SAME DAY EYE SURGERY INFORMATION SHEET

You are scheduled for surgery on ______________________ at the Edward S. Harkness Eye Institute, located at 635 West 165th Street, with Dr. ________________________________.

Please review the following important instructions:

A nurse from the Eye Institute 4th Floor ambulatory unit will call you on the day before surgery between the hours of 3 PM to 5 PM. The nurse will tell you when to arrive at the Eye Institute, and instruct you to check in with the security guard at the 165th Street entrance to the Eye Institute and to then proceed to Room 427 on the 4th Floor. You will be instructed to bring your insurance card and a picture ID. The nurse will review what medications you should and should not take the day of surgery. If you do not hear from the nurse by 5:45 PM on the day before surgery, please call the Eye 4 Nurse’s Station at (212) 305-3008.

You must obtain medical clearance from the physician who manages your medical care (usually your primary care provider) within 4 weeks of your scheduled surgery date. The results should be faxed to (212) 342-5435 or otherwise presented to the Surgical Scheduling Office with delivery at least 3 days prior to surgery.

If you are in excellent health, no blood work is required prior to surgery. If you are in excellent health and under 60 years of age, no electrocardiogram (EKG) is required. If you are over 60 and in excellent health, please submit to the Surgical Scheduling office an EKG obtained within one year of your scheduled surgery. If you have any medical problems, the physician providing medical clearance will submit to the Surgical Scheduling office whatever additional test results are medically indicated.

If you are taking medications that promote bleeding (blood thinners or anti-platelet medications), including aspirin, clopidogrel (Plavix), warfarin (Coumadin), enoxaparin (Lovenox), ticlopidine (Ticlid), dipyridamole (Persantine), pentoxifylline (Trental), rivaroxaban (Xaralto), prasugrel (Effient), apixaban (Eliquis), dabigatran etexilate (Pradaxa), heparin, or dalteparin (Fragmin), you must discuss this with your eye surgeon.

If your surgeon tells you that you may continue blood thinner/anti-platelet medications, no further action is required and you should take these medications as scheduled, including on the day of surgery.

If your eye surgeon suggests discontinuing blood thinners/anti-platelet medications, you must discuss with the physician who manages these medications (typically your primary care physician or heart doctor) if and when to discontinue these medications. Discontinuing these medications depends on your planned surgery and past medical history. DO NOT discontinue these medications without getting approval to do so from the doctor managing these medications. Let your surgeon know if you can or cannot discontinue these medications.

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If you are taking an MAO inhibitor, including phenelzine (Nardil), tranylcypromine (Parnate), isocarboxazid (Marplan), or selegiline (Deprenal, Eldapryl, and Emsam), you must inform your surgeon in order to avoid potentially fatal drug interactions during surgery.

If you are taking omega 3 fatty acids (e.g. Lovaza, fish oil, flaxseed oil), vitamin E, herbal medicines (e.g. St. John's wort), or other anti-inflammatory medications known as NSAID’s (e.g. aspirin, Advil, Motrin, Aleve, and Naproxen), discuss these with your eye surgeon because it may be necessary to discontinue these two weeks prior to surgery.

If you are on diabetes medications, discuss with the physician who manages your diabetes how to adjust your diabetes medications (including insulin) the day of surgery.

Do not eat or drink anything after midnight the night before surgery or on the day of surgery, with the following exceptions: 1) a small sip of water with any medications that you take at any time on the day of surgery, 2) clear liquids (e.g. apple juice, black coffee without milk or cream, and soda such as Coke or ginger ale) may be consumed up to 3 hours prior to the scheduled surgery time, and 3) any food may be consumed up to 8 hours before surgery.

The Anesthesia Department accepts most major insurance plans, including Medicare, Medicaid, Aetna, Cigna, Empire Blue Cross/Blue Shield, and United Healthcare/Oxford. If you are not on one of these plans and/or you are not sure you are covered, please call the Anesthesia Department at (914) 709-8150 to determine your coverage for anesthesia services. If the Anesthesia Department does not participate with your plan, you will be responsible for some or all of the bill for anesthesia services.

On the Eye Institute 4th Floor, the staff can validate your parking ticket (i.e. making the parking free-of-charge) on the day of surgery for the Fort Washington Garage (entrance on the west side of Ft. Washington Avenue just south of 165th Street).

If you have any questions, please call the Surgical Scheduling Office at (212) 305-3069.

Patient Acknowledgement:

I, _________________________________, have read and understand the instructions above.

Patient signature: _________________________________ Date: ___________

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