

Carolina Skin Surgery Center Monthly Newsletter

May

5/1/2014

Edition 3

May is National Skin Cancer Awareness Month

By: Jackie Taylor

There are three different types of skin cancers, Basal Cell Carcinoma, Squamous Cell Carcinoma, and Melanoma. Melanoma is a more serious type of skin cancer which can be found in both men and woman, young or old. Studies have shown that more woman get Melanoma than men. People most at risk for Melanoma include:

- 1) Someone with a high number of moles
- 2) Someone with red hair, fair skin, blue eyes and freckles
- 3) Someone who burns very easily
- 4) History of two or more family members with melanoma

Melanoma is very curable when caught and treated early. Surgical excision is the most common method for removal with about a 95%

cure rate. It is recommended that each person examine their skin monthly for skin abnormalities, have a healthy relationship with their dermatologist, and learn the ABCDE'S of melanoma.

A- Asymmetry: Normal moles or freckles are completely symmetrical, in case of skin cancers, spots will not look the same on both sides.

B- Border: A mole or spot with blurry and or jagged edges.

C- Color: Normal spots are usually one color; a mole that is more than one hue is suspicious.

D- Diameter: If the lesion is larger than a pencil eraser (1/4 inch or 6mm), this includes areas that do

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.

not have any other abnormalities.

E- Elevation: Elevation means the mole is raised and has an uneven surface.

Look for the ABCDE's of melanoma, and if you see 1

or more, make an appointment with a physician immediately.

Always remember to wear your sunscreen SPF 30 or higher, and avoid midday hours where the UV rays

are strongest, 10am-4pm and seek shade when possible.

Announcements

1. Nurses Week is the week of May 5th! We are so proud of all of our Medical Assistants! Ashley, Chiffon, Cynthia, Jackie, and Tara do a wonderful job taking care of our

patients and we appreciate them so much!

2. May 10th is Jackie's birthday! We wish her a very happy birthday!
3. Happy Mother's Day to all of our mom's.

4. Memorial Day is May 26th. The office will be closed.

5. We celebrate Ashley's 3 year anniversary on May 31st!

CSSC Word Search

N	R	P	E	A	O	U	W	U	B	K	K	H	P	U	R	I	E	N	M
B	D	J	S	U	R	Z	V	Q	X	V	E	P	K	I	P	Z	S	D	M
R	U	E	W	E	M	B	L	Z	D	U	D	R	G	F	U	E	Q	Q	Y
O	P	H	X	K	X	V	A	G	C	L	R	K	B	Q	T	O	U	N	K
L	S	J	P	F	V	O	J	S	P	S	A	V	Y	A	U	L	A	W	K
O	T	U	V	Q	P	B	S	M	A	B	S	D	R	C	I	E	M	R	P
C	T	K	Z	I	P	V	W	O	Y	L	K	B	P	Z	G	L	O	N	U
S	K	E	L	A	E	Z	C	H	U	A	E	V	V	T	Z	E	U	Y	B
R	N	U	B	S	N	C	R	S	I	L	Z	Q	S	O	P	V	S	Z	B
K	S	M	O	Y	D	Q	O	G	E	L	O	C	H	I	B	A	F	J	S
T	E	U	G	M	H	M	O	C	H	C	H	V	S	H	X	T	C	Z	J
R	D	A	F	M	J	L	U	L	T	C	N	Y	M	F	R	I	R	A	R
Y	Y	M	M	E	F	P	U	B	M	I	B	Z	L	B	J	O	C	E	A
E	J	I	O	T	V	D	A	A	O	G	N	N	S	T	E	N	T	K	M
U	C	I	H	R	P	O	E	W	K	S	U	N	S	C	R	E	E	N	O
Q	F	M	P	Y	Q	T	N	Y	T	S	I	C	H	D	M	F	I	S	N
L	V	F	E	P	K	O	K	N	X	R	D	M	O	A	O	D	T	A	A
S	K	O	R	D	H	A	B	O	R	D	E	R	I	G	O	E	L	W	L
W	X	S	C	C	I	N	R	S	B	P	J	D	F	C	X	T	F	R	E
T	Y	B	I	Q	E	P	Q	K	E	U	W	A	R	U	T	T	X	B	M

WORD LIST: TEAM, MOHS, SUNSCREEN, SQUAMOUS, COLOR, ASYMMETRY, BASAL, CELEBRATE, ELEVATION, BORDER, DIAMETER, MELANMOA

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.

CAROLINA SKIN SURGERY CENTER

2615 E. 7TH ST.

CHARLOTTE, NC 28204

Phone: 704-295-0000

Fax: 704-295-0005

www.carolinaskinsurgery.com