

Dermatology, Laser & Vein Specialists OF THE CAROLINAS

PRE-OPERATIVE INSTRUCTIONS: MOHS SURGERY

- You may eat normal meals the day of your surgery unless otherwise instructed. If you're going to a plastic surgeon for your surgical repair the same day, please follow the pre-operative instructions from their office. If you've been given any pre-operative prescriptions by your doctor at here at DLVSC, please fill them and bring them with you on the day of your surgery.
- Please take your regular medications as directed by your other physicians. If you need to take an OTC pain reliever in the days leading up to surgery, please take Tylenol (avoid Aspirin, Ibuprofen or Motrin).
- When you schedule your surgery, please make sure to notify our staff of any blood thinning medications (**e.g.- aspirin or Coumadin**) that you are currently taking. We may need to discuss a temporary suspension of these medications with your doctor for 10 days prior to surgery.
- Please limit alcohol consumption for 2 days prior to your surgery.
- Don't apply make-up, creams, perfumes, or aftershave lotions the day of surgery.
- If applicable, a container for contact lenses and/or dentures should be brought with you the day of surgery (e.g.- surgery on the eyelids or inside the mouth).
- In some cases, (e.g.- skin cancers near the eyes) you may need assistance from a driver on the day of your surgery. If you have taken any pre-operative sedation, a driver will be required. If you're seeing a plastic surgeon for your surgical repair, a driver is most likely required. **Please refrain from bringing more than 1 person with you, as space in our waiting room is limited. Please call us to make special arrangements if you require more than one visitor on the day of your surgery.**
- On the day of your surgery, **please plan to stay with us for the majority of the day.** We recommend that you avoid scheduling unrelated appointments or making other plans on the same day. You may bring snacks or lunch with you (unless you've been instructed otherwise) and there's a café in our building for your convenience.
- Out of respect for all of our patients & visitors, please refrain from making extended phone calls while in our designated Mohs waiting room. If this is unavoidable, please take these calls in our main front waiting room.
- Please note that for optimal wound care, heavy lifting, exercise and household cleaning/chores should be avoided or strictly limited in the 2 weeks post-surgery.
- **SMOKING:** Please understand that smoking **will** negatively impact the outcome of your surgery. Smoking before or after your procedure can cause very poor/slow healing of the wound. In some cases, smoking can cause the skin surrounding the wound to die, resulting in even more damage to the surrounding tissue and larger wounds.
- Please contact our office immediately if you have health changes between now and the time of your surgery. Our staff is available to answer any questions you may have. Please feel free to call us at **704-375-6766** or **1-800-626-6257**.