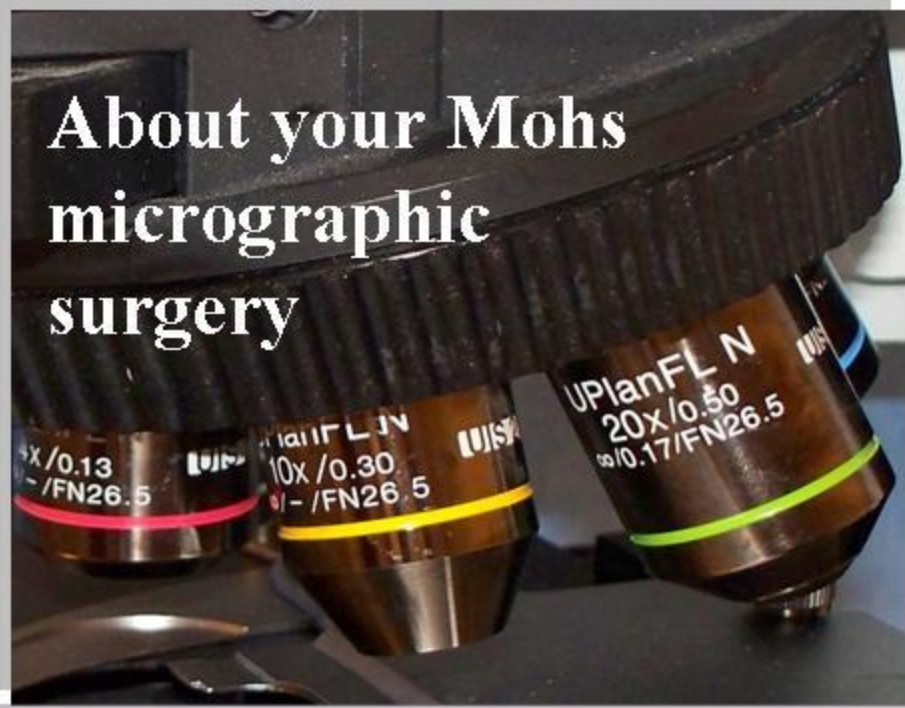




About your Mohs micrographic surgery



Thank you for choosing Sadick Dermatology for the care of your skin cancer



Your doctor has recommended Mohs micrographic surgery to treat your skin cancer. This brochure will help answer some of the most common questions about Mohs surgery and prepare you for what to expect before, during and after your procedure. We encourage you to ask us any additional questions that might arise

What is Mohs micrographic surgery?

Frederic E. Mohs, MD developed the micrographic surgical technique that bears his name. Mohs micrographic surgery offers the **best chance that your skin cancer is completely removed**, while sparing as much healthy skin as possible. This technique has the **highest published cure rates** for many forms of skin cancers, making it less likely to grow back.

What are the steps involved in Mohs surgery?



First Stage: After numbing the area with local anesthetic, your Mohs surgeon removes all visible portion of the skin cancer and a thin margin of normal appearing skin around it. The tissue is then processed in the laboratory while you wait in the waiting area



Microscopic examination: While you wait, your Mohs surgeon examines the entire edge of the removed skin under microscope in our laboratory. If the microscopic examination reveals skin cancer extensions, your Mohs surgeon needs to remove the precise areas where the cancer still remains



Subsequent stages (may, or may not be necessary): If the cancer is detected in first stage then during the subsequent stages your Mohs surgeon will cut out the precise areas where the cancer still remains. The tissue is similarly processed in the laboratory while you wait in the waiting area



Microscopic examination: Your Mohs surgeon will examine the entire edge of the removed skin under the microscope. This process of targeted skin cancer removal and complete margin examination will continue until your Mohs surgeon finds that the margins are free of cancer.

Reconstruction of the surgical wound

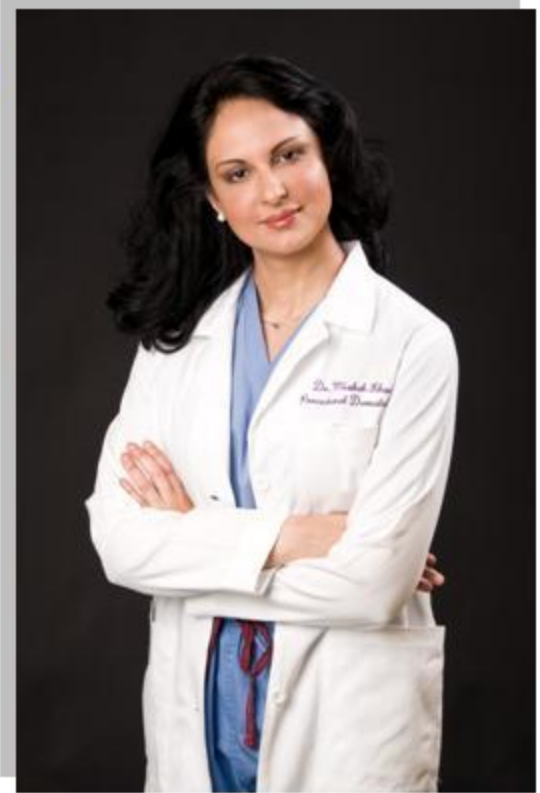


When all the skin has been successfully removed, your Mohs surgeon will discuss all options for repairing your wound with you. In most cases, your Mohs surgeon immediately repairs your wound with stitches. Larger wounds might require a flap or a graft. In certain cases, we may recommend reconstruction by a facial plastic surgeon which will be arranged by our staff at the office.

