

Diane M. Reisinger, MD Mohs Surgeon (FACMS) 505-980-8738

Pre-Op Instructions for Surgery

- <u>Unless otherwise instructed</u>, continue all prescription medications including aspirin, Coumadin, warfarin, <u>Plavix, clopidogrel, Pradaxa, Xarelto, Eliquis.</u>
- Stop all NSAIDS such as ibuprofen (AdvilTM, MotrinTM), naproxen (AleveTM, NaprosynTM) two weeks prior to surgery. Take acetaminophen (TylenolTM) for pain if needed during this time. Stop supplemental vitamin E, fish oil, krill oil, flax seed oil, and herbal supplements (gingko, garlic, ginger) four weeks prior to surgery (unless you are instructed otherwise).

The Day Of Surgery

- Eat a normal breakfast and take your regular medications.
- If you take a morning blood pressure medication, please take at least two hours prior to your surgery appointment time.
- Dr. Reisinger will determine whether an antibiotic is needed at the time of the procedure.
- Bring reading material, sweater. We have magazines to help pass time.
- Cell phones are permitted in the waiting room. Please silence them in the procedure room.
- Coffee, tea, water, juice, and cracker-snacks are available. Bring other snacks if you wish.
- Bring your other medications if you usually take them mid day.
- Unless instructed, you will not need a driver. You may bring someone to keep you company.
- Please remember you need to plan to be here for 2-3 hours.
- We will call you the day prior to surgery to confirm the time of your procedure. Please make sure you are at the office at your confirmed time. Please give 72 hours notification for any cancellations.

<u>Plan For The Following After Surgery</u>

- You will not be able to get the area wet for 48 hours. You will be able to shower or bathe, but avoiding the dressed surgery site for the first 48 hours.
- Avoid strenuous activity and exercise (golf, tennis, swimming, yard work, vacuuming, lifting anything greater than 10 lbs) until the stitches are removed.
- <u>If your surgery is on your head</u>, you will keep your head higher than the rest of your body for the first two days after surgery. Do not lower your head below your waist if you bend over to pick up objects or tie your shoes.
- If your surgery is on your arm, hand, or leg, you will keep the area elevated as much as possible.
- <u>If your surgery is on your lips or mouth</u>, you will avoid hot liquids and foods for the first day after surgery (warm is better than hot). You will eat soft foods for the first three days after surgery (examples- soup, scrambled eggs, tuna or chicken salad).