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# PATIENT CONSENT FOR INTRAVENOUS FLUORESCEIN ANGIOGRAPHY You have been requested to have the Ophthalmic Diagnostic test

INTRAVENOUS FLUORESCEIN ANGIOGRAPHY

performed in the St. Joseph's Hospital

Before we proceed with the test, here is some information about Fluorescein Angiography

#### What is fluorescein angiography?

Fluorescein angiography is a diagnostic procedure which uses a special camera to take a series of photographs of the retina, the light sensitive tissue in the back of the eye. A special water- soluble dye (fluorescein)is injected into a vein in the arm. The dye then travels through the veins and into the arteries which circulate throughout the body. As the dye passes through the blood vessels of the choroid and retina, the photographer takes a series of photographs in rapid succession.

#### Why is fluorescein angiography done?

Fluorescein angiography is often done to follow the course of disease and monitor treatment results. Without the help of fluorescein angiography, your ophthalmologist would not be able to thoroughly diagnose these and other abnormalities. Knowing exactly where a leak is, for example, can guide laser treatment with pinpoint accuracy.

### What are the side effects of fluorescein angiography?

After the fluorescein dye has been injected the patient's skin may appear yellow or "jaundiced "looking. This lasts for a period of several hours. This discoloration disappears once the dye has been filtered out of the bloodstream by the kidneys. Because the kidneys filter the dye from the bloodstream the patients' urine will be a very bright yellow-orange color for 24-36 hours.

Approximately 20% of patients may experience nausea from the dye. This, however, usually passes within a minute. 7% of patients may vomit. If the dye happens to leak out of the blood vessel at the time of injection, the patient may feel a burning sensation and may also notice a yellow discoloration of the skin. These symptoms pass on their own.

## What are the risks of fluorescein angiography?

Allergic reactions to fluorescein dye are rare. If they occur, they usually cause a skin rash and itching. This is usually treated with oral or injectable antihistamines, depending on the severity of the symptoms.

Less common severe allergic reactions are cardiorespiratory reactions such as low blood pressure or shortness of breath. (approximately 1 in 4000 persons). Severe allergic complications leading to death are extremely rare (1 in 200,000patients).

Signed		Date	
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