

Discharge Instructions: MOHS Closure

What To Expect

You may have a sore throat after the procedure because of the breathing tube used during surgery. This will go away over the next few days.

Wound Care

- Your incision will be covered with sterile strips or bolster dressing.
- Do not remove the Dermabond™ or the steri-strips.
- May apply ice pack over the incision 10-15 minutes every hour first 24-48 hours, except when sleeping.
- It is normal to have a little oozing from the incision for the first 1-2 days. You may ooze reddish-colored fluid, especially if you take a blood thinner like aspirin, but you should not have fresh bleeding.

Pain Control

- We may give you a prescription for an opioid pain medication such as hydrocodone with acetaminophen (Norco®). Take it every 4-6 hours – if you need it for pain.
- If opioid medications are too strong, you can take acetaminophen (Tylenol®). Follow the instructions on the bottle.
- If you take an opioid medication that contains acetaminophen, **do not take more acetaminophen. The recommended maximum daily dose of acetaminophen is 3000 milligrams (mg).** Check all medication labels. Acetaminophen is found in over-the-counter and prescription medications.

Diet

If you do not have any dietary restrictions, you may resume your previous diet.

Restrictions

- Do not lift anything that weights more than 5 pounds and no strenuous activities for 3-4 weeks.
- Do not drive (or operate heavy machinery) if you are taking opioid pain medication.
- You can gradually return to your normal activities after 2 weeks, as tolerated.

Call Us If...

- you have bleeding that does not stop after you put pressure on the area
- you develop severe, uncontrolled pain at the site of your surgery
- the area around the incision or biopsy site becomes inflamed or reddened
- **you have a fever of 100.4°F (38°C) or higher**

The Head and Neck Center is open Mon. – Fri, 8a.m. – 5 p.m. Phone: **716-845-8186**. After hours, call Roswell Park at **716-845-2300**. If it is determined you need to be seen, you may be asked to come to the Assessment and Treatment Center (ATC). The ATC is open 24/7 but you need a referral from your doctor (or the doctor on call). It is not a walk in clinic.