How can I prepare for my appointment?

• Make a list of all the symptoms you’re experiencing, even any that seem unrelated.
• Make a list of all the medications you’re currently taking, both prescription and over-the-counter, including vitamins and supplements.
• Plan to bring a family member or friend along, as there’s a lot to digest.
• Fill out and bring along this lifestyle quiz, so you and your doctor can get a better understanding of your vision goals.

What questions should I ask my cataract doctor?

General questions
• Are cataracts causing my vision problems?
• What kinds of tests do I need?
• If I don’t want surgery right now, what else can I do to cope with my vision changes?
• Are there any brochures or other printed material that I can take with me? What websites do you recommend?

About the surgery
• What is the surgical procedure like?
• Will I be getting manual or laser-assisted surgery?
• What are the benefits of laser-assisted surgery?
• How long will it take?
• What are the risks?
• Will I need to take any new medications after my surgery?
• How long will I need to take off work?
• Can I drive after my surgery?
• Can I go out in the sun?
• Can I swim or take a shower?
• What are the things I cannot do?
• What should I do to ensure a smooth recovery?
• How long after surgery will it take for my vision to be restored?
What questions should I ask my cataract doctor? (continued)

About lens options
• What are the different kinds of lenses available?
• Which one will best suit my vision and lifestyle needs? (Make sure to share those needs with your doctor, whether you print out the results summary from the Patient Lifestyle Quiz, or just write a list of the activities and hobbies that matter to you.)
• I like the idea of wearing glasses less. Am I a candidate for a lens that improves my near vision along with addressing my cataract?
• Is there a lens that allows me to function in dimly lit situations?
• Do I have astigmatism? Am I a candidate for a toric lens?
• Will the surgery be different if we choose to go with a lens that addresses my astigmatism or presbyopia (or both)?
• Will my recovery be different if we choose to go with a lens that addresses my astigmatism, presbyopia, or both?

About payment options
• What will cataract surgery cost?
• Will my insurance cover some or all of the costs?
• If I use Medicare, will it cover the cost of cataract surgery?
• Does Medicare cover the cost of new glasses after surgery?
• Is there a payment plan or financing to cover any additional costs?