



## What to Expect During Mohs Surgery

Mohs surgery is performed as an outpatient procedure, meaning it does not require a hospital stay. You can actually drive yourself to and from the appointment. Here at DermacenterMD, the procedure is performed right here in our office. Only local anesthesia is used, meaning you will be awake for the surgery. To prepare for surgery, a nurse will cleanse the area to be operated on, outline it with a special pen and inject the area with local anesthetic. Once the anesthetic has taken effect, Dr. Moore will take a scalpel and remove the visible portion of the cancer along with a thin, underlying layer of tissue that is slightly larger than the visible tumor. A temporary bandage will then be placed on your incision.

Dr. Moore and his staff will then examine the tissue under a microscope to check that all of the cancer has been removed. If he finds that more cancer remains, he will continue the procedure until he is confident all of the cancer has been removed. The process of removal and examination will continue until the last tissue sample removed is cancer-free. Dr. Moore will then close the wound. Depending on how many stages are necessary to remove all of the cancer, the procedure may take several hours.

There is no need to fast before the procedure or discontinue any medications, unless directed otherwise by Dr. Moore. There are many benefits of choosing Mohs surgery as treatment for skin cancer, and they include: almost 99% cure rate (the highest rate available for any skin cancer treatment), minimal discomfort, less skin is removed therefore less scarring, safer because local anesthesia is used, no hospital or surgery fees and you can leave the office knowing the cancer is gone. Dr. Moore takes great care in giving each patient the absolute best care and treatment. He is a dermatologic surgeon with advanced training in Mohs and reconstructive surgery. If you have questions or concerns, do not hesitate to call the office at 574-522-0265.

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Source:

Mohs surgery. (n.d.). Retrieved April 27, 2015, from <http://www.mayoclinic.org/tests-procedures/mohs-surgery/basics/what-you-can-expect/prc-20014261>

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