Patient & Family Guide

# Fluorescein Angiography (FA)

Register using a self check-in kiosk in the main entrance of the Centennial or the Dickson Building, Victoria General site.

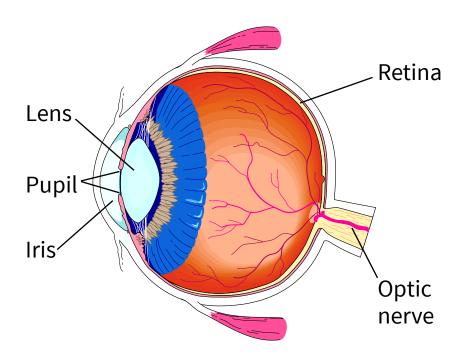
Next, go to the Eye Care Centre in the Centennial Building, 2A and check in at the reception desk.



# Fluorescein Angiography (FA)

The retina covers the back inside wall of the eye. When light hits the retina, an image is formed. Messages about this image are sent to the brain and vision (being able to see) takes place.

Your retina must be healthy for good vision. Fluorescein angiography (FA) shows the blood flow in your retina. It lets your eye doctor find any problems.



## Getting ready for the test

- It is very important to tell your eye doctor if you:
  - > have asthma.
  - > are allergic to dyes (contrast).
  - may be pregnant.
- A small number of people may be allergic to the dye used during FA.
- Plan to be at the Eye Care Centre for about 2 hours.
- Bring a list of your medications and allergies with you.
- If you wear contact lenses, you may be asked not to wear them on the day of the test. Bring a case to store them in, if needed.

### Day of treatment

- You must have someone come with you to the Clinic for the test and to drive you home after.
- Eat your meals as usual.
- You may wish to bring sunglasses to wear after your test. Your pupils will be dilated (made bigger) and may be sensitive to light.
- Register using a self check-in kiosk in the main entrance of the Centennial or Dickson Buildings, Victoria General site. Next, go to the Eye Care Centre in the Centennial Building, 2A and check in at the reception desk.
- You will be asked to review and sign a consent form.

#### How is the test done?

- A nurse will use eye drops to dilate your pupils.
- You will be asked to place your chin and forehead against a chinrest.
- You will be asked to look at a target with one eye, while pictures are taken of the other eye. This will be done for both eyes.
- With your eyes wide open, a flash will go off. Try not to blink until after the flash.
- A nurse will place an intravenous (IV) in your arm. You will be given a yellow dye through the IV.
- A special camera and a flash will be used to take pictures of your retina as the dye passes through your blood vessels. This will take about 5 minutes.

#### After the test

- You will be asked to wait for 20 minutes.
   This is to make sure you do not have a reaction to the dye.
- Your eyes may be sensitive to light. We suggest wearing sunglasses, especially if it is sunny.
- The eyedrops may blur your vision.
   Do not drive until your vision clears.
  - You must have someone come with you to the Clinic for the test and to drive you home after.
- Because the dye is yellow, your skin and urine (pee) will be yellow for about 24 hours (1 day).
- If you are having X-rays, scans, or blood tests on the same day, make sure to tell your health care providers you had a fluorescein angiogram for your eyes that day.

Notes:	

#### Looking for more health information?

Find this pamphlet and all our patient resources here: https://library.nshealth.ca/PatientEducation
Contact your local public library for books, videos, magazines, and other resources.

For more information, go to http://library.novascotia.ca
Connect with a registered purse in Nova Scotia any time; call 811 or visit https://811.novascotia.ca

Connect with a registered nurse in Nova Scotia any time: call 811 or visit https://811.novascotia.ca Learn about other programs and services in your community: call 211 or visit http://ns.211.ca

Nova Scotia Health promotes a smoke-free, vape-free, and scent-free environment.

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www.nshealth.ca

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