

Insurance questions? *We can help.*

- Mohs surgery is covered by insurance.
- Self pay and high deductible plans require a deposit of \$1,500 due on the day of surgery. The remaining balance is billed after insurance processes.
- We offer payment plans and financial assistance. Contact us at least 3 days before surgery to make arrangements. Billing department phone number is 719-465-5643.

**You're in good hands before, during, and after your surgery.
*We're here for you.***

- If you have any questions, call our Surgery Coordinators at 719-355-1584.
- You will receive the personal cell phone number of your surgeon(s) after surgery.

Routine skin exams. *Now more important than ever.*

Mohs surgery has a high cure rate of up to 99% for basal and squamous cell carcinomas. However, there is always a small chance that skin cancer may return; those who have had skin cancer are at a higher risk for developing another skin cancer in the future. You will need a regular skin exam for ongoing skin cancer surveillance.



*Fellowship trained skin cancer and reconstructive surgeons.
Board certified in Micrographic Dermatologic Surgery.*

Dr. Vinh Chung, Dr. Brayden Healey, and Dr. Renata Prado are board certified Mohs surgeons and members of the American College of Mohs Surgery, the "gold standard" for Mohs surgeons.

719-355-1585 | www.vanguardskin.com



Mohs Micrographic Surgery

Preparing for Surgery at Vanguard Skin Specialists

The Skin Cancer Experts



MOHS SURGEONS

Vinh Chung, MD
Brayden Healey, DO
Renata Prado, MD

PLASTIC SURGEONS

David Archibald, MD
James Banich, MD
Sabrina Brody-Camp, MD

Care with impact

Preparing for Mohs Surgery

If you have been diagnosed with skin cancer, Mohs micrographic surgery will provide you with the highest cure rate and optimal cosmetic result.

Our surgeons have created this checklist to help you prepare for surgery. Call us with any questions at 719-355-1584.

BEFORE SURGERY

Medications

Continue all medications prescribed by your doctor.

If you are taking warfarin or coumadin, please have your INR checked within 3 days of your surgery. It should be within therapeutic range.

Ten days before surgery, discontinue all aspirin, ibuprofen, or herbal supplements unless prescribed by your doctor. Tylenol (acetaminophen) is okay.

Things to tell us in advance

If you require antibiotics before dental or other surgical procedures. This is usually indicated if you have a prosthetic heart valve, history of infective endocarditis, or recent joint replacement. If you are unsure if antibiotics are required, contact your cardiologist or orthopedic surgeon to clarify.

THE DAY OF SURGERY

Morning Preparation

Eat a normal meal and dress comfortably. Bathe and wash your hair. Avoid make-up, perfume, nail polish (if surgery is on your hand), and jewelry. If the surgical site is in your beard or mustache, shave ahead of time. If you are scheduled to have the surgical repair performed in an operating room, then you may need to fast. Please check with the plastic surgeon performing the repair.

No smoking

Smoking increases your risk of complications. Stop smoking 1 week in advance and for 2-3 months afterwards. Refrain from alcohol for 48 hours before surgery.

What to bring

Please have a companion drive you to and from the surgery. Your companion may also wait with you between surgical stages. Feel free to bring a book or something to pass the time. If you are on oxygen, bring enough for 8 hours.

Take time off

It is difficult to predict how many surgical stages are required, so reserve the entire day. You will need to refrain from exercise and strenuous activity for 2 weeks after surgery.

Questions? Call us to speak with a Surgery Coordinator at 719-355-1584.



AFTER SURGERY

What to expect

- Most pain can be managed with acetaminophen.
- Your surgeon will discuss with you any potential complications.
- Most repairs after Mohs surgery are performed in office by either your Mohs surgeon or by one of the plastic surgeons. If you require a more extensive repair, your surgeon will discuss options with you.
- Mohs surgery removes the minimal amount of tissue to reduce scarring. However, any surgical procedure will leave a scar.

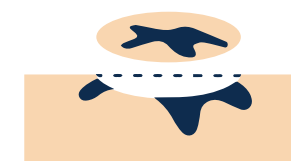
Instructions

- Follow the wound care instructions provided by your surgeon on the day of your surgery.
- No exercise or strenuous activity for 2 weeks after surgery. Some surgeries may require longer rest time.
- No smoking for 2-3 months. Smoking impairs healing and worsens the cosmetic outcome.

The Mohs surgery process



Skin cancers often have roots that extend beyond visible tumor.



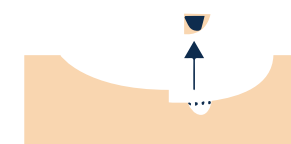
STEP 1: The Mohs surgeon anesthetizes the area and surgically removes the visible tumor.



STEP 2: The skin specimen is divided into sections and mapped to the surgical site.



STEP 3: After the lab processes the tissue, the Mohs surgeon microscopically examines its entire undersurface and edges.



STEP 4: If cancer cells remain, the affected tissue will be precisely removed from the surgical site. Multiple stages may be required to remove the cancer roots completely.



The process stops when there is no evidence of residual cancer. The Mohs surgeon will then discuss options for reconstruction of the surgical defect.