Preoperative Instructions for Minor Surgery

1. Please arrive **15 minutes** prior to your scheduled time.

2. Please bring only one person with you. Our waiting room will not accommodate multiple family members, so please limit visitors to one friend or family member.

3. Our office temperature is usually quite cool so you and your family member may need a jacket or sweater. Your family member may wait in our waiting room during surgery.

4. For skin cancer surgery, we ask that you plan to be in our office for up to half of the day. This doesn’t mean that you will be in surgery the entire time. The lab work is performed while you are in our office so that all the pathology is completed by the end of your surgery.

5. If you suffer from high blood pressure, it must be under good control prior to surgery.

6. We ask that you stop taking aspirin and aspirin containing products at least 10 days prior to your surgery, **unless** they were prescribed by your doctor.

7. **Do not stop taking prescription medications.**

8. Check your medications and bring a list of all medications you are taking.

9. Please stop if possible, or markedly decrease, alcohol and cigarette use five days before surgery and for two weeks afterward.

10. Eat a light breakfast or lunch before surgery unless you have been told otherwise.

11. You may wish to bring reading material to use while you are waiting. Dress comfortably.

12. Please cancel all activities for the day of surgery and possibly longer. Bruising and swelling are common after surgery. It is very likely that you will have a dressing in place after surgery. Plan to avoid strenuous physical activity for one to two weeks following surgery to allow proper healing.

13. We request that someone be available to drive you home following the completion of surgery.

14. You may wish to reserve a motel room the night before your surgery if you are coming from out of town as well as the night of surgery in case the surgery becomes extensive.

**For Questions or Emergency Care:**
Call the office at **601-984-5160**. You may need to speak with the doctor on-call.