



CONSENT TO DIAGNOSTIC AND TREATMENT PROCEDURES

I, _____, hereby consent to the following diagnostic and/or treatment procedure(s):

Retinal Laser or Anterior Segment Yag Laser on my RIGHT and/or LEFT eye

To be performed upon myself by Dr. Fareed Ali / Dr. Narendra Armogan / Dr. Dan DeAngelis / Dr. David Yan/ Dr. Alan Kosaric /Dr. Kwesi McGuire

I fully understand and I am satisfied with the explanation of the anticipated nature and effect, including any side effects and possible complications of such diagnostic and/or treatment procedure(s) given to me by Dr. Fareed Ali / Dr. Narendra Armogan / Dr. David Yan / Dr. Alan Kosaric / Dr. Kewsi McGuire. I understand that there is risk associated with all the procedures and may include, but are not limited to a 1/1000 chance of blindness, 5 % chance of a retinal detachment and glaucoma which may be managed both medically and occasionally surgically. Initial here to acknowledge that I have had the opportunity to read this paragraph.

Side effects of lasers are unavoidable changes that occur in the eye as part of the beneficial effects that the laser provides. Permanent scar tissue formation inside the eye will occur and is a part of the procedure. This can result in noticeable blind-spots, and reductions in peripheral and/or night vision which may have an effect on your function. Other known complications of laser can include bleeding inside the eye, and damage to the cornea or lens which may result in loss of sight. Initial here to acknowledge that I have had the opportunity to read this paragraph.

Furthermore, I understand that I have the opportunity to discuss this document with my legal counsel should I so choose, and that this will have no impact on my treatment. As well, if I do not have a legal counsel to review this document with, one will be provided by the offices of Ophthalmic Consultant Centers Inc. for a fee. By signing this document I understand that I have chosen to forego this right and my initial here is an agreement of same.

Information and Consent related to your Laser Eye Surgery

RISKS ASSOCIATED WITH LASER TREATMENT

There are many things that can occur as a consequence of any eye laser procedure. The information provided here is to facilitate your understanding and consent to having laser eye surgery. Please note: this not considered to be an exhaustive or complete list. This list is to supplement your consent process, and any discussions you have with your eye surgeon. By agreeing to have laser eye surgery at OCCeyecare, or laser eye surgery with any of our surgeons at a different facility, you are consenting to all of the following risks related to laser. By agreeing to having laser you have acknowledged that you are aware of these risks as well as any other risks that have been specifically mentioned by your surgeons, or your surgical team and you waive your rights for any claims related to lack of information or appropriate consent.



LASER EYE SURGERY

There is a one in 1000 or less than one percent chance that a laser eye surgery patient will experience complications that lead to blindness after their procedure. This refers to complete blindness and loss of your eye. It should be noted that there are other less desirable outcomes which result in vision effects or loss in up to 20% of all patients who undergo laser treatment. It is most important to realize that, with very few exceptions, laser eye surgery will NOT result in improvement in your vision. Virtually all of the laser eye procedures performed at OCCeyecare are designed to treat serious, vision threatening eye conditions that could result in permanent blindness or vision loss without laser treatment. Many of the laser treatments have not been proven in Randomized Clinical Trials and as such may be considered to be off label indications, but have a large volume of experience with surgeons across North America and the World. Furthermore, some of the laser treatments may be considered to not be medically necessary and may thus be billable to you (eg LASIK, PRK, laser hair removal, retinal stimulation lasers). Therefore, in the vast majority of cases, the best case result is that your vision will remain stable or the rate of deterioration will be reduced, but not improve. Your doctor will discuss with you if your laser procedure is designed to improve your vision.

