

## Fluorescein Angiography

Fluorescein angiography is an imaging study of the circulation of the eye. Fluorescein is an orange-colored, fluorescent dye. An angiogram is a study of blood vessels, and angiography is a very valuable test that provides information about the back of the eye, specifically the retina and the choroid (the layer of blood vessels and connective tissue between the white of the eye and the retina). We use fluorescein angiography to evaluate eye diseases that affect the retina.

Before we order a fluorescein angiography for you, we'll need to know about the medications you're taking, any medical conditions you have and any allergies. (While allergic reaction to the fluorescein is rare, it may occur.) We'll also need to know if you're pregnant.

To perform the test, your eyes will be dilated, and we will inject fluorescein into a vein in your arm. You may experience a sting when the needle goes in, and a sensation of warmth from the dye. This should pass quickly. Within seconds, the dye travels to the blood vessels inside the eye. We use a special camera to photograph the fluorescein as it circulates through the blood vessels in the back of your eye.

The results of the test are usually available within 48 hours and show us circulation problems, swelling and leaking or abnormal blood vessels. With this information, we can diagnose your specific eye condition or disease and determine treatment options.

We use fluorescein angiography to detect or determine the extent of...

- ◆ ARMD (Age Related Macular Degeneration)
- ◆ Cancer
- ◆ Circulation problems
- ◆ Inflammation
- ◆ Aneurysms of the blood vessels
- ◆ Retinal detachment
- ◆ Diabetic retinopathy
- ◆ Swelling
- ◆ Tumors