



Name: _____

Address: _____

LASIK TREATMENT, AGREEMENT & CONSENT FORM

Please take sufficient time to read and understand this form thoroughly before signing it.

This form is a legal document that requires your signature before you can be accepted for treatment. It is signed by you and the treating doctor, and is witnessed at the clinic on the day. This form gives the doctor the right to treat you and sets out the entire legal relationship between the patient, Peace Lasik Centre and the doctor. This form covers all subsequent treatments.

This form lists the alternatives available to you and the known complications. It is given so that you can make an informed decision about having LASIK treatment to correct or modify your myopia, hyperopia or astigmatism. When considered in conjunction with the Patient's Information, it gives a balanced view of LASIK and the risks involved. If you have any questions regarding any of our literature, please contact us before attending treatment.

We give you all the information possible before you come into the clinic so that you can consider all aspects of treatment in advance. You should not be presented with any new information on the day of treatment. Please note that this information is applicable to everyone and your final decision must be based upon the specific advice of the treating doctor having conducted a full eye examination taking into consideration your medical history, personal circumstances and expectations.

Peace Lasik Centre does not interfere with the patient/doctor relationship. The doctor supplies his or hers expertise and skills as an independent contractor and is not an employee or agent under the clinical control of Peace Lasik Centre. It is solely the doctor's decision, after full consultation and counseling, that determines suitability for treatment.

Several organizations (e.g. Police, Armed Forces, Fire Brigade, Civil Aviation, Authority, etc.) hold strict eyesight requirements. You must conduct your own enquiries prior to attending treatment.

Please advise your Family Physician that you are considering LASIK, as they can be a valuable independent source of medical advice.

Compensation will not be paid if treatment or other appointments do not take place for any reason, including sickness or mechanical breakdown. Treatment can be aborted even after the flap is cut.

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Alternative Methods Of Correcting Vision

Contact lenses and spectacles provide correction for myopia, hyperopia, and astigmatism. There are several surgical techniques, which can offer improvement in vision without glasses or contact lenses. One technique is called Photo Refractive Keratectomy (PRK), which involves lasering the front surface of the eye (the cornea). PRK is an older and more established technique and can treat near sightedness up to -8 Dioptres. Epi-Lasik involves the mechanical removal of the superficial epithelium without the deeper stromal incision made during Lasik surgery.

The Underlying Principle Of LASIK

LASIK (Laser Assisted in Situ Keratomileusis) is a technique where a thin corneal flap is created with the XP Zyoptix microkeratome. The flap is folded back and the middle of the cornea is exposed. The laser is then used to remove a layer of tissue from the central region of the cornea. This changes its curvature by reducing the cornea's thickness more centrally. The flap is then replaced.

LASIK REFRACTIVE SURGERY

- 1)... The doctor must ensure that you are fully informed of the risks and have realistic expectations of the procedures. He decides the treatment protocol, dosage, and all aspects of aftercare and emergency procedures. He supervises his assistants and is responsible for their work. The doctor will only undertake surgery when satisfied with laser settings and calibration, microkeratome condition, sterilization and assembly, has checked that all necessary equipment is in good order.
- 2)... The LASIK procedure requires the use of sophisticated mechanical equipment and the application of concepts that are not routinely used by most surgeons. The procedure requires greater surgical skill (over PRK Epi-Lasik) and has greater potential for surgical complications.
- 3)... LASIK is a surgical procedure to minimize the need for glasses or contact lenses. It is unlike most other eye operations, which are performed on damaged or diseased eyes. LASIK involves the surgical creation of a thin flap of the eye's surface by a microkeratome. The laser then removes tissue in the deeper layers of the cornea. After lasering, the flap is repositioned.
- 4)... LASIK is a surgical procedure and like all surgery, it is dependent on a doctor's skill and is not risk free. The doctor is required to make detailed records of consultation, treatment and any advice given. Medical records are held by Peace Lasik Centre on behalf of the doctor and the patient who are entitled to copies.
- 5)... LASIK has been performed since 1992. It is still being evaluated and developed.
- 6)... The results of LASIK appear to be permanent and stable (on patients treated since the early 1990's), but owing to natural changes of eyesight with age, illness or long term results, (which have yet to be measured), the need for glasses may change.
- 7)... People with good eyesight will require reading glasses after the age of about 45 years. There is an advantage of being mildly near sighted later in life, in that reading glasses may not be needed. If myopia is fully corrected, reading glasses will be needed after this age. If patients are left far sighted, reading glasses will be needed earlier than usual. Deliberate under correction to one eye (Monovision) is an effective alternative avoiding the need for both distance and reading glasses for older patients.

Possible Complications

8)... There are complications, which may affect some patients. These include: dry eyes, loss of corneal flap, folds of the corneal flap, shifting or wrinkling of the flap, interface inflammation, infection, epithelial growth underneath the flap, penetration of the eye by microkeratome blade, instability of the flap requiring corneal sutures (stitches), bulging of the eye (ectasia). All of the above can permanently damage eyesight.

