



Name: _____

Address: _____

PRK & EPI-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 laser 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 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 refractive surgery, as they can be a valuable independent source of medical advice. Signing this form gives your consent.

Compensation will not be paid if treatment or other appointments do not take place for any reason, including sickness or mechanical breakdown.

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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. Radial Keratotomy (RK) involves making a number of radial corneal incisions. Another is called LASIK (Laser Assisted in Situ Keratomileusis) which involves cutting a flap on the eye, lasering in the middle of the cornea and replacing the flap. Radial Keratotomy is not performed routinely any more.

The Underlying Principle of PRK & Epi-Lasik

Photo Refractive Keratectomy (PRK) is a method for altering the shape of the front of the eye by removing a thin superficial layer of corneal tissue using an Excimer laser. Epi-Lasik is a new technique which involves loosening the epithelium with alcohol solution or by mechanical separation and moving them aside during the application of the laser. During the procedure the doctor may find that preservation of the epithelium is not possible. This form gives consent to proceed with standard PRK without further discussion.

EPI-LASIK/PRK REFRACTIVE SURGERY

1)... Epi-Lasik/PRK is an elective procedure to avoid the need to wear glasses or contact lenses and is unlike most other eye operations which are performed on damaged or diseased eyes. The cornea is re-profiled to change the focusing ability of a healthy eye. This is a surgical procedure and like all surgery, it is not risk free. The preservation of the epithelium, epi-Lasik is not always possible or desirable, in which case standard PRK will be given without further discussion.

2)... The doctor must ensure that you are fully informed of the risks and have realistic expectations of the procedures. He/ she decides the treatment protocol, dosage, and all aspects of aftercare and emergency procedures. They supervise their assistants and are 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. The doctor uses personal equipment he deems necessary e.g. ophthalmoscope, fundus lens, retinoscope etc.

3)... PRK has been carried out since 1988 and EPI-Lasik since 1997. There may be long term complications which are not yet known. Treatment for astigmatism has been performed since 1994.

4)... The results of PRK appear to be permanent (on patients treated since 1988), 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.

5)... People with good eyesight will require reading glasses after the age of about 45 years. There is an advantage of being near sighted later in life, in that reading glasses may not be needed. If short sight 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 treatment to one eye (monovision) is an effective alternative for avoiding the need for both distance and reading glasses for older patients.

1.1 Possible Complications

6)... There are complications, which may affect some patients. These include: dry eyes, soreness and tenderness of the eye; pain on waking; haziness or unevenness of the cornea; eyelid drooping or double vision. Patients with large pupils 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 very difficult) or a reduction in visual sharpness or impairment of vision (even with glasses).

7)... 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.

8)... All patients will receive steroid eye drops after the operation and will need to be closely monitored to detect side effects of these drugs, e.g. skin reaction or raised intra-ocular eye pressure. This might be for a period of up to 12 weeks and perhaps longer. The drops may also need to be stopped or reduced. It is important to attend the clinic for regular follow-ups and it is the patient's responsibility to make appointments with us. Non-attendance could have an adverse effect on the final result. Raised intra-ocular eye pressure can lead to blindness if not treated quickly.

9)... Additional surgery may be needed, e.g. further laser application to reverse hyperopia, partial or complete corneal replacement.

10)... 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.

11)... If bandage contact lenses are given to reduce pain, the patient must return to Peace Lasik Centre to have them removed after about three days. Lenses can cause infection and must be removed immediately if any sign of infection is noticed. Bandage contact lenses do reduce pain in most cases.

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

13)... 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.

1.2 Post-operative Side Effects

13)... Following treatment, there is pain requiring painkillers for about 24 hours (up to 36 hours) and discomfort for up to a week. Grittiness and tenderness of the eye occasionally persist.

14)... Patients should be aware that treatment alters the thickness of the cornea and can give a false (low) reading when measuring the intra-ocular pressure. You should inform your optometrist/ophthalmologist of this when having routine screening for glaucoma later in life, especially if there is a family history of this disease.

Predictability

Most people have good vision after four days which improves over the next month. The final result will be achieved after about a month or in very unusual cases may take as much as six months or more.

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. 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 or Peace Lasik Centre 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 state that the patient has read and initialed the form in his/her own good time and is 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. You must remove soft contact lenses prior to treatment for a minimum of seven days or for three weeks if hard, gas permeable or ten days for soft toric contact lenses. If you wear contact lenses, bring them with you for use in case only one eye is treated.

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 two days 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 should expect to have three 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.

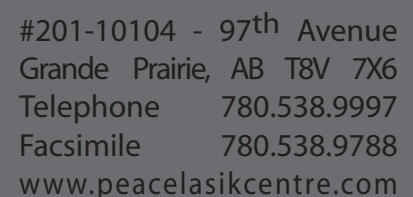
Cancellation of Treatment

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 contraindication to PRK/EPI-LASIK treatment.

Aftercare Appointments

All patients will require 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.

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 determined by Provincial Health Authorities.

A large grey circle in the bottom right corner contains the following contact information:

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