

Information for Patients

Indocyanine Green Angiography (ICG)

What is Indocyanine Green Angiography?

Indocyanine Green Angiography is a diagnostic photographic test that uses a dye to give a detailed view of the back of your eye and assists the doctors in deciding the best treatment for your condition.

Where do I go for the test?

The test is carried out in Eye D which is situated on the ground floor of Manchester Royal Eye Hospital. When you arrive at the reception desk in Eye D, please hand in your appointment letter so that the clerical officer knows you have arrived.

What happens in the clinic?

A nurse will explain the procedure to you and take relevant details relating to your general health. It is very important that you inform the nurse at this point if you have a sensitivity to **Shellfish or Iodine**. You will be asked to sign a consent form which confirms your agreement to undergo the procedure.

The nurse will put drops into the eye which is to be photographed. These drops enlarge your pupil (black part of your eye) and take about 20-30 minutes to work. As these drops temporarily blur your vision for 6-8 hours, it is advisable not to drive yourself to your appointment. You may find it helpful to bring a pair of sunglasses with you to protect your eyes from bright light following the procedure as your eyes will be more sensitive to light following the eye drops.

Following this a cannula (a small tube) will be inserted into a vein in your forearm or the back of your hand for the purpose of injecting the dye at a later stage.

When your pupils are dilated, you will be taken into the camera room and seated in front of the camera. The photographer will then take three or four pictures. Following this, the nurse will inject a small amount of dye through your cannula. Further pictures will then be taken. The test takes about thirty minutes from beginning to end and a nurse will be present throughout. Whilst there is no need to touch the front of the eye during this test, the nurse may give assistance to hold your eyelid open if required.

Are there any side effects?

Most people feel no ill effects following this procedure apart from the temporary blurring of vision and dazzle from the camera flash. The nurse will remove the cannula before you leave the department. Some patients experience bruising at the injection site; this is quite normal.

The results need to be studied carefully by your doctor before a decision regarding possible treatment options is made. The results may be discussed with you on the day and if you are being seen in the clinic following your ICG you may be in the department for a further 2 hours. If you are not being seen in clinic on the same day you will be given a follow up appointment before you leave or by post. You will be advised of this before you leave the department.

Please make sure that you know when your next outpatient appointment is before leaving the department.

ICG can cause inaccurate readings on blood tests for bilirubin. If you are due to have a blood test for your liver function within the next 48 hours please advise the nurse caring for you before the start of the procedure.

It is important that you take any tablets or medicine as normal, and to eat and drink as normal on the day of your appointment. Please remember to bring all your medication, or a list of your current medication, with you.

If you have any questions with regard to Indocyanine Green Angiography or anything contained within this information leaflet, please do not hesitate to contact a member of staff on (0161) 276 5183 Monday – Friday, 8.00am - 5.00pm.