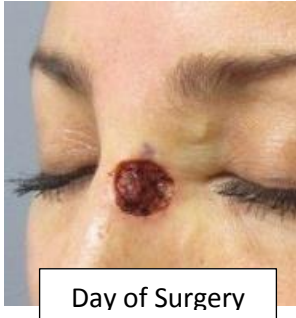


The MOHs surgeon has determined that your wound would heal best and look the best if it was left open to heal. In other words, your surgical site/wound was not closed with sutures. We call this process healing through secondary intention. We know that it can look unsightly at first. So, we have provided some pictures below highlighting the healing process. Your skin is a remarkable thing, and we are confident that you will be happy with the results. Please be patient.



Day of Surgery



2 Weeks Post-Op



8 Weeks Post-Op

Today, Vaseline and a bandage have been placed over the surgical site to act as a pressure dressing. This helps prevent bleeding and protects the surgical area. Take it easy for at least 24 hours. If you experience any pain or discomfort take over the counter Tylenol as needed. Avoid Motrin, aspirin, Advil, Ibuprofen, or any anti-inflammatory medication. Keep the bandage dry for 24 to 48 hours. If it becomes wet or soiled prior to this, you may change the bandage earlier. Sleep with the surgical area elevated using several pillows when possible. You may begin daily wound care after removing the bandage.

Items Needed for Wound Care:

- Vaseline/ petroleum jelly (a new jar is preferable as this will be applied directly to the surgical site)
- Gauze pads band-aids
- Roll of medical tape, paper tape, or silk tape
- Q-tips

Daily wound Care

1. Cleanse the area with soap and water. Blot the wound dry with clean gauze. Allow water to gently run over the surgical site.
2. Once the area is clean, using clean Q-tips apply a generous amount of vaseline/petroleum jelly into the surgical site. It's important to keep the site moist. A dry wound will heal slowly.
3. Cover the wound with gauze pad or band-aid. If the pad is too big for the surgical site, you can cut it to size. If you are still having drainage, stack two or three pieces of gauze to create a pressure dressing.
4. Secure the dressing with medical tape.

Your wound/surgical site will heal best if the surgical area is kept moist and free from scabbing. During the healing process expect to see a formation of granulation tissue. Granulation tissue is new tissue growth that may look pink and or red. This is completely normal and means your body is healing itself.



Day of Surgery



2 Weeks Post Op



52 Weeks Post Op

Call the office during business hour or go to an Urgent Care Clinic after hours if you notice any of the following: Spreading redness or warmth to the touch, drainage or pus, fever over 100.5, or if bleeding occurs which does not stop after applying firm pressure to the area for 20 minutes.

Continue wound care once a day until the surgical area is completely healed.

Never Use Hydrogen Peroxide, Betadine, or other wound healing creams as it interferes with the healing process. Straight petroleum jelly is best. **Never** Let the wound scab over, the wound will heal better when it stays moist with petroleum jelly and dressing.

Smokers: To promote better healing, it is **STRONGLY RECOMMENDED** that you make every attempt to quit smoking for two weeks after surgery.

Avoid drinking alcoholic beverages as this can increase risk of bleeding.

Some Additional Before and After photos below.

