

CANCELLATION POLICY

PATIENTS PLEASE READ

This letter is to inform you of the SkinSmart Dermatology cancellation policy for the Mohs surgery.

If you need to change or cancel your Mohs surgery with SkinSmart Dermatology, please CALL WITHIN 7 DAYS OF YOUR SURGERY DATE or you will be charged a \$100.00 cancellation fee. You will receive a phone call from one of our Medical Assistants prior to your surgery; this is a good time to reschedule your appointment if necessary.

SkinSmart Dermatology is committed to providing you with the highest quality of patient care, so please mark your calendars with your surgery date. Mohs surgery is a specialized procedure that requires hours of preparation from our team members. Thank you for your cooperation.

SkinSmart Dermatology
5911 N. Honore Ave., Suite 210 – Sarasota, FL 34243
(941) 308-7546
www.skincaredermatology.com

FINANCIAL POLICY

<p>PATIENTS PLEASE READ EVEN IF YOU HAVE MEDICAL INSURANCE</p>

You are being scheduled for a Mohs surgery. Major insurance payers including Medicare, Aetna, Blue Cross/Blue Shield, Cigna, United and many others recognize Mohs as an effective treatment with a high success rate. This is considered a **surgical** procedure by insurance companies.

At time of service, you will be responsible for the amount your insurance company states you owe. Please plan accordingly. Our billing department will contact you for any amount due over \$100. If you are covered by Medicare or a Medicare replacement plan, this payment may not apply to you.

Be aware that other charges, additional stages and/or repair procedures may be necessary, in this facility or another facility, and will be billed accordingly. We will obtain required preauthorization or certification from your insurance carrier and bill them for all services provided in our office, as part of your Mohs procedure. We will then bill you for any remaining balance due, if any.

A follow-up visit for suture removal is customary after Mohs and depending upon the type of repair/closure procedure performed on the day of surgery, you may have an additional office co-payment/coinsurance for the follow-up visit.

If you have questions concerning billing or payment of your Mohs procedure, please feel free to contact our Billing Department at (941) 308-1026.

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Pre-Operative Instructions for *MOHS SURGERY*

- **STOP** all Ibuprofen (Advil®, Motrin®), Aleve®, Aspirin, Vitamin E, fish oil and all herbals **two weeks** prior to surgery
- You may take Tylenol® for pain if needed
- DO NOT drink alcohol one day prior to surgery
- DO eat a normal breakfast or lunch and take your regular medications on the morning of surgery
- Please DO NOT wear any makeup on your day of surgery. Make-up contains bacteria that can infect your surgical site

Please Read!

- Plan on NO exercise for one week if surgery is on your face; or NO exercise for two weeks if surgery is on your arms, legs or body while sutures are in place, this includes golf, tennis, swimming, and walking.
- Avoid strenuous activity until stitches are removed—for example, do not vacuum or lift anything greater than 10 lbs – or anything that raises your blood pressure
- If your surgery was on your head or neck, keep your head higher than the rest of your body for seven days after surgery. Do not lower your head below your waist if you bend over to pick up objects or tie your shoes.
- You can shower 24 hours after your surgery

Supplies to be purchased BEFORE your Surgery Day

1. **Aquaphor®** (A healing ointment available at SkinSmart and other drug stores)
2. **Non-stick pads** (one box – you will cut pieces to fit your area)
3. **Flexible woven tape** (available at our office for purchase or drug store – do not use paper tape – it will not stick)
4. **Q-tips®**

Things to Remember To Bring With You

Reading material, laptop or tablet, sweater, special food requirements, and any medications you may need to take during the day (like insulin). Remember to eat a light breakfast. Light snacks and drinks will be available on the day of your surgery, but you may bring your own lunch. Wireless internet is available at our office—you are welcome to bring your laptop computer or other mobile device. You may need to have a friend or relative drive you home.

Please remember you need to plan to be here for the entire day as MOHS can be unpredictable.

Please do not make any other appointments.

