

## KEY CONCEPTS FROM CONSENT FORM

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### **Cataract surgery**

Cataract surgery is the most common procedure performed by the ophthalmic surgeon. More than three million procedures in the US, and over twenty million worldwide. Due to the expertise of your surgeon, a once complicated surgery has been reduced to a ten to thirty minute procedure, ten minute recovery period, and you're ready to go home (no longer an extended stay in the hospital with sandbags around your head).

### **Dominant eye**

**Determining your dominant eye is only necessary if you plan on doing monovision** (Where one eye's focal point is distance and the other is near). It's not always associated with handedness. One way to determine ocular dominance is to know how you hold a gun, which eye do you sight with? Or, what eye would you put the view finder on the camera to when taking a picture? If still uncertain, a contact lens trial would be necessary to make sure we have your dominant eye for distance and your non-dominant eye for near. This needs to be determined before surgery.

### **Biometry**

Biometry is a procedure by which critical measurements are taken of your eye in order to determine the correct lens power. Eyes are unique, in that no two are exactly alike. Measurements needed to determine the correct lens power are: Axial length, anterior chamber depth, lens thickness, diameter of the cornea and curvature of the cornea.

### **Astigmatism**

Astigmatism refers to the curvature of your cornea. Whether it's shaped like a football or a basketball. A cornea shaped more like a basketball will have less astigmatism because the shape is the same. The light rays that hit the cornea all bend the same, resulting in a sharper image. A cornea with a football shape bends light differently because there are two different surfaces; a long/flatter surface and a shorter/steeper one. Therefore, the light rays bend differently, never coming to one point. Images will not be as sharp.