SKIN

COMPELLING COMMENT

DIBO and DIVO: The Role of Acronyms in Mohs Micrographic Surgery for Efficient Dual-Headed Microscope Communication and Education

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Acronyms are helpful tools for accurate and efficient communication between Mohs surgeons and learners.[1] In the fast-paced environment of Mohs surgery, we propose using two time-saving acronyms and placing a visual aid (Figure 1) near the dual-headed microscope during slide review for practical educational improvements in Mohs surgery.

A common source of confusion between surgeons and learners at the dual-headed microscope arises when toggling between tissue sections. Learners may ask whether they are viewing a “deeper” section; however, “deeper” could mean “deeper in the block” or “deeper in the patient”. As shown in Figure 1, these represent opposite directions. With rotating learners, repeated clarification of this distinction can disrupt slide interpretation.

We use two acronyms to address this problem: DIBO (Deeper In the BlOck) and DIVO (Deeper In VivO). These acronyms describe the direction the surgeon moves as they switch between specimen sections. DIBO refers to deeper layers of the tissue block, whereas DIVO refers to deeper anatomic levels within the patient. As surgeons toggle between specimen sections, they can orient learners by stating “DIBO” or “DIVO.”

For example, first, the learners can reference **Figure 1** posted near the microscope when beginning slide review. Subsequently, the surgeon may state, “I am starting at this section (Figure 1, section 3) and moving DIVO (Figure 1, section 2, following the directional arrow shown in Figure 1).” If the surgeon returns to a prior section, they may announce “DIBO” to clarify moving from section 2 to section 3 on Figure 1, allowing learners to maintain orientation.

In conclusion, DIBO/DIVO are simple acronyms that can enhance communication in Mohs surgery. These acronyms orient learners during slide interpretation with Figure 1 serving as a visual aid. Implementing these acronyms may improve the efficiency of a Mohs clinic and enrich the educational experience for trainees.

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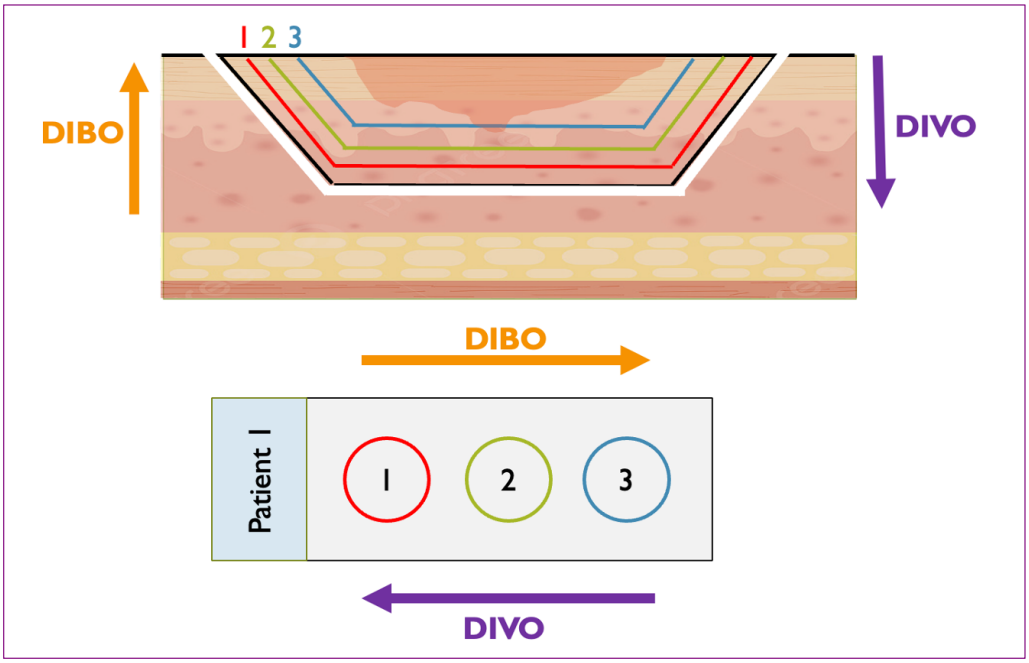

Figure 1. Specimen blocks and slide shown with en-face cut sections. The arrowheads are used to indicate the direction of DIBO and DIVO sections.

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