

## Appendix A.

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## Demographic Questionnaire

Study Participant ID#: \_\_\_\_\_ Group:  A  BDate of Birth (MM-YYYY):  
\_\_\_\_\_**Sex** Male  Female**Education**

- Less than high school
- High school
- Postsecondary
- Postgraduate

**Race/ethnicity**

- White
- Aboriginal
- Black
- Hispanic/Latin American
- East Asian
- South Asian
- Arab/West Asian
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**Household Income**

- Less than \$40,000
- \$40,000 to \$60,000
- \$60,000 to \$90,000
- \$90,000 to \$130,000
- \$130,000 to \$160,000
- \$160,000 to \$200,000
- \$200,000 or more

**How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with your present vision?**

- Very dissatisfied
- Fairly dissatisfied
- Fairly satisfied
- Very satisfied
- Cannot decide

**How much prior knowledge do you have about the specific risks of cataract surgery?**

- Extensive knowledge
- Some knowledge
- Very limited knowledge

**Where did you obtain this knowledge from?**

- Family member or friend
- Another healthcare professional
- The Internet
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**Have you or anyone close to you had a bad experience associated with surgery?**

- Yes
- No

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**POSITIVE FRAMING GROUP (A)**

Thank you so much for answering those questions. I am now going to read you some information about cataract surgery risks and ask you to answer the questions that follow. Although you can ask me to re-read the information about the risks when answering the questions, I'm most interested in your immediate responses—please do not spend too long thinking about your answers to the questions.

## Risk Perception Questionnaire

Cataract surgery involves removing the cloudy lens in your eye and replacing it with an artificial one. While it is generally a safe and successful procedure, complications may occur at any stage during or after surgery and compromise the expected visual results. Severe complications include:

- **Endophthalmitis.** A very serious infection in the eye that can lead to blindness.
- **Retinal detachment.** The retina—a thin layer of nerve tissue at the back of your eye—has detached, or pulled away.
- **Suprachoroidal hemorrhage.** This is the accumulation of blood in the eye.

Out of every 1000 patients who undergo cataract surgery, 995 of them (99.5%) heal positively. While they may have some more minor complications, they have none of the above potentially sight-threatening complications. **Based on this information, how risky do you perceive cataract surgery to be? (Circle the corresponding number on the following scale, where 1 represents NOT RISKY AT ALL and 6 represents VERY RISKY)**

1                      2                      3                      4                      5                      6

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**NEGATIVE FRAMING GROUP (B)**

Thank you so much for answering those questions. I am now going to read you some information about cataract surgery risks and ask you to answer the questions that follow. Although you can ask me to re-read the information about the risks when answering the questions, I'm most interested in your immediate responses—please do not spend too long thinking about your answers to the questions.

## Risk Perception Questionnaire

Cataract surgery involves removing a painless, cloudy area in the lens of your eye. While it is generally a safe and successful procedure, complications may occur at any stage during or after surgery and compromise the expected visual results. Severe complications include:

- **Endophthalmitis.** A very serious infection in the eye that can lead to blindness.
- **Retinal detachment.** This means that the retina—a thin layer of nerve tissue at the back of your eye—has detached, or pulled away. This can lead to vision loss and blindness.
- **Suprachoroidal hemorrhage.** This is the accumulation of blood in the eye, a rare but potentially vision-threatening complication.

Out of every 1000 patients who undergo cataract surgery, 5 of them (0.5%) experience the above severe complications that are potentially sight-threatening. **Based on this information, how risky do you perceive cataract surgery to be? (Circle the corresponding number on the following scale, where 1 represents NOT RISKY AT ALL and 6 represents VERY RISKY)**

1

2

3

4

5

6

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