TYPES OF LASER COMPLICATIONS (common complications and not an exhaustive list)

GLAUCOMA

Increased intraocular pressure (IOP) can occur after any laser procedure. Therefore, preventative treatment in the form of topical medication, drops and even surgery may be required to stop the onset of glaucoma. Your IOP may be increased due to the nature of the laser surgery, inflammation, or use of drugs at the time of surgery, neovascularization related to your underlying medical problems, exacerbation of re-existing glaucoma or complications related to your surgery. It is also acknowledged that patients with advanced or end stage glaucoma can develop IOP spikes with surgery that may result in the complete loss of vision and blindness with surgery, while a rare complication it is not unknown. By consenting to having laser eye surgery at OCCeyecare you acknowledge these risks and agree to hold harmless your surgeons or their surgical teams for these or any acceptable risks of your surgical procedure.

CYSTOID MACULAR EDEMA

There can be the development of swelling in your retina or macula after laser; this swelling may result in the loss of vision. This is a common finding that can occur in more than 20% of all patients having any type of eye laser surgery. Ways to treat this condition to assist your loss of vision may include the use of additional drops, intraocular injections or surgery may be used to treat the macular edema. Once you have developed macular edema this may result in the permanent loss of vision even if there is successful treatment of your condition. By consenting to having surgery at OCCeyecare you acknowledge these risks and agree to hold harmless your surgeons or their surgical teams for these or any acceptable risks of your surgical procedure.

CORNEAL DAMAGE

Laser eye surgery may result in changes or damage to the cornea which may result in chronic cornea surface damage, cornea infection and/or the risk of developing corneal swelling or edema. Any of these conditions can result in vision loss that is worse than your original vision. Most commonly this type of cornea damage or swelling will slowly diminish in the post operative period but may require you to be on drops for up to several months as the cornea heals. Sometimes a temporary contact lens needs to be placed on the cornea for several days. During the time there is corneal damage and/or edema, there can be loss of vision which for the most part will be temporary and often resolves – however there is a chance that this does not resolve and you will require corneal transplant surgery to restore some of your vision. Some of the vision loss may be permanent and irreversible even with further corneal surgery. By consenting to having surgery at OCCeyecare you acknowledge these risks and agree to hold harmless your surgeons or their surgical teams for these or any acceptable risks of your surgical procedure.



FOREIGN BODY SENSATION

The feeling of a foreign body on your eye is a common finding following laser eye surgery. Most commonly this foreign body sensation may last for several hours or rarely for a few days. It should be noted that some patients may have a permanent sensation of a foreign body that can not be resolved – this is unfortunate but is an expected albeit rare side effect of any eye surgery. This may be associated with burning of your eyes, blurring of vision, and heaviness of your lids – these are all symptoms related to dry eyes which can be exacerbated by having any laser treatment and may not be fixable by your surgical team. By consenting to having surgery at OCCeyecare you acknowledge these risks and agree to hold harmless your surgeons or their surgical teams for these or any acceptable risks of your surgical procedure.

IRIS AND PUPIL

With laser eye surgery there can be permanent changes to the iris or the pupil that may result in both cosmetic as well as functional visual problems. Some of these issues may result in transillumination defects which can contribute to glare, diplopia, glaucoma, macular edema or residual iritis. Especially with laser procedures that target the iris, defects in the iris are expected and are a normal outcome of surgery which may be associated with glare, cosmetic disturbance, poor refractive outcomes and haloes – all of these are expected outcomes and do not represent a surgical complication. By consenting to having surgery at OCCEyeCare you acknowledge these risks and agree to hold harmless yoursurgeons or their surgical teams for these or any acceptable risks of your surgical procedure.

VISION and OCULAR DIFFICULTIES AFTER-SURGERY

- **GLARE**

A glare, caused by direct or reflected light usually causes a discomfort after laser surgery that disappears with time. Lasers that target the iris can cause long term glare, halo, or double vision that can rarely be a permanent problem.

- **DRY EYES**

Dry eyes can last for a few days to several weeks after laser eye surgery. During this time, patients can use artificial tears to alleviate any discomfort caused by dry eyes.

- **WATERY EYES**

Patients can expect their eyes to be watery for a few hours to a few days after laser.

