

## MOHS MICROGRAPHIC SURGERY: PRE-OPERATIVE INSTRUCTIONS

1. **COMPLETELY AVOID ASPIRIN, MULTI VITAMINS AND VITAMIN E** for 14 days **before the procedure**. Aspirin thins the blood and interferes with the clotting process and may cause excessive bleeding. Aspirin is included in many over-the-counter drug products such as: Alka-Seltzer, Excedrin, Dristan or Bayer cold tablets. You may take Tylenol instead of Aspirin. **If you have been instructed to take Aspirin by your doctor, please check with him/her before stopping it.**
2. Maintain your normal intake of food and liquids (limit alcohol for one week prior to your surgery). Please have breakfast the morning of your surgery.
3. Wash your hair the night before or the morning of the surgery. You may not be able to shower or shampoo your hair for 24 to 48 hours following surgery.
4. Wear comfortable clothes, which will not have to be pulled over your head after the surgery.
5. Remove all make-up from the area being operated on the day of your surgery.
6. Plan to have someone available to take you home after the surgery. We request you are not alone for the first 24 hours following surgery.
7. If you live out of town, plan to have a place to stay in Toronto the night before the surgery. The doctor will advise you if it is necessary to stay the night after.
8. A large part of the time during MOHS surgery is spent waiting for laboratory and microscopic examination, so bring reading materials if you wish. You may bring snacks (check with the doctor or nurse on arrival in the clinic, some patients are asked not to eat or drink once they have arrived). A friend or relative may wait with you during the day.
9. You will need Polysporin or Polytopic **OINTMENT** (not cream, looks like vaseline).

**APPOINTMENT DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_ **TIME:** \_\_\_\_\_ **AM**

***Please notify the nurse or doctor of any changes in your health prior to surgery.***