

# Having a Fundus Fluorescein Angiography

## Patient Information

Ophthalmology Department



The Patient Information Leaflets page on the Trust website is available on the link:

<https://www.wwl.nhs.uk/patient-information-leaflets> or scan the QR code.

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## What is a Fundus Fluorescein Angiography?

It is a simple photographic test using a fluorescent yellow dye which allows us to look at the blood supply to the retina. (The retina is the main seeing part at the back of the eye). Fluorescein angiography can be used to show any problem areas of the Retina and will help us to determine if any treatment is required.

The test is carried out in:

WWL Eye Clinic  
Boston House  
Block B 1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
Frog Lane  
Wigan  
WN6 7LB

## Do I Need to bring anything with me?

It is advisable that you do not drive to and from your appointment. You may wish to bring someone with you however, during the COVID-19 pandemic we would ask you to attend alone unless you have specific support needs making this impractical. **Please bring a list of any medication you are currently taking.** You may be in the department for approximately 2 hours. If you are a diabetic it is advisable that you have a snack with you.

## What preparation is required?

On the day of your test you should take your normal dietary requirements and your normal medication. When you arrive at the department you will be greeted by our team who will direct you to the appropriate waiting area and advise the nurses of your arrival. The nurse will check your vision and put drops into your eyes to enlarge your pupils. This will allow the back of the eye to be seen.

Dilation of your pupils **can** cause temporary blurring of your vision and some sensitivity to light can occur. The nurse will ask you about your general health and about your current medication. The assessment will include recording your blood pressure and pulse.

You will be given information regarding the procedure and given time to discuss any concerns that you may have regarding your visit. The nurse will ask if you agree to provide your written consent for the test. Once your consent is given the nurse will prepare to insert a small plastic cannula into a vein in your lower arm or the back of your hand. The dye will later be injected through this.

### **What Happens when the dye is injected?**

The dye will only be injected when your pupils are fully dilated. When your pupils are fully dilated you will be escorted to The Digital Camera Room. A series of pictures will be taken of the back of your eye by an Ophthalmic Technician. The technician will ask you to put your chin on a moulded rest and press your forehead against a rigid band.

When you are comfortable some preliminary pictures will be taken, and you will experience some bright flashes from the camera lens. The dye will then be injected and during this process some people can feel nauseous, this rarely lasts more than a few seconds. The dye travels through all the blood vessels in your body including those at the back of your eye.

Once the photographs are completed the nurse will take you to a waiting area and offer you some refreshment. The small cannula will stay in place for 10-15 minutes following the procedure. Most people feel no ill effects from this test, but we will observe you while you are waiting. Your blood pressure will be checked, and the cannula removed before you leave the department.

On completion of your test your skin will have a yellow tinge. Your urine will be bright yellow for one or two days. Do not have any blood

samples taken for 48 hours. A digital camera is used to capture the images. These images are stored onto the computer and saved. The Consultant will study the images and you will be given the results at your next appointment. This appointment will be sent to you through the post.

If you have any queries or concerns relating to the information within this leaflet, please contact:

**WWL Eye Unit at Boston House**

Tel: 01942 822244

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## Comments, Compliments or Complaints

The Patient Relations/Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS) Department provides confidential on the spot advice, information and support to patients, relatives, friends, and carers.

## Contact Us

Tel: 01942 822376 (Monday to Friday 9am until 4pm)

The Patient Relations/PALS Manager  
Wrightington, Wigan and Leigh Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust  
Royal Albert Edward Infirmary  
Wigan Lane  
Wigan  
WN1 2NN

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## Ask 3 Questions

Become more involved in decisions about your healthcare. You may be asked to make choices about your treatment. To begin with, try to make sure you get the answers to three key questions:



1. What are my options?
2. What are the positives and negatives of each option for me?
3. How do I get support to help me make a decision that is right for me?

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## How We Use Your Information

For details on how we collect, use, and store the information we hold about you, please see patient information leaflet, Ref. **Corp 006** How we use your information, this can be found on the Patient Information Leaflets page on the Trust website, see details on the front cover.

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This leaflet is also available in audio, large print, Braille, and other languages upon request.

For more information, please ask in the department/ward.

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**Call 111 first when it's less urgent than 999.**



Phone: 0808 802 1212  
Text: 81212  
[www.veteransgateway.org.uk](http://www.veteransgateway.org.uk)

