

Intravitreal Injections

An information guide



Intravitreal Injections

The injections are known as “anti-VEGF” drugs (VEGF stands for Vascular Endothelial Growth Factor). VEGF is a chemical that stimulates the abnormal growth of these new fragile blood vessels.

Therefore these injections are the treatment of choice, as they inhibit the growth of blood vessels by targeting a specific type of protein which is thought to cause this growth.

How is anti-VEGF treatment given?

- It is a sterile treatment, which is normally done as a day case procedure in a ‘clean’ room fit for that purpose.
- To prepare you for your treatment, you will have anaesthetic and antibiotic drops instilled to your eye.
- For the procedure, you will be taken into the ‘clean’ room. Anaesthetic drops will be instilled into your eyes which will numb the eye ready for the injection.
- The injection will then be given by a Nurse Specialist into the vitreous, which is the jelly-like substance in the eye, followed by antibiotic drops to reduce infection.
- When the procedure is completed, you will have an eye shield. This should be removed after 4 hours.
- Before you leave, you will be given advice.
- Eye out-patient appointments will be made appropriately and sent to you after the procedure.

What to expect after surgery

After the injection, you may notice black swirls in your vision. This is the drug floating around your eye. They may be a nuisance, but will gradually disperse over the next few weeks. The injection may have to be repeated at regular intervals.

Risks and complications

- Cerebral Vascular Accident (a bleed to the brain) may affect 1:200,000.
- Bleeding inside the eye.
- Eye pressure may rise after the injection.
- Eye discomfort.
- Worsening redness.
- Inflammation/infection.
- Light sensitivity.
- Floaters.
- Changes to vision.

If you should experience any of the following:

- Severe pain.
- Loss of vision.
- Severe increase in redness of the eye.

Then please contact us as a matter of urgency.

Contact Details

The Royal Oldham Hospital

A&E Department – 0161 627 8923

Friday 5pm until Monday 9am

Oldham Integrated Care Centre Eye Clinic – 0161 621 3813

Monday – Friday 9.30 am - 4.30 pm

Rochdale Infirmary

Eye Clinic – 01706 901757

Monday - Thursday between 9am and 5pm. Friday 9am and 12.30pm

Eye Ward – 01706 901765

Monday to Friday between 8am and 8pm (answer machine after 8pm)

Urgent Care Centre – 01706 517005

After 8pm Monday to Friday. Friday 8pm to Monday 9am

Fairfield Hospital, Bury

Eye Ward and Eye Clinic - as per Rochdale Infirmary contact details

A&E Department – 0161 778 2600

After 8pm Monday to Friday. Friday 8pm until Monday 8am

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).

 www.facebook.com/NorthernCareAllianceNHSGroup

 www.linkedin.com/company/northern-care-alliance-nhs-group

 Northern Care Alliance NHS Group (NCA) @NCAlliance_NHS

Date of publication: October 2008

Date of review: June 2021

Date of next review: July 2023

Ref: PI(SU)494

© The Northern Care Alliance NHS Group

www.pat.nhs.uk

www.northernalliance.nhs.uk

