

Carolina Skin Surgery Center Monthly Newsletter

June

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Edition 4

*CSSC is Dedicated to
Quality*

By: Tara Haltom

Here at Carolina Skin Surgery Center we take great pride in doing our very best to provide the highest quality of care to our patients. We have always strived to learn and grow with the needs of our patients.

This past year we have been involved with The North Carolina Medical Society Foundation and The Kanof Institute for Physician Leadership. Dr. Carruth, April LeClear and Tara Haltom had the opportunity to represent Carolina Skin Surgery Center in the first annual Clinical Quality Program.

The program was centered around ways to improve the practice and

assure that the quality of care for our patients was at its highest. Our project within the program was to improve and create methods to help our patients understand the Mohs procedure and what our patients could expect after their surgery.

We, as a team, created a YouTube video to help with visual comprehension. This video covers, start to finish, what you can expect before, during and after your procedure. We also created a video that shows what supplies you will need after your procedure.

These videos can be accessed on our website at www.carolinaskinsurgery.com.

The enthusiasm for quality improvement did not

stop there. We now have weekly sessions and work together as a team to continue with our own quality control projects. We have already seen progress within our practice. Another project that was a big hit was instituting the sale of wound care bags. Wound care bags are now offered to save our patients time and allow them to acquire the proper supplies that they will need to care for their wound after their procedure.

Carolina Skin Surgery Center is proud to be a part of programs that are focused on patients and raising the quality of care. We look forward to future projects that help make this practice the best and see firsthand our patients reaping the benefits of all our hard work.

What is Mohs Micrographic Surgery?



Mohs (rhymes with toes) Micrographic Surgery is an advanced treatment procedure for skin cancer which offers the highest potential for recovery – even if the skin cancer has been previously treated. This procedure is a state-of-the-art skin cancer treatment in which the physician serves as surgeon, pathologist, and reconstructive surgeon. The procedure was developed by Frederic Mohs, M.D. in the 1930's and has undergone several modifications throughout the years. It relies on the precision and accuracy of a microscope to trace and ensure removal of skin cancer down to its roots. The goal of the procedure is to remove the skin cancer totally while minimizing the amount of normal noncancerous skin removed in the process. The highly trained surgeons that perform Mohs Micrographic Surgery are specialists in both Dermatology and Skin Pathology. Properly trained Mohs surgeons have completed an internship and residency in Dermatology following medical school, plus a fellowship program approved by the American College of Mohs Surgery that includes extensive training in Pathology and reconstructive surgery for at least five years of specialized training beyond medical school.

Informative Websites to visit:

Carolina Skin Surgery Center: www.carolinaskinsurgery.com

Skin Cancer Foundation: www.skincancer.org

American College of Mohs Surgery: www.mohscollege.org

American Academy of Dermatology: www.aad.org

- Announcements for June:*
1. June 11th is Cynthia's birthday! Happy Birthday!
 2. June 15th is Father's Day!
 3. June 17th is Chiffon's 3 month anniversary!
 4. June 12st is the first day of summer.
 5. June 24th is Tara's birthday!!!! Happy Birthday!
 6. June 24th is also Chiffon's birthday! Happy Birthday!!

CAROLINA SKIN SURGERY CENTER

"Specializing in the treatment of skin cancer"

About Dr. Carruth:

Dr. Marc R. Carruth is the Director of Carolina Skin Surgery Center. Dr. Carruth received his M.D. degree from Duke University where he graduated with highest honors in 1993 and was inducted into the Alpha Omega Alpha Medical Honor Society. He was awarded a Howard Hughes Medical Institute fellowship at the National Institutes of Health.

Dr. Carruth completed his internship in Internal Medicine at Harvard, Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston, Massachusetts and a Dermatology residency at Emory University in Atlanta, Georgia where he was chief resident. Dr. Carruth completed his Mohs Micrographic and Dermatologic Surgery fellowship at Baptist Hospital in Kansas City, MO.

Dr. Carruth is known for his personable bedside manner and has been providing excellent care to patients in the Charlotte region since 1997. He has performed thousands of Mohs micrographic procedures during his tenure.

About Lisa Matuga, PA-C:

Lisa has been a Physician Assistant for over 5 years and has been providing excellent dermatologic care in the Charlotte area for over two years.

Lisa received her Master of Science in Medicine and graduated from the Physician Assistant Program at Western Michigan University in 2008. She has a passion for helping patients with their dermatological needs and we are very excited to have her as a part of our team.

Meet the Staff:

Receptionist: Sandy - She always has a smile on her face and is willing to help with anything. Sandy has been with Dr. Carruth since April of 2010.

Billing: Cathy – Understanding health insurance can be overwhelming, but Cathy is always willing to call and verify benefits and then explain them to you as simply as possible. Cathy has been with Dr. Carruth since December of 2008.

Surgery Coordinator/Medical Assistant: Ashley – She assists Dr. Carruth and Lisa Matuga, PA-C with procedures and also handles the surgery scheduling. If you have had Mohs surgery then you have probably spoken with her! Ashley has been with Dr. Carruth since May of 2011.

Lab Technician/Certified Medical Assistant: Tara – She is the one who processes the tissue for Dr. Carruth to review under the microscope (Mohs surgery). She also assists Dr. Carruth and Lisa with procedures. She has been with Dr. Carruth since September of 2007.

Registered Medical Assistant/Lab Technician: Jackie – She assists Dr. Carruth and Lisa with procedures and also helps process the tissue in the lab. Jackie has been with Dr. Carruth since October of 2008.

Certified Surgical Technician: Cynthia – She assists Dr. Carruth and Lisa with procedures and has been with Dr. Carruth since September of 2009.

Medical Assistant/Front Office Assistant: Chiffon – our newest member! Chiffon started with us on 3-17-14. Chiffon is assisting Lisa Matuga, PA-C with patients and helping out the front office. We are happy to have her on our team.

Office Manager: April has been with Dr. Carruth since August of 2006. Please let her know if you have any suggestions or comments – we encourage feedback and are always willing to learn.

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