MOHS MICROGRAPHIC SURGERY

Treats Skin Cancer, Spares Healthy Tissue

When skin cancer develops on the face or another cosmetically sensitive area, a Mohs-qualified surgeon can cure the cancer and leave the surgery site with little or no scarring.

ohs surgery has the highest cure rate of any procedure for the treatment of skin cancer," says board-certified dermatologist Dr. Janice Warner of Atlanta West Dermatology. "It is also tissue-sparing, so it leaves untouched as much normal skin as possible."

Performed in Dr. Warner's office under local anesthesia, Mohs surgery is used primarily to remove skin cancers on the face, nose, lips, and ears, where a cosmetic result is particularly important. It differs from other approaches because it combines removal of the cancerous lesion with precise microscopic analysis to verify that all cancer cells have been removed. Its cure rate is 99 percent.

A fellowship-trained Mohs surgeon, Dr. Warner is additionally skilled at performing cosmetic reconstructions in 90 percent of cases.

Scan to learn more about the services and procedures offered at Atlanta West Dermatology.

On the Rise

Dr. Warner reports that nonmelanoma skin cancer is up 315 percent in the past 15 years. Melanoma is up 800 percent in women and 400 percent in men over the same period. Studies into the reason behind this rise are ongoing, but, says Dr. Warner, "We do know one thing that can prevent it: regular, daily use of sunscreen with an SPF of 30 or higher."

It must be broad spectrum to block both UVA and UVB rays, she emphasizes: "Most sunscreens do not adequately screen in the UVA range, but studies show that skin cancers are tied to UVA rays, which can penetrate window glass, so we're exposed in our homes and in our cars. Tanning beds are another UVA hazard."

Dr. Warner recommends using water-resistant sunscreens—reapplied every one to three hours—that will protect for up to 80 minutes when swimming or sweating, with the best ingredient being zinc oxide.



Rejuvenate Your Look!

"While the largest part of my practice is Mohs surgery and surgical dermatology, I also provide general and cosmetic dermatology," informs
Dr. Warner. "That includes facial rejuvenation with dermal fillers such as Juvéderm® Voluma®, and nonsurgical facial tightening and lifting with Ultherapy®."

Dermal fillers, sometimes called a "liquid facelift," can provide a more youthful look for a fraction of what a facelift costs, gently filling lines and wrinkles from beneath the skin and increasing facial volume in cheeks and tear troughs.

Dr. Warner says dermal fillers are an excellent complement to noninvasive, FDA-approved Ultherapy: "I use ultrasound-based Ultherapy on the face and neck to tighten and lift the skin. With touch-ups, this combination will provide improvements for up to two years."

Janice Warner, MD.

FAAD, FACMS





Atlanta West Dermatology and Surgery Center, P.C.