Care Following Your Skin Surgery

****Suture removal may occur after your procedure. Please be aware, there may be an additional fee for that visit. ****

Recommended Supplies for Wound Care

1. **Aquaphor®** (A healing ointment available at SkinSmart and other drug stores)
2. **Non-stick pads** (one box – you will cut pieces to fit your area)
3. **Flexible woven tape** (available at our office for purchase or drug store – do not use paper tape – it will not stick)
4. **Q-tips®**

**** A Wound Care Kit can be purchased in our SkinSmart Boutique ****

ACTIVITY:

- NO strenuous activities or exercise (includes golf, tennis, and swimming) until your sutures are removed (7-14 days). For example, do not lift anything greater than 10 pounds or perform vigorous aerobic exercise until your sutures are removed.
- If your surgery was on your head or neck, keep your head higher than the rest of your body for the first two days after surgery. For example, elevate your head with pillows when you lie down, and do not lower your head below your waist if you bend over to pick up objects or tie your shoes. Bend your knees and not your waist in order to keep your head elevated.

BATHING:

- Keep the area of your surgery dry for the first 24 hours.
- After 24 hours, you may shower. Remove your bandage and replace it after the shower. Avoid baths.

DISCOMFORT:

- To relieve discomfort, you may take acetaminophen (for example, Tylenol™ or Extra-Strength Tylenol™) as directed – do not use Advil™ or aspirin. If acetaminophen does not relieve your discomfort, contact your physician
- If your doctor has given you a prescription for Tylenol™ with codeine or Percocet™, you may use this as directed.

BLEEDING, BRUISING AND SWELLING:

- Your wound may ooze a small amount of blood and stain the dressing, which is normal. However, if your wound bleeds so heavily it soaks through to the outside of your bandage, do the following:
 - Place clean gauze on top of the bloody bandage.
 - Apply continuous pressure on gauze, directly over wound, for 20 minutes.
 - Remove the gauze carefully, and if bleeding has stopped, redress with wound care supplies.
 - If the bleeding does not stop or if the bleeding is severe, please contact your physician for further instructions. If there is substantial bleeding that does not resolve with pressure, please call 911 for immediate assistance.
- Expect bruising and swelling in the area of your surgery to be the most noticeable 48 to 72 hours after surgery. Bruising and swelling usually begin to lessen 4 to 5 days after surgery.
- If the swelling does not improve within a few days, or if the area becomes increasingly tender, contact your provider immediately.

INFECTION:

- It is normal for your wound to be slightly sore and pink.
- If the area becomes increasingly tender, red or warm, contact your physician.
- If you have a fever (temperature of 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit or 38 degrees Celsius), chills or pus draining from your wound, contact your physician.

RESTRICTIONS:

- Do not drink alcoholic beverages the night after surgery as this may increase your risk of bleeding.
- If your surgery involved your lips or mouth, avoid hot liquids and foods for the first two to three hours after surgery. Eat soft foods for the first three days after surgery. Be careful when brushing your teeth and avoid placing the brush near the operative site.
- Do not smoke for at least two weeks after surgery for the best cosmetic result. Smoking has a destructive effect on wound healing and scars will be more visible.

RESTARTING BLOOD THINNERS:

- If you stopped a blood thinner for surgery, please restart the day after surgery.

DAILY WOUND CARE:

- Always wash your hands with soap and water before your daily wound care.
- Gently remove your bandage 24 hours after surgery. Then change the dressing TWO times each day (and whenever it becomes wet) according to these instructions:
- Gently clean the area with cotton-tipped swabs dipped in warm soapy water or saline solution (you can make saline solution by adding one teaspoon of table salt to two cups of water).
- As you clean the area, remove all crusty material. If you cannot easily remove the crust, soak the area with wet gauze for 15 to 20 minutes. Do not let thick crusts or scabs form. Your wound will heal faster if you keep it clean and moist.
- After you have removed crusty material, pat the area dry with clean gauze or cotton-tipped swabs.
- Next, use a clean cotton swab to apply **AQUAPHOR™** ointment or petroleum jelly.
- Cover the area with nonstick pads (Telfa). Secure the dressing with tape.

WHEN TO CONTACT YOUR PHYSICIAN:

- Your wound continues to bleed after you have applied firm pressure for 20 minutes.
- Tylenol™ has not relieved your discomfort.
- Your wound becomes increasingly sore, tender, red or warm.
- Your surgery site rapidly swells.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

- During Office Hours: 8:00 am - 5:00 pm Monday through Friday call 941-308-7546.
- After Hours: For immediate concerns, contact Dr. Adams at 502-396-1299.