

Fundus Fluorescein Angiogram (FFA)

An information guide



Fundus Fluorescein Angiogram (FFA)

What is a Fundus Fluorescein Angiogram (FFA)?

It is a simple test to inform the doctors about the condition of the back of your eye. It assists them to decide upon the best form of treatment for your condition.

Before the procedure

Prior to the procedure, please eat, drink and take your medication as normal.

Please do not drive to this appointment. A taxi home is advisable if you come alone.

What does the procedure involve?

On arrival at the Eye Clinic, you will be asked some questions about your general health and your blood pressure will be checked.

You will be asked to sign a consent form, which confirms your agreement to undergo the procedure.

Eye drops will be instilled. These drops will make the pupil bigger (the pupil is the black hole in the middle of the coloured part of your eye). These drops may cause your vision to be blurred for a few hours.

It is important that you inform the nurse if you have any drug sensitivities, are pregnant or are breast feeding.

The procedure

- A cannula (fine tube) will be inserted into one of the veins in your arm.
- When your pupil has dilated sufficiently (about 20 - 30 minutes), you will be taken into the photograph room.
- The photographer or nurse will explain to you how the photographs are taken and what they want you to do during the procedure.
- A small amount of dye will then be injected into the vein in your arm.
- The photographs will then be taken as the dye is passing through the blood vessels at the back of the eye.
- The procedure takes about twenty minutes.
- The Nurse may give assistance to hold your eyelid open if required.

After the procedure

You will need to stay in the department for half an hour. This is to ensure that you receive prompt attention should you experience any after effects following the procedure. You may wish to bring a pair of sunglasses to protect your eyes from bright lights following the procedure.

Side effects

- The dye will give your skin a yellow tinge and your urine will be bright yellow for one or two days.
- There may be some blurring of vision caused by the drops and some dazzle from the camera flash.
- One in ten patients will feel slightly sick or short of breath during the procedure, but the feeling rarely lasts more than a few seconds.
- Very rarely, some patients may have severe breathing or circulatory difficulties and require emergency treatment.

When you go home

If you begin to feel unwell, please contact your own GP. You will receive a further clinic appointment through the post. Your vision should return to normal after 24 hours.

If you have any worries or concerns, or wish to discuss fundus fluorescein angiography in more detail, you can contact us on the following telephone numbers.

Contact Numbers

The Royal Oldham Hospital, Oldham

A&E Department - 0161 624 0420

Friday 5:00pm until Monday 8:00am

Oldham Integrated Care Centre Eye Clinic -

Telephone:- 0161 621 3815 or 0161 621 3721

Monday – Thursday 8:00am - 5:00pm.

Friday 8:00am - 12:30pm

Rochdale Infirmary, Rochdale

Eye Clinic - 01706 901757

Monday - Friday 9:00am until 5:00pm.

Eye Ward - 01706 901765

Monday - Friday 8:00am until 8:00pm (answer machine after 8pm)

Urgent Care Centre - 01706 517005

Monday - Friday after 8:00pm.

Friday 8:00pm until Monday 9:00am

Fairfield General, Bury

A&E Department - 0161 778 2600

Monday - Friday after 8:00pm.

Friday 8:00pm until Monday 8:00am

Eye Ward and Clinic - same contact details as Rochdale Infirmary

Tameside Hospital Foundation Trust

A&E Department - 0161 922 6000

Available 24 hours

Eye secretary - 0161 331 6388

Notes:

If English is not your first language and you need help, please contact the Interpretation and Translation Service

Jeśli angielski nie jest twoim pierwszym językiem i potrzebujesz pomocy, skontaktuj się z działem tłumaczeń ustnych i pisemnych

اگر انگریزی آپ کی پہلی زبان نہیں ہے اور آپ کو مدد کی ضرورت ہے تو ، براہ کرم ترجمانی اور ترجمہ خدمت سے رابطہ کریں

Dacă engleza nu este prima ta limbă și ai nevoie de ajutor, te rugăm să contactezi Serviciul de interpretare și traducere

ইংরাজী যদি আপনার প্রথম ভাষা না হয় এবং আপনার সাহায্যের প্রয়োজন হয় তবে অনুগ্রহ করে দোভাষী এবং অনুবাদ পরিষেবাটিতে যোগাযোগ করুন

إذا لم تكن الإنجليزية هي لغتك الأولى وتحتاج إلى مساعدة ، فيرجى الاتصال بخدمة الترجمة الشفوية والتحريرية

☎ : 0161 627 8770

@ : interpretation@pat.nhs.uk

To improve our care environment for Patients, Visitors and Staff, **Northern Care Alliance NHS Group** is Smoke Free including buildings, grounds & car parks.

For advice on stopping smoking contact the Specialist Stop Smoking Service on 01706 517 522

For general enquiries please contact the Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS) on 0161 604 5897


For enquiries regarding clinic appointments, clinical care and treatment please contact 0161 624 0420 and the Switchboard Operator will put you through to the correct department / service

The Northern Care Alliance NHS Group (NCA) is one of the largest NHS organisations in the country, employing 17,000 staff and providing a range of hospital and community healthcare services to around 1 million people across Salford, Oldham, Bury, Rochdale and surrounding areas. Our Care Organisations are responsible for providing our services, delivering safe, high quality and reliable care to the local communities they serve.

The NCA brings together Salford Royal NHS Foundation Trust and the hospitals and community services of The Royal Oldham Hospital, Fairfield General Hospital in Bury, and Rochdale Infirmary (currently part of The Pennine Acute Hospitals NHS Trust).

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