



Isle of Wight
NHS Trust

Patient Information Leaflet

Fluorescein Angiography

Produced by:

Department of Ophthalmology

Date: October 2015

Review due: October 2018



SMOKEFREE
Isle of Wight

If you are unable to read this leaflet because English is not your first language, please ask someone who speaks English to telephone PALS on 01983 534850 for further information and help.

Polish:

Jeśli nie jesteś w stanie przeczytać tej ulotki bo angielski nie jest pierwszym językiem, poproś kogoś, kto mówi po angielsku, o kontakt telefoniczny z (PALS 01983 534850) aby uzyskać więcej informacji i pomoc

Russian:

Если вы не можете прочитать этот буклет на английском языке потому что не является первым языке, пожалуйста, попросите кого-нибудь, кто говорит на английском языке для телефонного (PALS 01983 534850) для получения дополнительной информации и помощи

Turkish:

Eğer İngilizce ana diliniz değilse, çünkü bu broşürü okumak için yapamıyorsanız, daha fazla bilgi için 01983 534850 üzerinde PALS telefon İngilizce bilen birine sormak ve yardım lütfen

Bulgarian:

Ако не сте в състояние да прочетете тази листовка, тъй като английският не е първи език, попитайте някой, който говори английски, за да телефонирам (PALS на 01983 534850) за повече информация и помощ

Czech:

Pokud nejste schopni přečíst tuto příbalovou informaci, protože angličtina není vaším rodným jazykem, zeptejte se někoho, kdo mluví anglicky na telefonní PALS na 01983 534850 pro další informace a pomoc

Bengali:

আপনি ইংরেজি আপনার প্রথম ভাষা না থাকার কারণে এই লফিলটে পড়তে অক্ষম হন, তাহলে আরও তথ্যের জন্য 01983 534850 নভেগিশেন PALS টেলিফোনে ইংরেজি কথা কতে জিজ্ঞাসা করুন এবং সাহায্য করুন

What is Fluorescein Angiography?

Fluorescein Angiography is a diagnostic procedure which involves taking photographs of the back of the eye after Fluorescein dye is given. This provides information of the blood circulation and enables the consultant to determine whether or not treatment will help your particular condition. It has been used for several decades and has been proven safe to use in both younger and older patients.

The day of the procedure

It is advised that you **do not** drive on the day of the procedure as you will have dilating drops put into the eyes to enlarge the pupils and these cause blurring of the vision. Please arrange to be driven home. If a hospital car is required, it will need to be arranged before the day of your appointment and there will be a small charge.

It is important to tell the nurse if you:

Know of any allergies to medicines, food or animals. **It is particularly important to notify the nurse if you are allergic to shellfish or seafood.**

Are taking any medication. **Please bring your list of medication.**

Are, or suspect you may be pregnant.

Arrival

When you arrive at the eye clinic, you will be checked in by the receptionist and asked to take a seat until the nurses call you through for your vision test. They will then instill drops into your eyes in order to enlarge your pupils. Dilation will take from 15–30 minutes. You will then be taken through to another area to wait for the nurses dealing with the Fluorescein clinic.

Procedure

The nurse will ask you questions regarding your general health and medication and any allergies you may have. Your blood pressure will also be taken. You will be asked to sign a consent form and the nurse will be happy to answer any queries you may have. The whole procedure takes around 2 hours from the initial assessment to going home as it is advised that patients stay in the clinic for one hour after administering the dye to observe any reaction to it.

The procedure involves putting a cannula, (a small plastic tube) into a vein in your arm or hand in which the dye can be administered. The dye reaches the blood vessels in the eyes within seconds. To ensure the tube is in the vein the nurse will flush it through with saline, a fluid which is close to what we have in our bodies.

When your eyes are dilated fully, you will be asked to sit still in front of a camera with your chin on the chin rest and your head firmly against the band while a series of photos are taken of the back of each eye. The dye will then be administered through the tube. More photographs will be taken in quick succession. You will then be asked to relax for several minutes before completing the photos.

After the procedure

When the photographs are completed you will be offered refreshments while you wait for discharge.

Follow up appointment

If you have not already been given a follow up appointment, the consultant whose care you are under, will view the fluorescein images as soon as possible after the test and his secretary will inform you of the follow up date. However, if you do not hear anything within a week or so, please ring the eye nurses on the number below and they will speak to the consultant concerned.

Going home

You may notice that your skin has become yellow in colour, but this is temporary and will disappear in 24–36 hours. The dye makes the skin sensitive to the sun so it is advisable to avoid sitting in the sun for 24 hours. The kidneys get rid of the dye; therefore your urine will also remain a bright yellow colour for 24–36 hours. To help remove the dye from your system we recommend that you drink plenty of water.

If you are diabetic, it is important to note that the dye may give false-positive results when checking your urine for glucose, therefore, please do not adjust your treatment based on urine readings for two days following angiography. Please contact the Eye Clinic if you have any concerns.

Your vision will remain blurred for the rest of the day due to dilating your pupils. We would advise that you are accompanied by a relative or friend if possible.

Risks

Occasionally nausea is experienced when the dye is flushed through. This usually passes after 10 seconds and is helped by deep breathing. Other side effects include dizziness, vomiting, itchy skin and/or rash, but these are not as common. More seriously, but very rare, 1 out of 10,000 cases experience bronchospasm, (constriction of the airway), shortness of breath, and anaphylactic shock, which may lead to collapse. (The treatment for this is kept in the camera room). Fatality may occur in 1 out of 250,000 cases.

Please remember that these are extremely rare occurrences and would receive immediate attention by the hospital team. If you do experience shortness of breath or feel faint or generally unwell, please inform the nurse immediately and appropriate care will be given.

In rare cases the dye may leak outside the vein into the skin causing pain. This can be relieved by placing ice packs to the affected area. It is also possible for the dye to spray from the injection site, so we advise that you wear older, easily washable clothing.

If you have any queries related to this topic, or seek advice, please contact the Nursing Staff in the Eye Clinic, 9am–5pm Monday–Friday. Tel. 534504

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If you have any queries or concerns about the content of this leaflet please call (01983) 524081 and ask to speak to the relevant department.

If you require this leaflet in another language, large print or another format, please contact the PALS Team, telephone **01983 534850**, who will advise you.

Valuables should not be brought into the hospital. If patients have to bring in valuable items they should ask a nurse to store them safely and request a receipt for the items. You may not be able to have the valuable items returned if the time of discharge from hospital is out of hours.

We are sorry but the Trust cannot accept responsibility for loss or damage to items not given for safe keeping.

You can get further information on all sorts of health issues online at: **www.nhs.uk**

For Health advice and out of hours GP service please call the NHS 111 service on: **111**

We Value Your Views On Our Service

If you wish to comment on the care which you, your relative or friend has received, we will be pleased to hear from you. Please speak to the person in charge of the ward, clinic or service in the first instance or ask them to contact the PALS Team. If you wish to contact them directly, telephone on **01983 534850**.

Alternatively you may prefer to write to:

Chief Executive
Isle Of Wight NHS Trust
St Mary's Hospital
Newport, Isle of Wight, PO30 5TG

You can also share any concerns you have about our services with the Care Quality Commission (CQC) on **03000 61 61 61** or at **enquiries@cqc.org.uk**

All NHS sites are no smoking areas.

If you would like help and advice to stop smoking please call: Freephone 0800 169 0 169 to talk to the NHS Smoking Helpline.