

COSMETIC MOLE REMOVAL – RADIOFREQUENCY SURGERY



What is Radiofrequency Surgery?

Radiofrequency surgery uses a device called the Ellman Surgitron. A current in the radiofrequency range passes through a fine wire or ball electrode and can be used to remove raised lesions and moles on the skin without a surgical scalpel incision or stitching. This eliminates the risk of the typical scar formation which occurs after surgical excisions.

Who is a candidate for Radiofrequency Surgery?

The Surgitron can be used to remove any raised lesion on the skin, like skin tags, any raised mole or warty lesion. The Surgitron is only used for benign moles. Skin cancers require deeper surgical excision and must be sent away for pathology assessment.

What is the treatment like?

After the benign mole or skin tag has been cleaned with an antiseptic solution, the area is anaesthetised with local anaesthetic. Once the area is numb, the fine wire loop of the Surgitron is used to plane the lesion off to the level of the skin. Then a small ball electrode is applied to the area to ensure that the skin surface is completely smooth and sealed. A small quantity of antiseptic ointment and a small circular bandaid or dressing is applied over the area. Each mole takes between five and ten minutes to remove.

What are the after effects?

After the mole is removed, a small circular wound remains on the skin. The wound must be kept moist with an antiseptic ointment and band aid during the healing phase, which takes approximately 7 to 10 days. Once a day, the ointment and bandaid must be changed. The area forms a small white scab, and when the skin has healed underneath it, the scab will lift off by itself. Once the scab has lifted, the dressing need no longer be applied. Most people will have some fine redness on the area for a few weeks after the procedure. This can be covered with a little make-up or concealer and it will settle to normal skin colour in a short period of time.

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