

## MOHS MICROGRAPHIC SURGERY PRE- AND POST-OPERATIVE INSTRUCTIONS

### **BEFORE SURGERY:**

**Alcohol, aspirin, or aspirin-containing products** may cause bleeding. **These should not be used 7-10 days prior to surgery.**

Begin prescribed **antibiotics 24 hours** prior to surgery.

Do purchase a tube of Aquaphor or Bacitracin for use after surgery.

Do take ALL your regular medications unless otherwise instructed by Dr. Anderson.

Don't smoke excessively. It slows healing. Don't smoke within 2 hours before surgery.

Do shower the night before or the morning of surgery.

Do eat normal meals before surgery.

Plan to have someone drive you home from the doctor's office.

### **AFTER SURGERY:**

**Alcohol, aspirin, or aspirin-containing products** may cause bleeding. These should not be used for **one week** following surgery.

You will have a bulky "pressure dressing" on the surgical area for 24-48 hours. Do NOT remove this dressing until instructed time, and follow instructions given on the day of surgery. **Keep this dressing dry.**

If you have any discomfort following surgery take non-aspirin pain relievers, or that prescribed by Dr. Anderson.

Swelling is common and can be lessened by using an ice bag. Leave the dressing in place. Use ice on top and around dressing. For surgery on the head sleeping with your head slightly elevated (two pillows, reclining chair) may help.

No strenuous activity or exercise until stitches are removed.

The area may ooze a little blood, especially in the first few hours after surgery. If bleeding occurs apply simple direct firm pressure for 15 minutes. This will usually stop the bleeding. If the bleeding does not stop, call Dr. Anderson. The office number is (307)-734-5864. He will return your call as soon as possible.

You will be scheduled a follow-up appointment after your surgery is complete.