

# **Surgical Procedure Information**

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# Fundal Fluorescent Angiogram / Fundus Fluorescein Angiography (FFA)

### **Introduction**

Fundal Fluorescent Angiogram/ Fundus Fluorescein Angiography (FFA) is a photographic dye test, not a treatment procedure. It is a procedure for the examination of chorio-retinal circulation. It can be used to confirm the diagnosis, monitor the progress of eye diseases and to assess the feasibility of treatment (e.g. Laser).



Source: http://www.pjsaine.com/Ophthal micPhotography/

### **Outcomes**

This procedure allows your doctor gather more information about the condition of retina and benefits for making diagnosis and better option of treatment plan.

# **Procedures**

- 1. A contrast medium (fluorescence) has to be administered through a vein by venipuncture, usually in the back of the hand or in the arm.
- 2. A series of photographs with flashes will be taken in about 15 minutes.

#### **Possible Risks and Complications**

Complications associated with FFA are exceedingly rare. Most people experience no discomfort apart from the needle prick pain of injection. Whites of the eyes may appear yellow for a few hours but it has no bad influence to health. In rare circumstances, some people may experience the following:

- 1. A small percentage of people may experience transient nausea during the injection.
- 2. Allergic skin rash (<1%), which usually lasts for a few days and responds well to treatment. Very rarely there may be cellulitis and skin necrosis at the injection site and shortness of breath.
- 3. Major allergic reaction like syncope or shock (<0.01%).
- 4. Fatality as a result of major allergic reaction (<0.001%).
- \*\* The risks listed above are in general terms and the possibility of complications is not exhaustive. Please understand that even though all procedures are carried out with utmost professionalism and care, this does not rule out the possibility of complications arising.

# **<u>Pre-procedure Preparations</u>**

- 1. The procedure and possible complications will be explained by the doctor and a consent form must be signed prior to the procedure.
- 2. Please inform the doctor and nurse all your past medical history, previous surgical operations, current medication and any complication with drug or anaesthesia.
- 3. Please inform the nurse if you are pregnant or are planning a pregnancy.
- 4. Please inform the nurse if you are breastfeeding.
- 5. Please change into a surgical gown after removing all belongings including undergarments, dentures, jewellery and contact lenses. Do not put creams, lotions, or makeup on the face or around the eyes.
- 6. Please empty your bladder before the procedure.

# **During procedure**

This procedure may involve dilating drops being put into your eyes to enlarge the pupils. It may take up to 30 minutes for the drops to work. The eye drops will cause blur vision temporary.

### **Post-procedure Instructions**

#### <u>General</u>

1. The yellow dye may give your skin a slight yellow colour that will usually go over 6-12 hours. Your urine colour may also change for 1-2 days.

#### Activities

- 1. You should not drive or operate machinery until 6 hours after the test.
- 2. You can return to other normal activities as soon as you feel comfortable.

# Advice on Discharge

- 1. Immediately consult your doctor or return to hospital if you have any discomfort or any other unusual symptoms, etc.
- 2. Any follow-up consultations should be attended as scheduled.

Should there be any enquiries or concerns, please consult the attending doctor.

Under the professional care of the doctor, you will gradually recover. We wish you all the best during your treatment and recovery.

If you have any questions after reading the entire leaflet, please write them down in the spaces provided in order for the doctor to further follow-up.

Compiled by Union Hospital Operating Theatre (OT) Governance Committee

The above information is for reference only, please enquire your physician for details Our Hospital reserves the RIGHT to amend any information in this leaflet without prior notification

