

Preparation Before Skin Surgery

Thank you for choosing Dr. Fakhouri for your skin surgery. Please review the following recommendations, which apply to Mohs surgery, standard excisions, and melanoma excisions.

- The Mohs surgery process can take approximately 2-4 hours. This includes the time it takes to remove the cancer, for Dr. Fakhouri to check the margins microscopically, and repair the skin following complete tumor clearance.
- Standard excisions, of low risk skin cancers and benign skin lesions, take approximately 1 hour.
- Melanoma excisions usually take 1 hour, however, in some cases Dr. Fakhouri will delay repair of the melanoma site in order to confirm, by independent lab testing, that the melanoma has been completely removed.
- Please eat regular meals on the day of your scheduled surgery.
- Please take all of your medications. You should take all doctor prescribed medications exactly as you normally would on a regular day. This includes blood thinners (aspirin) and blood pressure medications.
- Please avoid drinking any alcohol (even beer) the week before the surgery and minimize caffeine and coffee on the morning of the surgery.
- Please avoid over the counter pain medications and fish oil pills the week before surgery.
- Do not wear make-up on the day of your surgery so that we may clean the area thoroughly. We also suggest washing your hair prior to your surgery day.
- If you require antibiotics prior to surgery we will either call in a prescription for you to take before you arrive, or we will give you a dose while in the office.
- It is okay to drive yourself on the day of your procedure. However, if you are having surgery near the eye, we recommend that you bring a family member or friend to give you a ride home. This is because the eyelids normally get swollen for a couple hours after surgery.
- If you think you will be very nervous on the surgery day, please inform our scheduling coordinator. She can prescribe a medicine that can help you to relax
- We encourage you to bring a loved one on the day of the procedure but it is not necessary. Dr. Fakhouri encourages questions from all family members and wants everyone to be on the same page regarding the treatment plan.
- Please call our office at: 832-308-3470 with any questions.
- If you need to reschedule or cancel please inform us as soon as possible so that another patient may take that appointment and have his/her cancer treated as soon as possible.

Thank you for reviewing these recommendations prior to your surgery appointment with Dr. Fakhouri.

Appointment Date and Time: _____

Location: