Cataract Surgery

A. Interpreter / cultural needs
An Interpreter Service is required? ☐ Yes ☐ No
If Yes, is a qualified Interpreter present? ☐ Yes ☐ No
A Cultural Support Person is required? ☐ Yes ☐ No
If Yes, is a Cultural Support Person present? ☐ Yes ☐ No

B. Condition and treatment
The doctor has explained that you have the following condition: (Doctor to document in patient’s own words)

This condition requires the following procedure. (Doctor to document - include site and/or side where relevant to the procedure)

☐ Left eye ☐ Right eye

The following will be performed:
The cataract is surgically removed. The lens in the eye is replaced by an artificial lens or what is commonly known as an implant.

C. Risks of this procedure
There are risks and complications with this procedure. They include but are not limited to the following.

General risks:
- Infection can occur, requiring antibiotics and further treatment.
- Bleeding could occur and may require a return to the operating room. Bleeding is more common if you have been taking blood thinning drugs such as Warfarin, Aspirin, Clopidogrel (Plavix or Iscover) or Dipyridamole (Persantin or Asasantin).
- Small areas of the lung can collapse, increasing the risk of chest infection. This may need antibiotics and physiotherapy.
- Increased risk in obese people of wound infection, chest infection, heart and lung complications, and thrombosis.
- Heart attack or stroke could occur due to the strain on the heart.

Specific risks:
- Blood clot in the leg (DVT) causing pain and swelling. In rare cases part of the clot may break off and go to the lungs.
- Death as a result of this procedure is possible.

D. Significant risks and procedure options
(Doctor to document in space provided. Continue in Medical Record if necessary.)

E. Risks of not having this procedure
(Doctor to document in space provided. Continue in Medical Record if necessary.)

F. Anaesthetic
This procedure may require an anaesthetic. (Doctor to document type of anaesthetic discussed)
G. Patient consent

I acknowledge that the doctor has explained;
- my medical condition and the proposed procedure, including additional treatment if the doctor finds something unexpected. I understand the risks, including the risks that are specific to me.
- the anaesthetic required for this procedure. I understand the risks, including the risks that are specific to me.
- other relevant procedure/treatment options and their associated risks.
- my prognosis and the risks of not having the procedure.
- that no guarantee has been made that the procedure will improve my condition even though it has been carried out with due professional care.
- the procedure may include a blood transfusion.
- tissues and blood may be removed and could be used for diagnosis or management of my condition, stored and disposed of sensitively by the hospital.
- if immediate life-threatening events happen during the procedure, they will be treated based on my discussions with the doctor or my Acute Resuscitation Plan.
- a doctor other than the Consultant may conduct the procedure. I understand this could be a doctor undergoing further training.

I have been given the following Patient Information Sheet/s:
- [ ] Anaesthetic Eye Operation
- [ ] Cataract Surgery

I was able to ask questions and raise concerns with the doctor about my condition, the proposed procedure and its risks, and my treatment options. My questions and concerns have been discussed and answered to my satisfaction.

I understand I have the right to change my mind at any time, including after I have signed this form but, preferably following a discussion with my doctor.

I understand that image/s or video footage may be recorded as part of and during my procedure and that these image/s or video/s will assist the doctor to provide appropriate treatment.

On the basis of the above statements,
1. What do I need to know about this procedure?
The cataract is surgically removed. The lens in the eye is replaced by an artificial lens or what is commonly known as an implant.

2. My anaesthetic
This procedure will require an anaesthetic. See 'Anaesthetic Eye Operation' for information about the anaesthetic and the risks involved. If you have any concerns, discuss these with your doctor.

If you have not been given an information sheet, please ask for one.

3. What are the risks of this specific procedure?
There are risks and complications with this procedure. They include but are not limited to the following.

**General risks:**
- Infection can occur, requiring antibiotics and further treatment.
- Bleeding could occur and may require a return to the operating room. Bleeding is more common if you have been taking blood thinning drugs such as Warfarin, Asprin, Clopidogrel (Plavix or Iscover) or Dipyridamole (Persantin or Asasatin).
- Small areas of the lung can collapse, increasing the risk of chest infection. This may need antibiotics and physiotherapy.
- Increased risk in obese people of wound infection, chest infection, heart and lung complications, and thrombosis.
- Heart attack or stroke could occur due to the strain on the heart.
- Blood clot in the leg (DVT) causing pain and swelling. In rare cases part of the clot may break off and go to the lungs.
- Death as a result of this procedure is possible.

**Specific risks:**
- A cloudy cornea which may or may not settle. This may require further surgery.
- An acute inflammatory reaction causing pain. This may need further treatment.
- A fragment of the cataract may fall into the back of the eye. This may require further surgery.
- Infection of the eye which could cause loss of vision or loss of the eye.
- Glaucoma (eye disease). This may need further treatment.
- Macular oedema (collection of fluid); and retinal haemorrhage (bleed). This usually settles with time.
- Retinal detachment may occur. This will require further treatment.
- Any of these complications may occur but these complications are now rare.
- Any of these complications may permanently damage sight.
- Any of these complications may involve a second operation being necessary.

Notes to talk to my doctor about:

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