**THIS IS A SAMPLE FORM. REVIEW AND REVISE AS NEEDED**

**Keep each section together on the same page: move it as needed.**

**Remove the section in red.**

**Add your letterhead to the first page of the consent form.**

**Change font size for large print.**

**Version 2/12/20**

**Informed consent for anterior chamber paracentesis**

You have high eye pressure. High eye pressure can damage the eye and cause vision loss. If the eye pressure is severely high, the vision loss can occur rapidly and be permanent. Your ophthalmologist (eye surgeon) recommends an anterior chamber paracentesis. The ophthalmologist creates an opening for fluid to leave the eye. The opening can be a new one, or through an incision from a prior surgery.

**Benefits (how this procedure might help).** The goal of a paracentesis is to adjust your eye pressure and save the vision you have now. It may not bring back vision you have already lost.

**Alternatives (choices and options).**

* Medication to adjust your eye pressure. These medications might not work quickly enough to save your vision.
* No treatment. Without treatment, you could quickly lose more vision or go blind.

**Risks (problems this procedure may cause).** As with all surgery, there are risks with a paracentesis. Your ophthalmologist cannot tell you about every risk. Here are some of the most common and serious ones:

* Failure to control eye pressure, with the need for eye drops, laser treatment, or another operation
* Abnormal collection of fluid in the eye, with the need for another surgery
* Worse or lost vision
* Pressure that is too low
* Damage to the eyeball or structures inside the eye such as the iris or the lens
* Infection
* Bleeding in the eye
* Inflammation
* Pain, irritation, or discomfort in the eye or surrounding tissues that may last
* Problems during surgery that need immediate treatment. Your ophthalmologist may need to do more surgery right away or change your surgery to treat this new problem.
* Other risks. There is no guarantee that the procedure will improve your vision. It might make your vision worse, cause blindness, or even the loss of an eye. These problems can appear weeks, months, or even years after surgery.

**An anterior chamber paracentesis is performed under topical anesthesia**, which means that eye drops are used to numb the eye. You must be able to cooperate with the ophthalmologist to make sure you do not move your eye during the procedure. Risks of topical anesthesia include injury to the eye by movement during surgery, drooping of the eyelid, and increased sensation during the procedure.

**By signing below, you consent (agree) that:**

* You read this informed consent form or had it read to you.
* You have been told that you have high eye pressure.
* Your questions about the surgery have been answered.
* You consent to have the ophthalmologist perform a paracentesis on your \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (“right,” “left”) eye.

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Patient Signature (or person authorized to sign for patient) Date