

**MOHS MICROGRAPHIC SURGERY
PREOPERATIVE INSTRUCTIONS FOR PATIENTS**

Stephen Thomas Spates, M.D.

Please arrive on this:

DATE:

TIME:

OFFICE LOCATION:

The following information will help you prepare for your visit:

1. Prior to the procedure, a nurse may call you to get a brief medical history or to obtain a copy of your pathology report. Although we may have your medical history charted, you will be given a short form to fill out on the day of your procedure. If you will not be available at the phone numbers you originally gave when scheduling your appointment, please call and let us know how you can be reached. *ALWAYS BRING A COPY OF YOUR PATHOLOGY REPORT WITH YOU TO YOUR APPOINTMENT IF YOU HAVE ONE.*
2. Please inform the nurse if you have a pacemaker or defibrillator. Let her know with as much advance warning as possible by calling our office.
3. Be prepared to list all of the prescription and over-the-counter medications you are currently taking.
4. Eat a good meal prior to your appointment and wear comfortable clothing.
5. Your surgery visit may last ALL DAY. While we always try to completely remove each skin cancer and reconstruct each resulting defect in an expeditious way, the Mohs micrographic surgery procedure can last several hours. You are encouraged to bring something to occupy your time (reading, knitting etc.). You may bring a friend or family member if you wish; although due to limited waiting room space we ask that you limit this to only one person.
6. We do not require you to arrange for a ride home, however, it may be more comforting to have someone else drive you as this may be a long day. Moreover, you may have dressings that interfere with your vision if your skin cancer is located on your face.
7. Plan for your lunch. You may pack a lunch and bring it with you or we will provide a snack.
8. If for any reason you are unable to keep your appointment, please let our schedulers know as soon as possible.
9. **DO NOT STOP TAKING ANY MEDICATIONS PRIOR TO THIS PROCEDURE.**

If you have any questions or concerns about the Mohs micrographic procedure please contact Dr. Stephen Thomas Spates or his Mohs nursing staff at (973) 571-2121 x 2145.