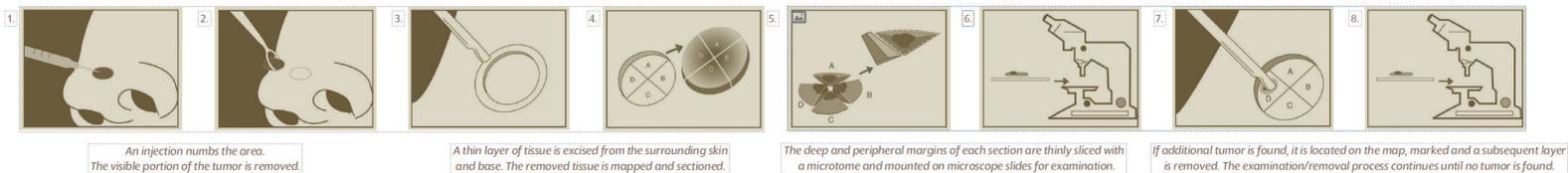


Mohs Micrographic Surgery – Northeast Dermatology Associates

Mohs micrographic surgery was developed by Frederick Mohs in the 1930s. It is a technique used for basal cell and squamous cell carcinomas (and some other skin cancers). It allows for extremely precise and accurate removal of the cancer, while preserving a maximum amount of your normal skin. It results in the highest cure rate of all treatments currently available.



Before the Surgery

- Stop all herbal supplements like Fish oil and Vitamin E two weeks before surgery.
- DO NOT take pain medications, two weeks prior to surgery, such as: Aleve, Ibuprofen, Naproxyn, or Aspirin.
- If your physician has prescribed aspirin, Xarelto, Coumadin or Plavix, ask your doctor if you can stop them before surgery.
- Eat a good breakfast before coming to surgery and bring snacks.

What to Expect during the Surgery

- Surgery can take as little as 3 hours or it could last all day depending on the size of the cancer. Wear comfortable clothing and bring a blanket if you get cold.
- You will be awake during the surgery and will be waiting for your results. Bring a book or an iPad to pass the time.
- After the tumor is gone, Dr. Kannler will discuss how to repair the wound. In most cases, stitches will be used. Sometimes, the wound will be allowed to heal by itself. In cases where the tumor size is larger than clinically anticipated, you may be referred to plastic surgery for repair. This will be coordinated by our office.
- DO NOT drink alcoholic beverages the day before surgery as it will increase bleeding.

After the Surgery

- You should be able to drive home after the surgery. If the surgery is near your eye, we recommend having someone drop you off and pick you up.
- For pain management after surgery, we recommend taking Tylenol.
- The more you take care of your surgical site, the better it will heal. Dr. Kannler's team will teach you how. You can always get in touch with Dr. Kannler if you have questions.
- Bruising and swelling is a normal part of healing and can last for a few days post op.
- DO NOT perform any vigorous activity for one week after surgery, to prevent complications such as bleeding and reopening of the surgical site. This includes EXERCISE (golfing), yard work, housework, swimming, etc.
- You can take a shower 24 hours after the surgery, but don't get the wound wet, unless otherwise instructed.
- All surgeries will produce scars. The size of the scar will depend on the size of the cancer. Taking care of the wound is the best way to minimize the scar.



Christine Kannler, M.D.

- Board certified member of the American Board of Dermatology
- Fellow of the American College of Mohs Surgery
- Fellow of the American Academy of Dermatology
- 2020 American Academy of Dermatology Presidential Citation Award
- Active member of American Society of Dermatology, NH Society of Dermatology and Mass Acad of Dermatology
- SPOTme Volunteer Dermatologist for Professional Firefighters of MA, Boston Fire Department, and the Massachusetts Fire Academy

Mohs surgery locations:

538 Turnpike Street, North Andover, MA
721 Chestnut Street, Manchester, NH
262 South River Road, Bedford, NH

Call 978-927-5254 ext 2108 with any questions. We are honored you have entrusted us with your care.
Your skin is our passion.