**PLACE LETTERHEAD HERE AND REMOVE NOTE.**

**CHANGE FONT SIZE FOR LARGE PRINT**

NOTE: THIS FORM IS INTENDED AS A SAMPLE FORM. IT CONTAINS THE INFORMATION OMIC RECOMMENDS YOU AS THE SURGEON PERSONALLY DISCUSS WITH THE PATIENT. PLEASE REVIEW IT AND MODIFY TO FIT YOUR ACTUAL PRACTICE. GIVE THE PATIENT A COPY AND SEND THIS FORM TO THE HOSPITAL OR SURGERY CENTER AS VERIFICATION THAT YOU HAVE OBTAINED INFORMED CONSENT.

Version 2/15/07

**INFORMATION ABOUT AMBLYOPIA TREATMENT**

**What is amblyopia and how is it treated?**

Amblyopia is a medical eye problem that causes your child to have blurry vision, usually in one eye. This condition can lead to permanent vision loss if not treated. Your child’s ophthalmologist (eye physician) will prescribe some combination of eyeglasses, patch therapy, and, occasionally medicated eye drops (atropine or Homatropine). The patching and eye drops stimulate the brain to pay attention and use the eye, while glasses make the image your child sees as clear as possible. Amblyopia generally must be treated by the age of 9 (nine) in order to be effective. Although treatment can still produce improved visual results after age 9 (nine), they are much more limited, since the visual system between the eyes and the brain has already completed most of its development by then.

**Patching instructions**

*  Follow the patching instruction checked below exactly:

□ Your child should wear glasses **AND** patch the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (“right” or “left”)

eye for at least \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ hours each day. Using the patch without the

glasses will not treat the condition.

□ Your child should patch the (“right” or “left”) eye for at least \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

hours each day.

*  Do not stop patching until the ophthalmologist tells you to do so.
  + o Stopping patching can cause blurry vision and can undo the visual improvement.
  + o When you are instructed to start decreasing the patching, do it very slowly exactly as ordered by the ophthalmologist and under his or her supervision.
  +  Do not change patching products unless the ophthalmologist tells you to do so.
  +  “Pirate style patches” from the drug store and home-made made patches will not treat the condition properly.
  +  I understand and agree to follow these patching instructions. \_\_\_\_\_\_ (**initials)**

**Follow-up appointments**

During the treatment period, the ophthalmologist will need to see your child to evaluate the effectiveness of the patching and medications. These follow-up appointments are generally scheduled every two to three months, but at times may need to be more frequent.

* +  I understand that the amblyopic eye must be checked regularly and that the “good” eye being patched must be checked regularly as well for possible loss of vision. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (**initials)**
  +  I understand that failure to appear as scheduled for an appointment or following-up in a time frame longer than 3-4 months during the active treatment phase of amblyopia (unless recommended otherwise by the doctor in writing in the medical chart) can result in reversals of improved vision, blurry vision, and even permanent vision loss. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (**initials)**

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

CHILD’S NAME PARENT/GUARDIAN NAME

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE DATE

**Sample Referral Report to Pediatrician**

Letter to Pediatrician About Amblyopia

Dear Dr. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Re: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_\_

Date seen: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

I apologize for using a form letter, but I wanted you to know what I am doing about the above patient’s amblyopia in the right/left eye.

He/she is/is not wearing glasses, and is/is not patching the dominant eye.

Compliance so far has been excellent/good/poor/non-existent.

I have reviewed with the parent the need for patching and have stressed that it is more effective in younger children. As you know, without therapy, vision can be as poor as legal blindness in the “lazy eye.”

I would like them to patch the right/left eye a minimum of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_hours a day.

I hope you will be able to reinforce this to the family. Please call me if you have any questions.

Sincerely yours,