

MOHS SURGERY

How do I prepare for the day of surgery?

The best preparation for Mohs Surgery is a good night's rest followed by a normal breakfast unless you have specifically been given instructions to fast. Take all medications as usual unless instructed otherwise.

Please follow our Mohs surgery do's and don'ts:

Do expect to be with us for at least 3 hours, however sometimes the procedure can take up to 6 hours from admission.

Do tell us if you are on aspirin, Astrix, Cardiprin, Warfarin, Plavix, Iscover, Assasantin, Dipyridamole, or any other blood thinner. You may need a blood test prior to treatment on our advice.

Do arrange for someone to drive you home. It is not usually safe to drive yourself especially with surgery around the eyes.

Do bring a book, iPod, laptop or similar devices to pass the time if you wish.

Do wear comfortable, casual, loose fitting clothing that can be unbuttoned rather than clothing which needs to be pulled over the head as you may need to partly undress.

Do try to stay in Perth overnight if you are a country patient from a remote area.

Do wash your hair before the surgery as you may have a heavy dressing on which may make this difficult for several days to a week after surgery.

Don't wear ANY make-up or Jewelry to the surgery.

Don't drive home from surgery unless approved by your doctor.

Don't stop any medication before surgery unless instructed to do so.

Don't skip breakfast unless instructed to fast.

Don't bring the family for the day. You will be in a restricted Surgery and Recovery zone that cannot be accessed by your family. Special needs patients may be exempted from this requirement.

Don't expect to go back to work the next day or to play golf, swim, run, go to the gym, cycle or party for at least a week in most cases. Medical certificates will be willingly provided.

What can I expect after surgery?

Pain: This should be minor and responsive to Panadol or Panadeine.

Bleeding: This is controlled by the use of firm pressure on the site for 20 minutes. If bleeding persists call us.

Swelling or Bruising: This is very common. It will settle quickly over the first 2-3 days. Ice packs over the site help as does sleeping semi-upright on 2-3 pillows or elevate the area.

Infection: Redness, increasing pain and tenderness with discharge of pus or fluid but rarely with associated fever indicates infection. It can occur over the first 3-5 days. Please call us immediately if this occurs and we will arrange swabs and antibiotics.

You will be allocated a small locker to put any valuables in e.g. Wallet.

There is parking underneath the building off Oxford Street for surgery patients.

All surgeries performed at Oxford Day Surgery are under local anesthetic, there is no anesthetist on site. No fasting is required.

Any scripts received from us need to be filled and bought with you on the day of surgery.