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**CONSENT FORM FOR GLAUCOMA SURGERY
LASER IRIDOTOMY (IRIDECTOMY)**

This is a laser surgery used for people with narrow-angle glaucoma. The Laser is used to make a small hole in the iris (colored part of the eye). The laser burn should let more fluid leak out through the drain in the eye. Furthermore, it will hopefully prevent scar formation between the iris and cornea which can lead to progression of glaucoma.

There are some individuals who respond well to this procedure, and others who do not respond at all. Your response is determined by the type of narrow-angle glaucoma you have and the basic make-up of your eye.

The procedure can be done in one or two trips to the laser area. The laser machine looks similar to the examination microscope that the tech/doctor uses to look at your eyes at each visit. The laser itself makes little noises and flashed about as bright as a flash on a camera. Almost everybody finds the procedure comfortable and painless. Some individuals feel a little pressure during the laser procedure. The laser usually takes about ten to twenty minutes.

You may need drops before and after the laser. You will need to have your pressure checked one hour after the laser is completed. This is because the pressure in the eye can go up after laser treatment. This is the greatest risk for this procedure. If it does occur, you may require medication to lower the pressure. Most likely that medication will be drops, which will first then will be administered in the office. Rarely does it happen when the pressure in the eye elevates to where it does not come down. If it happens, you may require surgery in the operating room to lower the pressure. This is a most unusual event.

Most people notice some blurring in their vision and sensitivity to light after the laser. This clears within a few hours for most individuals. The chance of your vision being permanently affected from this laser procedure is very small.

You will need to use drops after the laser to help the eye heal correctly, which will be given to you by the doctor to administer at home. The standard time frame for those drops will be from five to seven days. In most cases, you are asked to continue your current glaucoma drops after the laser procedure as well.

Other risks from this procedure include inflammation in the eye, cataract formation, bleeding (usually, a small amount but can be a large amount), double vision, scar formation between the iris and lens of the eye (Synechia) that prevents the pupil from moving correctly, late closure of the iridotomy that requires repeat laser surgery to open the hole again, and (rarely) damage to the cornea or retina from the light. Most of the risks are somewhat decreased by having a skilled surgeon but cannot always be prevented.

Patient (or person authorized to sign for patient)

Date

Witness

Date