9)... Some patients may also experience the following: regression of refraction, overcorrection, difficulties relating to the fitting of contact lenses, double vision, haze or induced astigmatism. Patients can experience glare or rings around bright lights caused in dark conditions by the pupil expanding beyond the treated area. All the above may result in night-time problems (making night driving difficult) or impairment of vision (even with glasses).

10)... If the patient does not have their second eye treated, differences between the two eyes (imbalance) can interfere with the advantages of using both eyes together, especially if the treated eye becomes far sighted. This can cause headaches and dizziness and impair judgment of distances; reading and close up work; driving and sports. In some cases patients must be prepared to have the second eye treated to eliminate imbalance if it arises, especially if the first eye becomes far sighted. However, most patients undergo bilateral surgery.

11)... Additional surgery may be needed, e.g. further laser application to correct residual refractive errors.

12)... Should an adverse reaction occur e.g. pain (except minor irritation), swelling, irritation, infection, or clouding of vision, it is the patient's responsibility to contact us immediately. Patients should stop taking medication or ointment if an allergic reaction occurs. Patients must not rub or touch their eyes after surgery.

13)... As with all types of surgery, there is a possibility of infection or adverse reactions to medication, which if untreated, can cause vision loss.

14)... Any patient undergoing bilateral simultaneous surgery should understand that there is an increased risk in doing this. There is a risk that infection in one eye may spread to the other. There is also a risk that an over or under correction will occur in both eyes. If a rare complication such as corneal ectasia occurs in one eye it might also occur in both eyes.

Since it is impossible to state every complication which may occur as a result of any surgery, the complications listed on this form are incomplete.

Serious complications are very rare, but when they do happen, Peace Lasik Centre will make every effort to remedy the problem.

Predictability

The final result will be achieved after about one month.

However, it may take longer, depending on individual healing response. Most patients have good vision within a few days.

After treatment you may still need glasses or contact lenses. We cannot guarantee a good result. The laser is programmed for very precise degrees of correction, but everybody responds differently to the treatment, which can result in over or under correction or induced astigmatism.

Although overall results show a high degree of patient satisfaction, it is not possible to predict a result for any single individual.

PATIENT DECLARATION

I have been advised that I should take as long as I wish before consenting to the procedure and I am not under any pressure by the doctor to have this treatment. The choice to go ahead is mine based on the benefits and drawbacks, as explained to me. On signing this form I am not under the influence of any drugs/medication.

I am satisfied that all of the above has been fully explained and is understood.

Signature _____ Print Name _____ Date of Birth ____/____/____

The witness states that the patient has read and initialed the form in his/her own good time and are under no pressure or duress to sign the form.

Witnessed by _____ Print Name _____ Date ____/____/____

TREATING DOCTOR'S DECLARATION

I have discussed the contents of this form with the patient and I am satisfied that they understand the meaning of the technical terms which it contains, the nature and purpose of the procedure, and the side effects and possible complications that are described. I agree to accept this patient on the above terms and provide treatment as set out in paragraph four on the front page.

Surgeon _____ Date _____

ADVICE FOR ATTENDING

The information given below is very important – please read thoroughly.

Glasses

Please remember to bring any old prescriptions or glasses with you to the clinic for the doctor to record the history of your eyesight.

Contact Lens Removal

Patients must adhere to our guide for contact lens removal. Contact lenses affect the shape of the surface of the eye. Consultation and treatment could be postponed if the surface has not fully recovered. The doctor may not accept you for treatment if you have not removed your lenses for long enough. Prior to your surgery, the wear of soft contact lenses must be discontinued for one week, hard contact lenses for three weeks, and toric soft contact lenses for ten days, as they alter the natural shape of the cornea.

Before You Come In

Please remember to eat as usual prior to attending as the medication should not be taken on an empty stomach. Eye make-up, perfume, aftershave, strong deodorant or hairspray must not be worn on the day of treatment.

Arrangements For The Treatment Day and Afterwards

Please expect to spend at least two hours at the clinic and make no other plans for that day. You should make arrangements for someone to take you home after treatment. You will not be able to drive on the day of consultation or treatment.

You most likely will not need pain relief drugs for the first 24 hours following treatment. However, if necessary you may wish to use the prescribed pain relief medication (i.e. Tylenol 3)

You should expect to have one to two days off of work or away from your normal routine and not make any plans. We would advise patients to rest as much as possible during these days whilst the eye heals. Please ask our doctor to advise when sports you play may be resumed.

Cancellation Of Treatment

The treatment appointment is provisional. The most common causes of cancellation are: because you have not removed your contact lenses for long enough, are pregnant or breast feeding, or you suffer from other medical conditions. The treatment may be postponed at short notice or on the day of scheduled treatment. There is a chance that the treating doctor may choose not to proceed if he/she becomes aware of any new factor in your vision that would be a contra-indication to LASIK treatment.

Aftercare Appointments

All patients will receive antibiotic and steroid eye drops after the operation and will need to be closely monitored to detect any possible side effects of these drugs. It is important to attend the clinic for regular aftercare and it is the patient's responsibility to make appointments with us. Non attendance could have an adverse effect on the final result. You might be required to attend certain follow-up visits at an Optometrist.

The price of treatment includes one year's aftercare at the Clinic. Patient's who wish to attend further aftercare can do so at a normal consultation fee.

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