

## Information for Patients

# Fluorescein Angiography

## Eye Unit

### What is fluorescein angiography?

This is a simple test, which allows the blood vessels at the back of the eye to be photographed after a yellow dye is injected through a vein in your arm or hand.

### Why is the procedure necessary?

- To help the doctor confirm a diagnosis.
- To provide guidelines for treatment if required.
- To keep a record of the condition at the back of your eye.

### What does the test involve?

- The test is carried out in the Eye Clinic at the Royal Gwent Hospital.
- **You will have drops that will blur your vision, so you must not drive to the clinic.**
- During the appointment, an injection of yellow dye will be given into a vein in your arm.  
The dye reaches the eye within 30 seconds. A series of photographs will then be taken as the dye enters the vessels at the back of your eye.
- We advise that you wait for 15 minutes after the test before going home.

### Are there any side effects?

- Most people feel no ill-effects.
- During the injection you may feel warm or experience a hot flush. Some people feel slightly sick or faint but this only lasts seconds and then passes.
- The dye will tinge your skin yellow and your urine will turn bright yellow. This is entirely normal and can last for 2 to 3 days.
- On very rare occasions, patients may experience breathing or circulatory difficulties which may require the assistance of the emergency team.

### Can I eat and drink before the test?

Yes. It is advisable to eat a light meal before the test. If you have diabetes, please ensure you have had enough to eat.

**Should I take my normal medication?**

Yes. All medication should be continued. Please bring all your medication with you, especially inhalers and GTN spray into the camera room.

**Should I inform you of my past medical history?**

- Yes, this is very important.
- Please inform us of any allergies that you may have.
- If you think that you may be pregnant, please inform the nursing/medical staff.

**Can I drive?**

- No. The eye drops will blur your vision, so you must not drive to the clinic or after the test until your vision returns to normal.
- Please ensure that someone accompanies you to the clinic.

**When will I know the results?**

You will not get the results of the test straight away. The images will have to be carefully studied. The doctor will give you the results at your next appointment.

**Appointment**

\_\_\_\_\_ day \_\_\_\_\_ 20\_\_\_\_\_

at \_\_\_\_\_

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Mae’r ddogfen hon ar gael yn Gymraeg”.**