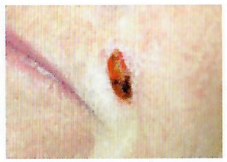
Advantages of Using the Mohs Technique

1. This form of treatment has the highest cure rate of any type of existing procedure.
2. The maximal preservation of skin tissue is enhanced.
3. This technique has the lowest functional and cosmetic morbidity of any procedure.
4. It is cost effective compared to other surgical options.
5. **ONE DAY OUTPATIENT SURGERY** using local anesthesia. The center is a state-of-the-art ambulatory surgery center dedicated to the treatment of skin cancer.

BEFORE SURGERY



SURGERY

AFTER SURGERY

Educational Resources

American Academy of Dermatology
www.aad.org

American College of Mohs Surgery
www.mohssurgery.org

Skin Cancer Foundation
www.skincancer.org

American Society of Dermatologic Surgery
www.asds.net

The Most Common Types of Skin Cancer

- **Basal Cell Carcinoma:** slowly growing, raised, translucent, pearly nodules. If untreated they may crust, ulcerate and sometimes bleed. They occur most often on the head, neck, trunk and hands. Rarely does it spread into the blood or lymph system.
- **Squamous Cell Carcinoma:** raised, red or pink, opaque nodules or warty growths that ulcerate in the center. They are frequently located on the face, ears, lips, mouth, hands or other sun-exposed areas of the body. This condition poses a greater danger because it is more likely to spread than basal cell carcinoma.

Indicators For Mohs Micrographic Surgical Treatment

- High-risk primary carcinoma (ears, eyelids, nose and lips)
- Recurrent carcinoma
- Aggressive histology
- Tumors greater than 2 cm.
- Ill-defined tumor borders
- Incomplete excision of tumors

The Center works with many doctors in this field of skin cancer, including specialists practicing in the areas of facial plastics, eye and reconstructive surgery.

DERMATOLOGY, P.C.
Lakeview Medical Park
6000 University Ave. Suite 450
West Des Moines, Iowa 50266
(515) 241-2000

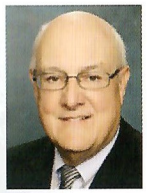
Dermatology, P.C.

Mohs Micrographic Surgery

Mohs Micrographic Surgery for Treatment of Skin Cancer

Skin cancer is a disease that affects men and women of all ages. It can occur in a variety of ways. More than 1.2 million cases of skin cancer diagnosed every year are a direct result of exposure to the sun. One does not necessarily have to sunbathe in order to contract this malady. Anyone can develop skin cancer. Fortunately, most cases can be cured with early detection and conventional treatment. However, skin cancers that occur in high risk areas such as around the eyes, ears, nose and lips, or which have recurred after previous treatment are more effectively treated using Mohs Micrographic Surgery.

Mohs Surgery was developed by Frededric Mohs, M.D., during the 1930's. This form of treatment is preferred by most physicians for recurrent, and difficult, primary carcinomas of the skin.



Dr. Roger Ceilley earned his medical degree and completed his dermatology residency training at the University of Iowa. He completed his Mohs Micrographic Surgery training with Dr. Fred Mohs at the University of Wisconsin. He is board certified in dermatology and dermatopathology. He is a fellow of the American College of Mohs Surgery and a fellow and past president of both the American Academy of Dermatology and the American Society for Dermatologic Surgery. He is the director of our Mohs Surgery training program and is a Clinical Professor of Dermatology at the University of Iowa.

Dr. Andrew Bean earned his medical degree at West Virginia University and completed his dermatology residency training at Wright State University. He completed his Mohs fellowship training with Dr. Ceilley and became an associate of Dermatology, P.C. in May 1993. He is board certified in dermatology. He is a fellow of the American Academy of Dermatology and the American College of Mohs Surgery. He is a senior surgical faculty member of our Mohs Surgery training program.

