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CONSENT FOR SURGICAL PROCEDURE

THIS IS A PREVIEW OF THE CONSENT YOU WILL BE SIGNING PRIOR TO THE PROCEDURE. YOU ARE RECEIVING THIS CONSENT AHEAD OF YOUR PROCEDURE SO THAT YOU ARE PREPARED FOR YOUR APPOINTMENT. YOU WILL HAVE TIME PRIOR TO THE PROCEDURE TO DISCUSS ANY QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS YOU MAY HAVE.

My conversation with the doctor/associate included an explanation of the major and possible risks and consequences i.e.: bleeding, infection, scarring, recurrence which may be associated with the procedure to be performed. The doctor/associate has also discussed with me other possible acceptable methods of treatment. During this conversation, I was given the opportunity to ask questions of the doctor/associate.

I recognize that during the procedure unforeseen conditions may necessitate an additional or different procedure or procedures other than the ones listed above. I, therefore, authorize and request that the above-named doctor, his associates, or assistants perform such a procedure or procedures as are in the exercise of professional judgment and are deemed necessary under the circumstances.

I hereby consent to the administration of local anesthesia. Any tissues surgically removed may be examined by a pathologist and/or disposed of by the doctor/associates in accordance with accustomed practice. I understand that I may receive a separate bill from the pathologist or laboratory for microscopic examination.

I understand that Mohs surgery is associated with possible risks and complications. The following lists the most common risks of Mohs surgery:

1. Scarring – Any time the skin is injured, a scar will form. The goal of Mohs surgery is to leave the least noticeable scar possible and to hide it within normal lines of the skin to make it less visible. Thickened, or keloidal scars, are possible and can be treated subsequently.
2. Infection – Any time the skin is injured, an infection is possible. The rate of infection is very low. If you feel that your wound is infected, please contact our office immediately.
3. Bleeding – There is a risk of bleeding with any surgical procedure. Most cases of post-operative bleeding are easily stopped by applying pressure for 20 minutes over the site. If this does not work, please contact our office immediately.
4. Bruising and Swelling – This is common and often will occur after the first day of surgery. It may persist for up to 2 weeks or more.
5. Pain – Some discomfort is expected after surgery. It is usually mild and controlled with Tylenol. Occasional discomfort may be felt during the healing phase of your wound (up to 6 months).
6. Opening of the Wound – Although very rare, the wound may open again after it has been repaired with stitches. It is important to take it easy after your surgery so that unnecessary strain is not placed on the wound.
7. Temporary or Permanent Hair Loss – Since the primary goal of your surgery is to completely remove the tumor, it is sometimes necessary to damage hair-bearing skin, such as the scalp. The resulting hair loss can be temporary or permanent.

8. Temporary or Permanent Nerve Damage – The primary goal of your surgery is to completely remove the tumor. In order to accomplish this, a nerve may be damaged. Nerve damage may be temporary or permanent. Recovery usually takes 6 months or more and rarely can require additional surgery. Nerve damage may be limited to a loss of sensation (numbness) or may include paralysis.
9. Recurrence of the Tumor – Mohs surgery provides the highest cure rate of any form of skin cancer treatment. Nevertheless, recurrences, although rare, can still occur.
10. Additional Procedures – An additional procedure may be needed later to reduce scar swelling, redness, or thickening. Your doctor will let you know if this is necessary.

The risks of surgery are not limited to the above list.

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