



Mohs

Micrographic
Histologically
Controlled
Surgery



Mohs Micrographic Histologically Controlled Surgery is considered the most effective, precise and cost-efficient technique for the treatment of skin cancer. It is named after its founder and originator, Frederic E. Mohs, MD (1910-2002). The excision of the tumor is done in stages and the tissue is directly checked in the lab.

THREE MAIN TYPES OF SKIN CANCER

BASAL CELL CARCINOMA is the most frequently occurring form of all cancers. Every year in the US, an estimated 3.6 million cases are diagnosed. It arises from abnormal, uncontrolled growth of basal cells. They can appear as open sores, red patches, pink growths, shiny bumps, scars or growths with slightly elevated, rolled edges and/or a central indentation.

SQUAMOUS CELL CARCINOMA is the second most common form of skin cancer. It can appear as scaly red patches, open sores, rough, thickened or wart-like skin, or raised growths with a central depression.

A **MELANOMA** emerges when the so-called melanocytes, the pigment cells of the skin, degenerate. It often looks like a mole and is a markedly malignant tumor.

Source: <https://www.skincancer.org/skin-cancer-information/>



WHEN SURGERY IS INDISPENSABLE

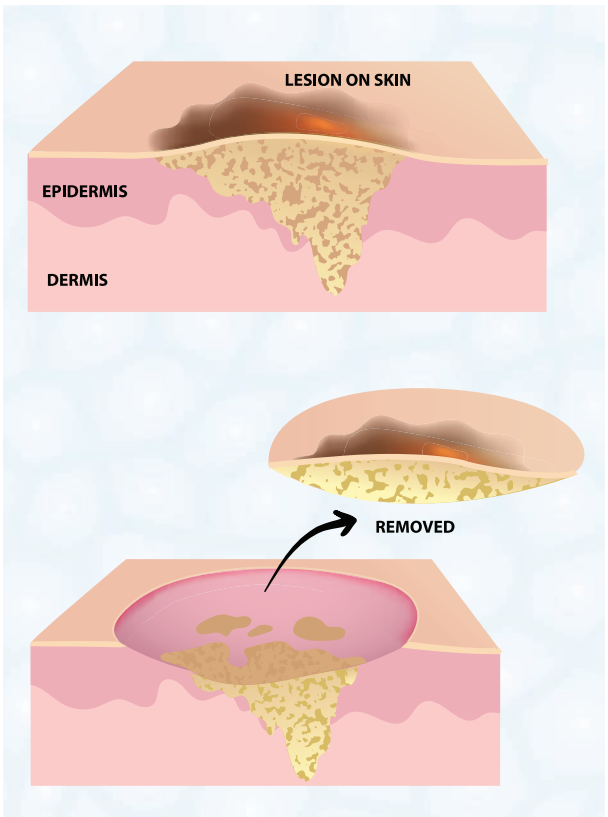
Carcinoma of the skin (skin cancer) requires a surgical procedure to remove the cancer. It's important for the surgeon to carefully plan this surgery as basal cell, squamous cell, and melanoma carcinomas can regrow from the residual spurs and branches found under the skin which is not visible to the human eye. To minimize this potential risk of recurrence, surgeons remove larger areas of skin tissue that surrounds the tumor. As this method may prove to be a safety decision for the patient's overall well-being, it can have less than positive aesthetic result, such as large scars. Since most skin cancer occurs in sun exposed areas such as the face, neck and arms, patients are often dissatisfied with this surgical procedure.

When a tumor is removed and the wound is closed afterwards, it may also happen that according to the histological report tumor extensions were still found. As a result, the entire wound must be reopened for complete removal of the tumor. With this procedure, wound infections and uneven or excessive scarring are likely to happen. This should be avoided, especially on the face.

MOHS IS THE GOLDEN STANDARD

The Mohs surgical technique involves strategic mapping of the cancer and the tissue that surrounds it. The process is slow, and it is performed in calculated stages. Layer by layer is mapped and tested to detect traces of tumor cells before proceeding to the next layer. Should any cancer remain, the surgeon can isolate the affected tissue.

This procedure is time consuming for the patient, however, it has the highest cure rate. It allows to precisely identify and remove cancerous tissue, while leaving the surrounding healthy tissue intact, since the tumor is excised at a relatively close distance. In addition, the method is very cost-efficient as it is done in a single visit with local anesthesia and the lab work being done on-site.



MAXIMUM SAFETY & BEST AESTHETIC RESULTS

Mohs strategic surgical process enables surgeons to cut and remove in strategic isolated affected areas, sparing healthy tissue and leaving the smallest possible scar.

Even more important: Recurrences are much less frequent compared to other methods. With up to 99%, Mohs procedures have the highest cure rate of all therapies. Thus, it is especially effective for high-risk basal cell carcinomas, such as large tumors and skin cancers that have recurred after other treatments. This also applies to tumors in areas such as the face, where as much normal skin as possible should be preserved.



REGENERATIVE THERAPY MAY SUPPORT WOUND HEALING

Once the cancer is removed the wound may be left open to heal on its own, or perhaps require a few stitches. When larger surface areas are left open, the surgeon may suggest reconstruction using a skin graft, skin flap, or even regenerative wound healing allografts when medically appropriate.

A skin graft is taken from skin dermis tissue from another part of your body and applied to the wound. A skin graft can often be painful. A skin flap is a wound closure technique that stretches the nearby skin to act as a natural cover. In cases where wounds are too large to close by these typical closure techniques, alternative natural solutions may be appropriate to provide a hydrophilic protective barrier directly to the wound to support the healing process. Fast wound closure is important to avoid wound infections and excessive scarring.

Regenerative Therapy amplifies the repair and reconstruction of injured skin and tissue by

- Providing building blocks for scaffolds to support reconstruction.
- Retaining moisture needed for healing.
- Creating a barrier to protect the regenerative process.
- Stimulating the repair of damaged and injured tissues.

Interested in learning more about regenerative technology for supporting natural wound healing? Please ask your MOHS Medical Provider.

** This article is for disease state awareness and is meant for educational and recreational purposes only. The content of this article expresses editorial opinion only, it is not meant to provide medical advice, fact, or to provide medical recommendations on how to treat disease. Always direct medical questions to a licensed healthcare professional.*

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