



Columbia University Medical Center
New York Presbyterian Hospital
Department of Dermatology

Désirée Ratner, M.D.

Director

Unit for Dermatologic Surgery

and Cutaneous Oncology

Mohs Micrographic Surgery

Laser Surgery

EXCISION APPOINTMENT

Time Needed: _____

For an appointment contact

Heather or Veronica at

212-305-3625

9am-5pm

PATIENT INSTRUCTIONS PRIOR TO SURGERY

1. **DO NOT** take aspirin or aspirin products for ten days prior to surgery unless approved by your medical doctor. You may resume **two days** after your surgery. **If your doctor has requested that you take Aspirin or Coumadin**, please let us know so that we may obtain medical clearance from your doctor to authorize discontinuation of these medications.
2. You may take Tylenol for any aches or pains before your surgery. Tylenol does not cause bleeding, so that its use is not restricted.
3. **DO NOT** take Motrin, Ibuprofen or any over-the-counter medications listed on accompanying sheet five days prior to surgery, and may resume two days after surgery. If you have any questions about what medications you may take, please ask the doctor. Like aspirin, these medications may cause increase in bleeding, swelling, and other complications after surgery.
4. **Prior to surgery, please purchase the following items in order to care for your surgical wound.**
5. Be aware that you may not bend, lift or exercise for at least two weeks following your procedure. We also ask that you refrain from cleaning the house or apartment, lifting heavy grocery bags, and other heavy chores. Please make arrangements for assistance during the post-operative period.
6. Prior to surgery, please fill any prescriptions that may have been given to you by Dr. Ratner. If you have had a replacement heart valve or artificial joint, you will most likely require antibiotics prior to your procedure.

7. **If your surgery is on the face**, please do not wear any make-up or moisturizer on the day of your surgery.
8. Patients are allowed to eat, unless otherwise instructed.

If you have any questions prior to surgery, please call the office at (212)305-3625.

NOTE: If you smoke, please reduce or stop your smoking for one week prior, and one week after surgery. Please avoid any alcohol intake for two days prior to surgery, and resume two days after surgery.