



# warthan

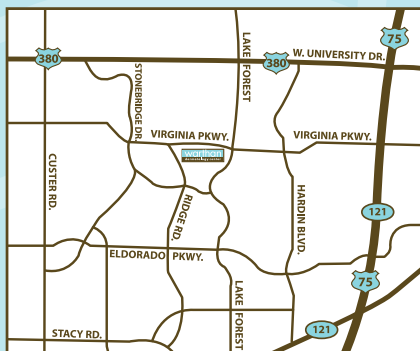
## dermatology center

MOHS SURGERY CENTER

Molly M. Warthan, M.D. grew up in Nacogdoches Texas, and attended college at Southern Methodist University where she graduated cum laude. Following college, she attended medical school at the University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston Texas, where she graduated with honors. After medical school, she completed her dermatology residency at Eastern Virginia Medical School in Norfolk, Virginia. She completed a fellowship in Mohs micrographic surgery in Tallahassee, Florida, where she completed over 4000 Mohs surgery cases.

Dr. Warthan pioneered the initial research that determined there is a segment of the population who are addicted to tanning. She received worldwide recognition for her research, appearing on the NBC TODAY show. Her research gained world-wide media attention, and it was featured in numerous newspapers, including The New York Times and The Washington Post. Dr. Warthan has published extensively in peer-reviewed dermatology journals. She has also participated in numerous FDA clinical trials, helping new medications to be approved for use in the USA. In particular, she participated in clinical trials involving BOTOX® Cosmetic, psoriasis medications, and acne medications.

Dr. Molly Warthan and her staff strive to give her patients the best care possible. She specializes in Mohs micrographic skin cancer surgery. She offers each patient the utmost state-of-the-art care to treat their skin cancer, in a very warm, friendly environment.



### Molly M. Warthan, M.D.

5913 Virginia Pkwy, Suite 300

McKinney, TX 75071

Phone: 972-542-4646

Fax: 972-542-0909

[www.mckinneydermcenter.com](http://www.mckinneydermcenter.com)

### Molly M. Warthan, M.D.

Fellow, American Academy of Dermatology  
Fellow, American College of Mohs Surgery

5913 Virginia Pkwy, Suite 300

McKinney, TX 75071

Phone: 972-542-4646

Fax: 972-542-0909

[www.mckinneydermcenter.com](http://www.mckinneydermcenter.com)



## What is Mohs Surgery?

Mohs surgery was initially developed by Dr. Fredrich Mohs. It is a surgery that allows a skilled dermatologic surgeon, or skilled dermatologist to remove a skin cancer, layer by layer, while microscopically examining each section. This allows complete removal of the cancer, while preserving the maximum amount of healthy skin.

## How should I prepare for Mohs Surgery?

- Plan to spend the day with us.
- Bring a light lunch.
- Bring a book, ipad, magazine, a light jacket.
- Bring someone to drive. Space is limited, so bring only one person.
- Please do not bring children.

## Should I continue my medications?

- Take any regular medications prescribed by your physician. Discontinue any **NON-PRESCRIBED** agents, such as aspirin, ibuprofen, Aleve, herbal supplements, Vitamin E, Fish oil, ginko, garlic for 14 days prior to surgery.
- Continue taking any blood thinning agents that your doctor prescribed, including Plavix, aspirin, Coumadin.

## What are the benefits of Mohs Surgery?

It provides the highest cure rate for removal of a skin cancer (97-99%). Mohs surgery is performed with a local anesthetic only. The skin cancer is removed and examined microscopically to ensure all cancer cells are removed, allowing the preservation of the maximum amount of healthy tissue.

## What happens on the day of Mohs Surgery?

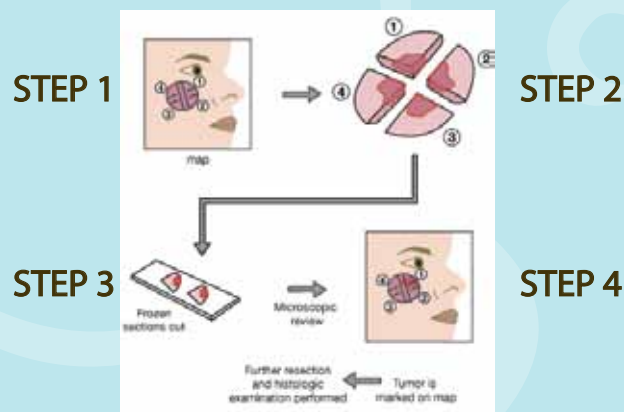
A medical history will be obtained, and you will sign an informed consent. Your regular medications will be checked, and any questions you have will be answered prior to surgery.

**Step 1:** The skin around the cancer will be anesthetized (numbed), and the visible skin cancer will be removed.

**Step 2:** A thin layer beyond the visible cancer will be surgically removed, graphed, processed, stained, and examined microscopally by Dr. Warthan. A bandage will be applied to the site, and you will be returned to a waiting area until this is completed. (This usually takes about an hour).

**Step 3:** If cancer cells are still present, the above procedure will be repeated, taking tissue only from the site where cancer cells remain.

Once the skin cancer is removed, we will discuss the closure of the wound with you.



## How long can I expect to be in the office?

It is impossible to know how many "stages" a skin cancer may require until clear margins are present. Each stage takes about one hour. Usually, it takes 2-3 stages to clear most skin cancers. Please come prepared to spend the entire day with us.

## How is the skin cancer site repaired?

After the cancer is "cleared", we will discuss with you the best possible repair options that will allow the best cosmetic result. These may include:

- Suturing the wound
- Healing by secondary intention (no stitches)
- Skin flap or graft
- Referral to another specialist (usually a plastic surgeon or ENT)

## What happens after surgery?

We will usually have you return 1-2 weeks after surgery. You should expect some swelling and bruising. There may be numbness around the site for up to a year after surgery. While scarring cannot be prevented, every effort will be made to minimize scarring. You will be given written instructions for wound care after surgery. You will be given contact information should any problems arise after surgery. Usually, there is minimal pain for the first 2-3 days after surgery.

Exercise and vigorous physical activity should be limited the first 2 weeks after surgery. Please discuss any concerns with the staff.

## Do I need to return for follow up after Mohs Surgery?

Once you have had a skin cancer, you are at an increased risk for additional skin cancers (50% chance of developing another skin cancer). For this reason, it is very important to follow up with your general dermatologist on a regular basis.