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## PATIENT INSTRUCTIONS FOR IN-OFFICE SURGERY

### **Prior to Surgery**

Do not consume ALCOHOLIC beverages for 2 days prior to surgery. SMOKING may impair wound healing. If possible, please stop or decrease smoking around surgery & healing periods. Please bring a companion to drive you home after the surgery.

### **Day of Surgery**

Please call our office if you have a cold, a flu, a cold sore or a fever of 100°F or higher. Shower or bathe using an antibacterial soap such as Lever 2000. Shampoo hair. Do not wear makeup if lesion is on the face. Wear comfortable clothing. Take your prescription medication as usual and bring an accurate list of current medications. Eat your normal breakfast.

### **At surgery**

You may be asked to put on a gown. You will be asked to sign a consent form after the procedure is explained to you in detail. Please ask if you have any last minute questions. Very rarely, you may be given medications for relaxation and/or sedation. These medications may make you feel lightheaded and/or drowsy. The surgical site will be cleansed, draped and then numbed with an injection of local anesthetic.

### **After surgery**

A pressure dressing is usually applied to the surgical site. This dressing should be left in place for 24 hours.

If needed, you may be given a pain medication or an antibiotic to take at home. Avoid physical activities that may stretch the wound. Gradually increase your activities over several weeks, as you feel comfortable.

No alcoholic beverages for 2 days after surgery.

Avoid driving a motor vehicle, operating hazardous machinery, making important decisions or signing legal documents for 2 days after having medication for relaxation and/or sedation.

You should not be alarmed if experiencing the following normal changes after surgery:

- Bruising or "black eye"
- Aching or soreness in the surgical site
- Feeling tired for a few days
- Bleeding slightly on your dressing
- Temporary loss of sensation and muscle weakness around the surgical site (although this could be permanent)

**PLEASE CALL** if any of the following should occur:

Bleeding that saturates the dressing. Do not remove the dressing. Hold firm pressure over the dressing for 10 minutes. If bleeding has stopped, change the dressing carefully. Otherwise continue holding the pressure while you call us. Fever greater than 100°F. Signs of infection: redness, swelling, foul smelling drainage, pain and/or heat around the surgical site.