- **OCULAR IRRITATION**

Irritation can occur for several hours to a few days after laser and can be relieved using artificial lubricating tear drops.

- **FLOATERS**

Following laser treatment it may be normal to develop new floaters in your vision, these may be persistent and permanent and while further attempts to reduce these floaters may be done with additional laser or surgery this may not be possible.

- **VISUAL FIELD LOSS**

Many types of laser treatments are associated with blind spots or loss of visual field – or areas of vision. While your surgeon will attempt to reduce the visual significance of these blind spots sometimes this is simply not possible. This loss of visual field may be permanent and necessary to protect you from going completely blind. The loss of visual field may affect your ability to have depth perception, navigate at night time or have a driver's license.

By consenting to having surgery at OCCeyecare you acknowledge these risks and agree to hold harmless your surgeons or their surgical teams for these or any acceptable risks of your surgical procedure.



LASER POST-TREATMENT

It is extremely important to follow all of the instructions given to you by your surgeon and our medical staff regarding care of your eyes after laser treatment. This includes using all eye drops correctly and for the correct number of days after laser. It is also very important to keep all of your required clinic appointments after laser treatment. This applies even if your vision improves or is stable, and you have no eye discomfort or other symptoms. Not using your drops properly and/or missing follow up appointments can result in worse post-laser results and can result in permanent vision loss.

POST-SURGICAL MEDICAL EMERGENCIES

REGULAR POST-LASER SYMPTOMS

Ocular pains, red eyes, tearing and blurred vision can be normal side effects of undergoing laser eye surgery. Patients will be informed of any additional post-laser symptoms to be aware of by their surgeon.

IRREGULAR POST-SURGICAL SYMPTOMS

Patients who experience the immediate loss of vision, severe eye pain, yellow or thick eye discharge, vomiting sensations, or increasing redness of the eyes should contact the OCC Eyecare immediately or presenting to the closest emergency department for emergency care. If you fail to notify your surgeon or our medical staff of the nature of your emergency so we can manage your concerns you agree to hold OCC EyeCare and its surgeons harmless. By consenting to having surgery at OCC EyeCare you acknowledge these risks and agree to hold harmless your surgeons or their surgical teams for these or any acceptable risks of your surgical procedure.

I agree that I have read and understood all of the aforementioned information and that I agree and consent to be held by the terms that are listed herein. By consenting to having surgery at OCC EyeCare I acknowledge these risks and agree to hold harmless your surgeons or their surgical teams for these or any acceptable risks of your surgical procedure.

FAQ (FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS)

1. When will my vision be better?

Your vision will normally be very blurry for at least 20 minutes after laser. This should return to what your vision was just prior to laser after several hours. Most laser treatments will NOT result in an improvement in vision. Your surgeon will inform you if your laser will improve your vision.

2. Can I drive home after laser surgery?

We do not recommend that you drive yourself home after laser. Please arrange for a driver or public transportation.

3. When can I go back to driving?

If the vision in your unaffected eye is better than 20/50, you can resume driving the following day after surgery.

4. Can I take a shower?

Yes.



5. How soon can I return to work after surgery?

You can return to work as soon as you feel comfortable with your vision.

6. Will I need my glasses after surgery?

The laser treatments you receive will have no affect on your need for glasses.

7. Why is my eye so bloodshot?

Redness on the white part of the eye can occur due to minor broken blood vessels on the surface of the eye. These will resolve over 1-2 weeks.

8. How long to use your drops?

It is extremely important to use your drops as directed by your physician and according to the instructions on the pharmacy prescription. This applies even if your eye feels comfortable and if your vision improves or remains stable.

9. What pain reducing medications should I take pain post-operatively?

Tylenol and other equivalent pain-killers are safe to use. However, patients must avoid blood thinning pain-killers such as Aspirin.

10. Can I exercise and do aerobics after surgery?

Exercise and physical activity can be performed after most laser procedures. However, there are some exceptions. Please discuss this with your surgeon at the time of the laser procedure.