



NEWPORT BEACH  
DERMATOLOGY &  
PLASTIC SURGERY

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## Instructions to Patients After Mohs Surgery

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**Keep the pressure dressing on and dry for at least 24 hours.**

A small amount of bleeding through the bandage is okay. If the blood spot is growing larger, sit down in a comfortable location and hold pressure with your hand for 20 minutes without letting go. If the bleeding persists, please call the office. If you have discomfort, take Tylenol or Acetaminophen. Do not take Advil, Ibuprofen or non-steroidal anti-inflammatory agents for 48 hours. Do not drink alcohol for 24 hours. Avoid vigorous physical activity for 48 hours.

After 24 to 48 hours, you may remove the dressing completely and begin cleaning the wound twice daily with soap and water. Afterward apply a small amount of antibiotic ointment (Bacitracin or Polysporin) with a Q-tip. Keeping the wound moist, free of scabs and lightly covered will aid in the healing process. Also keep the scar protected from the sun with a bandage.

Continue to clean the wound twice daily until the stitches are removed. On the morning of your return visit (to have the stitches removed) clean the wound but do not put any antibiotic ointment on it.

**Do not expose the wound to water from a swimming pool, Jacuzzi or the ocean until the stitches have been removed.**

Signs of infection include a growing area of redness around the wound, yellowish discharge (pus) and increasing pain. The most common source of a wound infection is a dirty finger.

Do not pull, stretch or exert pressure on your wound. If you feel stretching or tightness with a particular movement or activity, that is your clue to refrain from that activity.

**Wounds in the beard area should not be shaved over; let the hair grow until the sutures are removed.**

If you received a prescription for antibiotic pills, take them all as directed.

You may reach Dr. McNeill by calling the office at 949-706-7886 or for an emergency after hours you call Dr. McNeill's cell phone at 714-227-6276.