Welcome to Hollingshead Eye Center and thank you for allowing us to participate in your eye care needs. The purpose of this hand-out and enclosed material is to educate potential cataract surgery patients on lens implant options. After reading this material, please complete the questionnaire and bring it with you to your appointment.

**Standard Lens Implants Requiring Spectacles After Cataract Surgery**

Some people mistakenly believe that having cataract surgery will enable them to see perfectly without glasses. While it is true that having surgery will improve the quality of vision overall, spectacles are required to achieve your best vision after surgery.

Historically, the artificial lens implant used in cataract surgery was a single focus lens: it could not give distance focus one moment and near focus the next (like the eye’s natural lens does in a young person), nor could it correct any astigmatism present in your eyes prior to surgery. Thus, even after cataract surgery, eye glasses were still needed to provide the best vision at all distances (i.e. bifocals or trifocals). These “single focus” lens implants are still used today and commonly referred to as “Standard” or “Mono-focal” lenses.

**Special Lens Implants Reduce Your Need For Glasses After Cataract Surgery**

Recently, lens implants have become available that can provide better vision at all distances and reduce the dependency on glasses after surgery. These lens implants are referred to as “Multifocal” and “Accommodating” lenses.

**Multifocal:** The multifocal lens implant provides both near and far focus simultaneously and can significantly reduce your dependence on reading glasses after cataract surgery. These implants are designed to produce a “blended focus” between the distance and near focus. Your brain then learns how to use the lens implant by finding the correct focus point depending on your distance away from an object.

**Accommodating:** The accommodating lens implant seeks to reduce eye glass dependence by utilizing the eye’s natural focusing muscles. This lens implant is designed with a special hinge which allows the lens to flex slightly inside the eye. This movement of the lens may allow for vision at distance, near and everywhere in between.

**Toric:** The toric lens implant corrects astigmatism at the time of cataract surgery. A traditional lens does not correct for astigmatism. Therefore, any astigmatism present before surgery will remain after surgery if not addressed. The toric lens implant will eliminate most or all astigmatism. This will provide a better chance of seeing better without glasses in the distance after cataract surgery. Glasses will still be needed to obtain both distance and near vision simultaneously.

Revised 7/1/2013 sf
**Will These “Special” Lens Implants Eliminate My Need For Eyeglasses All Together?**

This is possible, but not likely. Most people with a multifocal or accommodating lens still find it easier to read with glasses under certain conditions such as: prolonged reading, for small print, or when lighting is poor. While these lenses may not totally eliminate reading glasses, it should provide the convenience of “social” reading (i.e. menus, photos, price tags, or cell phones) without having to put on glasses. Glasses for reading will still be required with a toric lens; however the chances of needing glasses for distance are greatly reduced.

**Is A Specialty Lens Implant Right For Me?**

While a specialty implant should reduce your dependency on eyeglasses, there are some items every patient should consider prior to selecting a lens implant.

**Cost:** While health insurances such as Medicare or Blue Cross cover the cost of cataract surgery with a STANDARD lens implant; specialty lens implants are not considered “medically necessary” and are therefore not covered by insurance thus having a higher out of pocket expense for the patient.

**Lens Implant Variability By Patient:** The multifocal lens implant is not right for everyone. It may not work well for those patients who have a history of retina problems, corneal irregularities, or who have had previous refractive surgery such as LASIK or RK. Because of the multifocal lens design, it may cause an increase in glare and halos at night. However, for most people these symptoms are mild and over time they become less noticeable as your brain gradually adapts to them.

The effect of the accommodating lens implant varies by person. Distance and intermediate vision (i.e. computer vision) are usually very good without glasses. However, there may not be enough focusing power depending on the person’s eye muscles, to allow for comfortable near vision without the aid of glasses. While the accommodating lens does increase one’s capacity to adjust focus relative to a standard lens implant, the ability to see at closer distances without eyeglasses is more unpredictable from one patient to the next.

Individual lifestyle and activities should be considered when selecting a specialty lens implant. Reducing the need to wear eyeglasses is not a priority for everyone and since there are tradeoffs and added costs, a standard lens implant may be more appropriate. Together you and your doctor will decide which lens implant is best for you.
Patient: _____________________________ DOB: _________ Date: _________

Specialty Lens Implant Questionnaire

Completing the following questionnaire will assist the doctor in determining which, if any, of the specialty lens implants is more appropriate for you.

After surgery, would you be interested in seeing well **without glasses** in the following situations?

**Distance vision** (driving, golf, tennis, other sports, watching TV)
- ___ Prefer no distance glasses.
- ___ Not important, I wouldn’t mind wearing distance glasses

**Mid-range vision** (computer, menus, price tags, cooking, items on a shelf)
- ___ Prefer no Mid-range glasses
- ___ Not important, I wouldn’t mind wearing Mid-range glasses

**Near vision** (reading books, newspapers, magazines, sewing)
- ___ Prefer no Near glasses
- ___ Not important, I wouldn’t mind wearing Near glasses

Please check the single statement that best describes your **night vision**:
- ___ Night vision is very important to me; I require the best possible quality night vision
- ___ I want to be able to drive comfortably at night; I would tolerate some imperfections
- ___ Night vision is not important to me

If you **had** to use glasses after surgery, for which activity would you be most willing:
- ___ Distance
- ___ Mid-range
- ___ Near

If you could have good **distance vision during the day** without glasses, and good **near vision for reading** without glasses, but the tradeoff was that you might see some **halos or rings** around lights at night would you like that option? ___ yes ___ no

If you could have good **distance vision during the day and night** without glasses, and good **Mid-range vision** without glasses, but the tradeoff was that you might need glasses for reading at near, would you like that option? ___ yes ___ no

Place an “X” on the scale to describe your motivation to be less dependent on glasses
[-------------------------------------------------------I--------------------------------------------------------]  
Prefer glasses at all times  somewhat interested  I hate glasses!!

Place an “X” on the following scale to describe your personality as best as you can
[-------------------------------------------------------I--------------------------------------------------------]  
Easy going  Perfectionist

Please list your occupation and hobbies: _____________________________________________  
____________________________________________________________________________

Revised 7/1/2013 sf