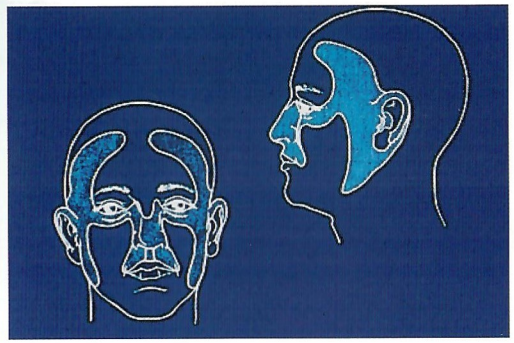
Dr. Joshua Wilson earned his medical degree and completed his dermatology residency training at the University of Iowa. He completed his Mohs fellowship training with Drs. Ceilley and Bean and became an associate of Dermatology, P.C. in July 2010. He is board certified in dermatology, a fellow of the American Academy of Dermatology, and is a member of the American College of Mohs Surgery.

The Mohs Surgical Treatment

Mohs Surgery is a method for treating skin cancer by removing the diseased area with continuous microscopic control. The keys to the technique are:

1. Serial excision of a tumor using strict anatomical orientation.
2. Examination of tissue using a microscope.
3. Mapping the exact location of the residual tumor.

This type of treatment helps the specialist have histologic control enabling the physician to determine if the tumor is completely removed after the surgery has been performed.



The Mohs Surgical Procedure

Not all tumors grow as perfect spheres. There are several different modes of tumor growth that are best treated using the Mohs technique. What is visible on the surface of the skin may be only the tip of the tumor that exists underneath.

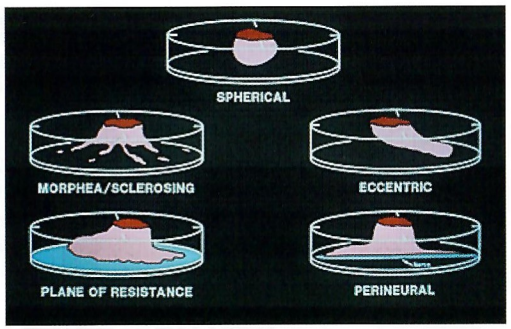


Illustration 'A' presents several types of growth which the Mohs Surgeon might encounter during surgery.

The Mohs technique differs from traditional treatments by utilizing horizontal, rather than vertical, frozen sections of the diseased skin.

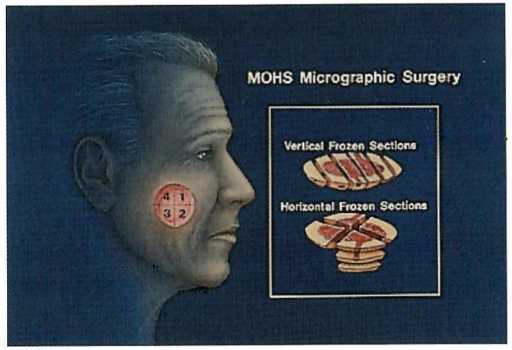


Illustration 'B' shows how the surgeon can examine the entire undersurface of the tumor and skin to ensure complete removal of the diseased area. Traditional treatment involved random vertical sections being examined, thus, the potential of missing areas where the tumor could spread was always a distinct possibility.

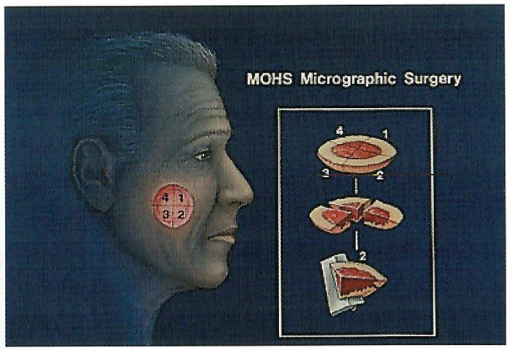


Illustration 'C' reveals how the cancerous layer of skin is removed with an exact anatomical map, drawn to coincide with the layer. The layer is then sectioned into several pieces and subsequently examined under a microscope for residual tumor inspection. This process is repeated until all of the tumor has been eradicated.