

# **PATIENT INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE ADVANCED SKIN SURGERY**

## **Important Message to our Patients:**

**With your help we want to optimize your surgical outcome at the Akron Dermatology. Therefore, it is essential for you to follow the guidelines below to avoid surgical complications.**

**Stop taking all over-the-counter medications two weeks before your scheduled surgery. This includes all herbals (especially garlic, ginger, and feverfew), vitamins (especially vitamin E) and anti-inflammatory medications such as Ibuprofen and naproxen. Many over-the-counter preparations for headaches, cough, cold and other common ailments contain anti-inflammatory medications or aspirin-it is best to avoid these products. If you must take an over-the-counter product, read active ingredients label carefully.**

**YOU MAY TAKE TYLENOL (ACETAMINOPHEN) FOR HEADACHES OR DISCOMFORT.**

**If you have been instructed by your physician to take aspirin for a medical condition, you may continue to take it. However, if you started yourself on aspirin for the cardio protective effect, please stop the aspirin two (2) weeks before your scheduled surgery.**

**If you take Coumadin (Warfarin) or Plavix, please continue to take it as prescribed unless otherwise instructed by your physician.**

**Do not drink alcohol for three (3) days before your surgery.**

**Fasting is NOT required for this procedure.**

**You may continue taking all prescription medications before and after your surgery unless otherwise instructed by your physician.**

**Please inform your dermatologic surgeon if you have been instructed by a physician to take antibiotics before minor surgical and dental procedures.**