



P: 478-744-1710  
F: 478-259-4503  
4050 Riverside Dr.  
Macon, GA 31210  
visioneyegroup.com

David W. Boone, D.O.  
Jeffery C. Hinson, Jr., M.D.  
Kinsey P. Watkins, O.D.  
J. Stephen Ellis, M.D.  
William H. Jarrard, Jr., M.D.  
J. Michael Simmons, Jr. O.D.  
Misti S. Smith, O.D.

## INFORMED CONSENT FOR CATARACT SURGERY

PATIENT'S NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE OF BIRTH: \_\_\_\_\_ ACCOUNT NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

### WHAT IS A CATARACT AND HOW IS IT TREATED?

The lens in the eye can become cloudy and hard, a condition known as a cataract. Cataracts may cause blurred vision, dulled vision, sensitivity to light and glare, and/or ghost images. If the cataract changes vision so much that it interferes with your daily life, the cataract may need to be removed. Surgery is the only way to remove a cataract. You can decide not to have the cataract removed. If you don't have the surgery, your vision loss from the cataract will continue to get worse.

### HOW WILL REMOVING THE CATARACT AFFECT MY VISION?

The goal of cataract surgery is to correct the decreased vision that was caused by the cataract. During the surgery, the eye surgeon removes the cataract and puts in a new artificial lens called an intraocular lens or IOL. Cataract surgery will not correct other causes of decreased vision, such as glaucoma, diabetes, or age-related macular degeneration. **Most people still need to wear glasses or contact lens after cataract surgery for either near and/or distance vision and astigmatism.**

### WHAT TYPES OF IOLs ARE AVAILABLE?

Your ophthalmologist will help you decide on the type of IOL that will replace your cloudy lens. There are IOLs available to treat nearsightedness (myopia), farsightedness (hyperopia) and astigmatism. IOLs usually provide either near or distance vision: these single focus lenses are called Mono-Focal IOLs. Some newer IOLs can be provided for near, intermediate, and distance vision: these multiple focus lenses are called Multi-Focal IOLs. IOLs that treat astigmatism are called Toric IOLs. You can also have one eye corrected for near vision, and the other for distance, a choice called monovision.

### WHAT IS ASTIGMATISM? ARE THERE OTHER TREATMENTS FOR IT?

Patients with nearsightedness and farsightedness often also have astigmatism. Astigmatism is caused by an irregularly shaped cornea; instead of being round like a basketball, the cornea is shaped like a football. This can make your vision blurry. In addition to the Toric IOLs, astigmatism can be reduced by glasses, contact lenses, and other refractive surgery (LASIK, PRK or LRI). Any attempt at astigmatism reduction could result in over-or under-correction, in which case glasses, contact lenses or another procedure may be needed.

### WHAT ARE THE MAJOR RISKS OF CATARACT SURGERY?

All operations and procedures are risky and can result in unsuccessful results, complications, injury, or even death, from both known and unknown causes. The major risks of cataract surgery include but are not limited to: bleeding; infections; injury to parts of the eye and nearby structures from anesthesia, the operation itself, or pieces of the lens that cannot be removed; high eye pressure; a detached retina, and drooped eyelid. Depending upon your eye and the type of IOL, you may have increased night glare or halos, double vision, ghost images, impaired depth perception, blurry vision and trouble driving at night. The eye surgeon might not be able to put in the IOL you choose. In addition, the IOL may later need to be repositioned or replaced.

Depending upon the type of anesthesia, other risks are possible, including cardiac and respiratory problems, and in rare cases, death.

There is no guarantee that cataract surgery or astigmatism reduction will improve your vision. As a result of the surgery and/or anesthesia, it is possible that your vision could be made worse. In some cases, complications may result in poor vision, total loss of vision, or even loss of the eye in rare situations. You may need additional treatment or surgery to treat these complications. This additional treatment is not included in the fee for this procedure.

**PATIENT'S ACCEPTANCE OF RISKS**

I understand that it is impossible for the doctor to inform me of every possible complication that may occur. By signing below, I agree that my doctor has answered all my questions, that I have been offered a copy to this consent form, and that I understand and accept the risks, benefits, and alternatives of cataract surgery. I have checked my choice for the type of procedure and type of IOL.

\_\_\_\_\_ I wish to have cataract surgery on my \_\_\_\_\_ eye with a **Mono-Focal IOL** to create better \_\_\_\_\_ vision.  
(Distance, Near, Intermediate)

\_\_\_\_\_ I wish to have cataract surgery on my \_\_\_\_\_ eye with a **Toric IOL** to reduce astigmatism and create better \_\_\_\_\_ vision.  
(Distance, Near)

\*I understand that there is an additional out-of-pocket fee for this IOL.

\_\_\_\_\_ I wish to have cataract surgery on my \_\_\_\_\_ eye with a **Multi-Focal IOL** to create better \_\_\_\_\_ vision.  
(Distance, Near, Intermediate)

\*I understand that there is an additional out-of-pocket fee for this IOL.

\_\_\_\_\_ I wish to have cataract surgery on my \_\_\_\_\_ eye with a **Multi-Focal Toric IOL** to reduce astigmatism and create better \_\_\_\_\_ vision.  
(Distance, Near, Intermediate)

\*I understand that there is an additional out-of-pocket fee for this IOL.

**I understand that with any of the above IOL choices, glasses or contact lenses may be needed to provide the best possible vision.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Patient Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jeffery C. Hinson, Jr., M. D.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Witness

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date