



SKIN INSTITUTE

Mohs / CCPDMA Information Sheet

Mohs micrographic / CCPDMA (Complete Circumferential Peripheral & Deep Margin Assessment) surgery is the most advanced and sophisticated method of removing skin cancers (mainly from the face) and achieves success rates that are higher than any other technique.

The micrographic surgery technique was devised almost 60 years ago by Dr. Frederic Mohs, at the University of Wisconsin. It was initially known as chemosurgery, but is now called Mohs micrographic surgery after its inventor.

Surgeons who perform Mohs micrographic / CCPDMA surgery are specially trained in this technique and perform both the surgery and the reconstruction.

Because these methods require the surgeon to have highly specialised training, specific surgical facilities and specialised personnel, few medical centres are equipped to offer such treatment.

Mohs micrographic / CCPDMA surgery involves the surgical excision of cancer containing tissue and the systematic microscopic examination of all cut surfaces at the time of the operation. It is a highly specialised procedure for the total removal of skin cancers.

Mohs micrographic / CCPDMA surgery is the best method of removing skin cancer and ensuring at the time of the procedure that the skin cancer is completely excised. Mohs micrographic / CCPDMA surgery has the highest cure rates for skin cancer and optimises the end cosmetic result.

Common treatment procedures for skin cancer can often prove ineffective because they rely on the human eye to determine the extent of the cancer. In an effort to preserve healthy tissue, too little tissue may be removed, resulting in recurrence of the cancer. If the surgeon is over cautious, more healthy tissue than necessary may be removed, causing excessive scarring or disfigurement.

Mohs micrographic / CCPDMA surgery is performed as a day stay procedure, usually under local anaesthetic. Sedation or general anaesthesia can be provided to patients who require more extensive surgery.

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