

Patient information

Indocyanine green angiography

Please read before your appointment

Indocyanine green angiography is a diagnostic test to assess the condition of the deeper blood vessels at the back of the eye in the choroid. The choroid is the vascular layer behind the retina, which provides some of the retinal blood supply.

A small amount of green dye called Indocyanine green is injected into a vein in the back of your hand or arm, while you are sat at a camera and a series of photographs are taken. This is a diagnostic procedure that will help the doctor consider the best treatment options for you.

What to do:

- **Eat and drink as normal**
- Take tablets and medications as normal
- Do not drive yourself to this appointment
- It is advisable to wear trousers for this test for your own comfort, and a loose top, preferably with short sleeves.
- Bring a list of your current medication.
- It is important to inform the nurse and / or doctor if you are, or suspect you may be pregnant or are breastfeeding.

What to expect

Drops will be put into your eyes prior to this procedure to dilate the pupils. This effect may last 24 hours, therefore you should not drive during that time. You will be asked to sign a form consenting to this test. A small needle will be put into a vein in the back of your hand or arm. This will remain in throughout the test and will be removed ½ to 1 hour later.

A specialist nurse will inject the indocyanine green dye whilst an ophthalmic photographer begins taking photographs. The test will take around 15 - 30 minutes so please expect to be in the department for one to two hours so that we can do the necessary pre and post test checks.

During the test it is important that you follow the photographer's instructions and keep your head still until the test has finished.

Side effects

One in 10 patients might feel nauseous, vomit or can become short of breath. You may also develop a transient rash or hot flush, but this rarely lasts for more than a few seconds.

Rarely severe allergic reactions can occur during this test. This happens in less than 1 patient in 10,000 procedures. Therefore, it is always performed with trained medical staff in the department.

If you are allergic to iodine or shellfish then you cannot have this procedure. Please ring the department to speak to a nurse if this is the case.

If you have a hyperactive thyroid please ring the department and speak to a nurse.

If you have any further questions or worries, either before or after the test, please do not hesitate to ask one of the nurses or contact the Eye Treatment centre.

If you are unwell before your appointment, please contact the Eye Treatment centre as soon as possible to arrange for another appointment.

Eye Treatment Centre

Telephone on **01284 713815 / 01284 712636**

Monday - Thursday 9.00 am to 5.00 pm and Friday 9.00 am to 1.00 pm

For Emergencies at the weekend and out of hours:

Telephone 01284 713000 and ask to speak to the 'on call' Ophthalmic doctor.

If you would like any information regarding access to the West Suffolk Hospital and its facilities please visit the website for AccessAble (formerly DisabledGo)

<https://www.accessable.co.uk>



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