

Dr. Joel Cohen's AboutSkin Dermatology

LIVING A LIFE OF BALANCE



IT'S ALL ABOUT SKIN In our never-ending quests to look younger and better—not to mention stay healthier—we need more than a medical day spa. When living with Colorado's relentless sunshine and thin air, we all need a well-established and highly respected, quality medical dermatology practice. AboutSkin Dermatology and DermSurgery provides just that.

Founded in 2004 by Joel Cohen, MD, AboutSkin is staffed by physicians who are board certified in

dermatology. The practice offers a full range of services, including general and cosmetic dermatology, laser therapies, laser hair removal, sclerotherapy and chemical peels.

PRESTIGIOUS, COMPREHENSIVE TRAINING

Dr. Cohen is a nationally and internationally recognized expert in cosmetic and skin cancer dermatology. He studied at Mount Sinai School of Medicine in New York, graduated in 1996, and completed an internship in surgery at the Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit. Dr. Cohen went on to train in a full fellowship at the American College of Mohs Micrographic Surgery and Cutaneous Oncology in Vancouver, British Columbia, graduating in 2001. This prestigious fellowship gave Dr. Cohen highly specialized experience in advanced dermatologic surgery, Botox and cosmetic dermatology.

Dr. Cohen is one of only 10 full fellowship-trained dermatologists from Mohs College practicing in the state of Colorado. During his fellowship, he had the opportunity to study with Drs. Alistair and Jean Carruthers who first

INTERNATIONALLY

ACCLAIMED

DERMATOLOGIST WHO

TRAINED WITH THE

BOTOX PIONEERS

BLENDS COSMETIC

AND SKIN CANCER

THERAPIES AT HIS

DENVER CLINICS

developed Botox for cosmetic use in 1987. While studying in Vancouver, Dr. Cohen gained valuable experience in cosmetic Botox procedures and became involved in clinical trials for Botox early in his career. This experience influenced Dr. Cohen's future dermatology practice. Of his patients at AboutSkin, 40 to 45 percent have skin cancer concerns and 60 to 65 percent come for cosmetic dermatology.

BLENDING MEDICAL AND COSMETIC

CONCERNS Dr. Cohen aims to "blend these worlds" by utilizing cosmetic dermatology techniques and treatments to

STORY: VICTORIA C. SMITH, MD

help prevent skin cancers in patients or to improve surgical outcomes. "These two worlds are now coming together," he says. "For example, Photodynamic Therapy (PDT), which is an FDA-approved treatment for actinic keratoses, now may be useful for many other conditions such as for patients with a history of skin cancer or basal cell nevus syndrome. PDT may be used as chemoprevention to decrease the chance of skin cancer formation. Chemoprevention is huge right now."

Dr. Cohen describes other examples of treatments initially used for cosmetic dermatology that can play a role in treating skin cancer patients: "Using Botox injections to relax forehead tissue prior to skin cancer reconstruction surgery; using fillers to restore contours post surgical scarring; using lasers to treat scars using cosmetic techniques."

"We have so many lasers for cosmetics; it is wonderful to be able to offer these to our skin cancer patients and creates a really nice dynamic," he says.



Since graduating from the Mohs fellowship program in 2001, Dr. Cohen has become a national and international expert in cosmetic procedures. He speaks at numerous medical and dermatological conferences and symposia, has co-authored a text book on Botox and edits several dermatology medical journals. "It is a lot of work, but it's how I stay up on what is coming up in the next few years," he says.

He has published more than 65 articles and book chapters, is actively involved in many clinical trials for new cosmetic pharmaceutical products and teaches instructors in Botox procedure techniques. Although he is in high demand as a speaker, and despite a rigorous schedule of presenting and teaching at national meetings, and attending many academic committees, Dr. Cohen's first concern is his patients.

A PREMIER PRACTICE Dr. Cohen's describes his concept for AboutSkin as: "I really wanted to open up an office that reflects a balance between cosmetics and skin cancer practice," he says. "Being involved in teaching is very important to me, and we are a very academically oriented, very cutting-edge dermatology practice."

Dr. Cohen works with two other board-certified dermatologists: Dr. Szabo and Dr. Simodynes. Dr. Szabo joined the practice two-and-a-half years ago. She is a general dermatologist with special training and interest in psoriasis and the use of biologics, which are therapeutic agents that can alter the immune

THE DETAILS

ABOUTSKIN DERMATOLOGY AND DERMSURGERY, P.C.

SWEDISH MEDICAL CAMPUS LOCATION:

499 E. HAMPDEN AVE., SUITE 450, ENGLEWOOD
303-756-7546, WWW.ABOUTSKINDERM.COM

SKYRIDGE MEDICAL CENTER CAMPUS LOCATION:

CONIFER BUILDING, 10099 RIDGE GATE PARKWAY,
SUITE 260, LONE TREE, 303-799-4260

SKIN CANCER PREVENTION TIPS:

DR. COHEN SAYS "EVERYONE OVER 40 YEARS OLD SHOULD HAVE AN ANNUAL SKIN EXAM, AND EVEN YOUNGER IF YOU HAVE A LOT OF MOLES, CONGENITAL MOLES (MOLES PRESENT SINCE BIRTH) OR A FAMILY HISTORY OF SKIN CANCER." TIPS INCLUDE:

- WEAR A HAT AND SUNSCREEN.
- PERFORM A SELF-EXAM EVERY FEW MONTHS.
- KNOW YOUR FAMILY HISTORY OF SKIN CANCER, ESPECIALLY FOR MELANOMA.

system and may be used to treat severe types of psoriasis. Dr. Szabo is also an expert in sclerotherapy and laser treatments. Dr. Simodynes trained at the University of Colorado and practices general and pediatric dermatology.

Dr. Cohen emphasizes that at AboutSkin, "All full skin exams are done by MDs. With 300 days of sunshine a year, high altitude and an outdoor lifestyle, the rates for skin cancer are higher in Colorado than in the rest of the U.S., and the rates of melanoma are higher than the national average," says Dr. Cohen. See the sidebar on how to stay safe this summer. **CE**

Victoria C. Smith is a board-certified Family Medicine physician and freelance medical writer. Originally from London, England, she lives in Littleton with her husband, who is also a local physician.