Meet your Mohs surgeon

Misbah H Khan, MD

Mohs Surgeon,
Sadick Dermatology
Clinical Assistant Professor of
Dermatology,
Weill Cornell Medical College,
New York Presbyterian Hospital
Internship:
St Peters Univ Hosp,
Drexel College of Medicine
Dermatology Residency:
UMDNJ
Laser Cosmetic Fellowship:
Harvard Medical School
Mohs and Aesthetic Surgery
Fellowship:
Northwestern Univ



Where can I learn more about skin cancer?

To learn more about skin cancers and Mohs surgery please visit the following websites:

- www.aad.org
- www.skincancer.org
- www.mohscollege.org



Questions BEFORE surgery

Should I STOP taking medications prescribed by one of my doctors?

Continue any medications, including, but not limited to, blood thinners, such as aspirin, coumadin, ibuprofen and plavix. Please bring a complete list of your current medications on the day of your surgery.

You are taking over the counter medications, NOT ordered by one of your doctors such as aspirin, ibuprofen, vitamin E or nutritional supplements, please stop taking them at least 14 days before your surgery. Please refrain from drinking alcoholic beverages 3 days before and 3 days after your surgery.

I need antibiotics prior to Mohs surgery?

Usually, except in the following conditions:

- If you have had joint replacement in the last 2 yrs
- If you have a history of infected heart valves
- If you have severe heart valve dysfunction
- If you have an artificial heart or heart valves

If you qualify for any of these conditions, please call the office at least 2 days prior to your surgery date so we can prescribe the appropriate antibiotic.

When I eat before my surgery?

We recommend you eat a normal breakfast. If the Mohs surgery requires several stages, there are opportunities to grab a snack or lunch during the day.

Mohs pre-surgical checklist

Please use the following checklist to prepare for your appointment:

1. Referral letter from your primary care provider
2. Complete list of all medications and allergies
3. Complete all forms you might have received from us prior to your appointment and bring them with you
4. A list of names and addresses of all doctors to whom you would like us to send a report of your surgery
5. Prepare to spend the entire day at our office. Please cancel any other appointments on the day of your surgery
6. Arrange for a companion to take you home

Questions about THE DAY OF surgery

Will I be in pain during surgery?

You will experience minor discomfort when the local anesthesia is injected around your skin cancer. You will NOT feel pain while your Mohs surgeon is removing skin cancer or stitching your wound.

How long does the Mohs surgery take?

We cannot predict how long it takes to remove the skin cancer and reconstruct the surgical wound. It depends on the nature of your skin cancer and the skin cancer of other patients scheduled for that day. Please plan to spend the entire day with us and cancel all other appointments on the day of your surgery.

When will my final surgical wound be repaired?

In most cases once all the skin cancer has been successfully removed, your Mohs surgeon will repair the wound on the same day. We may schedule to repair the wound on a different day if its in the best interest of the patient or if the reconstruction requires a referral to a facial plastic surgeon.

Will Mohs surgery leave a scar?

Yes. Any surgery performed to remove skin tissue results in a scar. However, the precision of the Mohs surgery technique helps to decrease the size of scar by maximally preserving healthy skin. Your Mohs surgeon is skilled in surgical reconstruction and repairs your wound to make your scar as unnoticeable as possible. Various scar revision procedures are available at Sadick Dermatology which can be discussed to improve the scar over time.

Can I go home after surgery?

Yes. The surgery is performed under local anesthesia and you return home with a bandage over your wound. In very rare cases, hospitalization over night maybe necessary. In this case, we will make all arrangements for you.

Will I be able to drive home?

We recommend you bring a companion to take you home. We do NOT recommend driving home by your self. If you are unable to arrange for a ride back home, please inform the office staff and we can arrange for a taxi cab at your expense to give you a ride home.



911 Park Avenue, Suite 1A,

New York, NY 10021

Office: 212-772-7242

833 Northern Boulevard,

Great Neck, New York 11021

Office: 516-482-8040

www.sadickdermatology.com

Questions AFTER the day of surgery

Will I experience much pain after the surgery?

Most patients have minimal pain after the surgery and it is controlled by taking Tylenol. Please avoid products such as aspirin (unless your doctor has specifically prescribed it), advil or ibuprofen as these can promote bleeding. However, we can also prescribe a stronger pain medication if desired.

How do I take care of my wound?

Our staff will explain wound care in detail and will provide written instructions as well after the surgery. An emergency contact number is also provided should you need to contact the surgeon in case of an emergency.

When can I resume normal activities after surgery?

In order to protect your wound from getting infected, we suggest you avoid strenuous activity for at least a week after your surgery. Swelling, bruising, redness and tenderness can last for 2 weeks or longer after the surgery especially if the surgery was performed on central face.

Do I have to come back to your office after the surgery?

Usually you have to come back in 1-3 weeks to have the stitches removed and to ensure your wound is healing well. We may request another visit in 3 months to ensure your scar has healed well and to discuss procedures for scar revision, should the need arises. It is however very important for you to return to your referring doctor for regular skin checks to look for any new cancers.

Will my cancer come back?

Approximately 1-3% of the skin cancers grow back after Mohs surgery. For certain skin cancers this recurrence rate might be higher. Please call us or your referring doctor for an evaluation if you are concerned that the cancer is growing back.

What can I do to keep my skin healthy in the future?

1. Examine your birthday suit on your birthday. Make a note of new/changing moles, red or scaly spots or non-healing ulcers, especially on sun-exposed areas and mention those to your doctor on your next visit.
2. Have a full skin exam at least 1/yr by a Dermatologist.
3. Adopt sun-smart habits and faithfully avoid sun rays during peak hours (10 am to 4 pm)
4. Wear a sunscreen with UVA and UVB coverage of SPF >30 and wear protective clothing when outside in the sun.
5. Avoid tanning beds. Remember it is NEVER okay to use tanning beds
6. Stay sun-protected, and enjoy life.