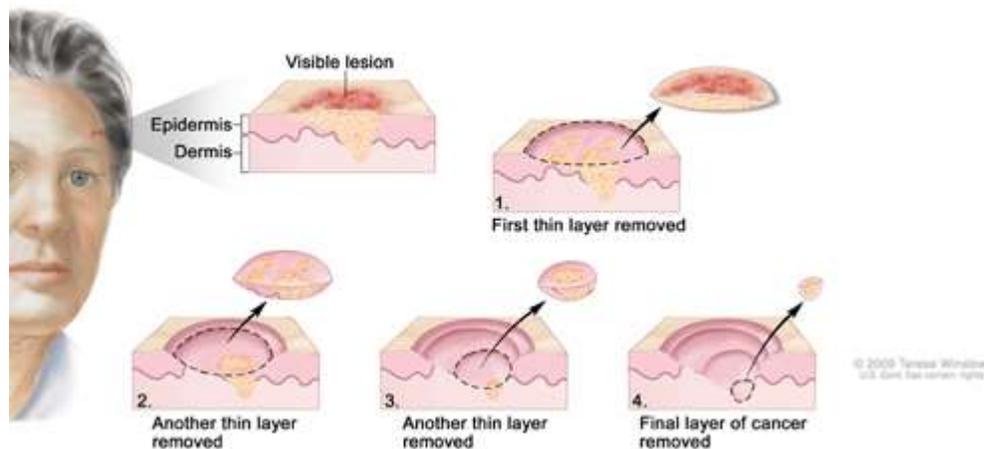


## What is Mohs Surgery?

Developed by Dr. Frederick Mohs, Mohs micrographic surgery is a specialized, highly effective technique focusing on the accurate removal of skin cancer. It allows the best tracking of the skin cancer (by visualizing 100% of the surgical margins), while sparing the greatest amount of surrounding healthy tissue. Mohs surgery provides the highest cure rates for basal cell and squamous cell carcinomas (up to 99%) when compared to any other method. The surgeon then performs reconstruction of the defect. There is no need to go to a surgical center or hospital, and the patient can go home the same day. There is also no need for general anesthesia, preventing a lengthy recovery and possible side effects from general anesthesia. Mohs surgery is recommended for recurrent skin cancers or skin cancers where maximum preservation of healthy tissue is vital, such as the face, hands, feet, and genitals.

## How does it work?



1. Using a local anesthesia, the surgeon numbs the area to ensure comfort and removes thin layers of the cancer.
2. A detailed map is created to track the skin cancer.
3. At each stage, the layer of tissue is processed at the in-house lab by a histotechnician through a special technique.
4. The surgeon then reads the slides and accurately records any remaining cancerous tissue on a map.
5. This process is repeated until all of the margins are clear of the cancer.

*Continued on other side ...*



## Post-Operative Care

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The surgeon will determine the optimal option for wound healing, which include:

- Allowing wound to heal naturally without the use of sutures or follow-up surgeries.
- Repairing the wound with sutures. Sometimes, skin grafts or flaps from other areas may be used.
- Referring to another reconstructive surgeon depending on the size, depth and location.

Risks:

- Even with the highest cure rate, there is still a possibility of recurrence with Mohs surgery.
- Scarring, bleeding, infection, nerve injury, or medication side-effects.
- Please refer to the Mohs Surgery Consent form for the full list of risks.

Prior to discharge, our medical assistants will advise you on appropriate wound care. They will also provide you with instructions and a direct phone number to reach the surgeon. Our staff will schedule a follow-up appointment to remove sutures within 1-2 weeks after surgery. We often see our patients back within a month or so for a post-operative wound check to ensure the healing process is going well.