



Phone (334) 828-SKIN  
Text (334) 251-1519

### **WHAT TO EXPECT AT YOUR OFFICE PROCEDURE**

1. The area(s) to be surgically removed will be “numbed” or anesthetized with a local anesthetic injection (Lidocaine or Xylocaine).
2. After cleansing the skin, the lesion will be excised with a scalpel in an elliptical or “football” shape. A small amount of normal skin will be taken to ensure that the entire lesion is completely removed.
3. The surgical wound usually will be sutured. There are some circumstances when the wound will be left open to heal in from the edges. If the wound is sutured, the deep layers of tissue will be sutured with dissolvable sutures. These sutures will not be visible when the wound is closed. The top layer of the skin also will be sutured. These sutures will be left in place for 7-14 days, depending on the location. They can be removed by our office or on your own at home. This will be discussed on the day of the procedure.
4. After the procedure a pressure bandage will be placed over the wound. This will need to stay dry and in place for 24-48 hours depending on the procedure.

### **PREOPERATIVE INSTRUCTIONS**

1. Avoid any over the counter blood thinners (aspirin, ibuprofen, Aleve, Goody's powder, Vitamin E, etc.) beginning 7 days prior to the procedure.
2. **\*\*\* IF YOU ARE ON A BLOOD THINNER PRESCRIBED BY YOUR PRIMARY CARE PROVIDER OR OTHER PHYSICIAN, YOU SHOULD REMAIN ON THIS MEDICATION. DO NOT STOP PRESCRIBED BLOOD THINNERS OR ASPIRIN THAT ARE FOR A MEDICAL CONDITION UNLESS WE DIRECT YOU OTHERWISE. \*\*\***
3. You may take all regular medications the morning of surgery except as listed above or as directed by your doctor.
4. Clean the surgical site with antibacterial soap beginning 3 days prior to the surgery and on the morning of surgery.
5. You will be asked to keep the wound dry for 24-48 hours after the procedure, so we recommend you shower the morning of the procedure.
6. You may eat breakfast and lunch as usual on the day of surgery. You will only need someone to accompany you to the office if that is normally necessary.
7. There may be work or activity restrictions after your procedure. Restrictions will depend on the procedure and the medical assistants and doctor will advise you of these, but, in general, it is a good idea to avoid strenuous activity for 48 hours after the procedure.
8. If the surgery is on your face, scalp, or neck, please do not wear makeup, earrings, or necklaces to your appointment.
9. If the surgery is on your hand or fingers, do not wear rings, bracelets, or watches to your appointment.
10. Take any pre-op antibiotics prescribed by your doctor 1 hour prior to the procedure.

### **NO SHOW POLICY**

If for any reason you cannot keep your scheduled appointment, please notify the office ASAP (at least 24 hours/1 business day in advance). If you no show or fail to cancel at least 1 business/ 24 hours in advance, you will be charged a \$100 no show fee. Fees must be paid before you can reschedule your procedure.