoke within 2 hours before surgery.

BEFORE SURGERY: You may be given one or more of the follow medications:

- ___ Mupirocin 2% ointment: use sparingly into both nostrils. Start the day before surgery. Use three times a day for 7 total days.
- ___ Hibiclens wash (over-the-counter): Wash the night before and morning of the surgery. Do NOT get into eyes or ears.
- ___ Cefdinir 300mg: Take one pill daily with meals and a full glass of water. Start the morning of surgery and continue for 6 days.
- ___ Valtrex 500mg: One pill twice daily for 5 days after lip surgery.

DAY OF SURGERY: It's a good idea to use the restroom before surgery. Ask the receptionist for the key and directions.

Please ask if you have any questions before, during, and after surgery. We want to work together with you to make your surgery successful. Call 818-889-2739 M-F for other pre-Mohs questions.

Except in case of genuine emergency or illness, we require a 72 hour notice to reschedule your Mohs appointment.

AFTER SURGERY: There will be need for post-operative follow-up. It is best to remain in the local area (if possible) for 10-14 days post-op. **Let the doctor know before the surgery date if you cannot do this.** The wound takes 25 days to become strong. You need to modify your work and/or play schedule to prevent your wound from opening.