

Informed consent

Informed consent means being provided with enough information so you can understand your treatment options and make an informed decision about your care. Throughout this process you can:

- ask questions
- partner in your care by actively communicating your thoughts and,
- be involved in shared decision making to make choices that are right for you.

You can give consent verbally or in writing. Surgical procedures usually require a written consent form to be signed after you talk with your doctor.

Some treatments and procedures have risks associated with them, which your doctor will explain. During your consultation we encourage you to ask questions similar to those below to assist your decision making:

- What is my condition?
- What treatments are available?
- What are the benefits?
- What are the risks?
- What is the chance of these risks?
- What would happen if we wait and watch?
- Are there alternative procedures or treatments?
- Where can I get more information?
- What happens now?
- Do I need more appointments?
- Am I able to come by myself or should I bring someone with me?
- Will I stay in hospital? If so, for how long?
- How long will I need to recover?
- Will I need time off work?



Please view our video on consent at www.eyearandear.org.au/page/Patients/Your_Rights_and_Responsibilities/Informed_consent/

Further Information:

Visit the health issue centre website – www.healthissuescentre.org.au

Better Health Channel - www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au-221234

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