Indocyanine Green (ICG) Videoangiography

What is ICG Videoangiography?

ICG Videoangiography is a test to find out about the blood flow of the choroid, the layer of major blood vessels lying under the retina. These vessels supply blood to outer layers of the retina. The test takes about 30 minutes. Photographers, who are experts in this area, take the pictures. It is not an x-ray. The doctor will be able to look at the pictures on a computer screen as soon as the test is done.

The test is done with a special camera that has a video attachment. Indocyanine green is a green colored dye. It is injected into a vein in your arm. The dye travels through your body to the blood vessels in the retina and choroid in 10 to 20 seconds. Many pictures are taken as the dye moves through these blood vessels. The result is a set of pictures that show the doctor the blood flow in your eye. This test is often combined with fluorescein angiography, which is similar to ICG videoangiography but uses a different dye.

Precautions

If you take metformin (glucophage) you may be asked to stop your medicine for 48 hours after this test. Your doctor will tell you if you need to do this. People who are allergic to iodine and/or shellfish should not receive this dye. Pregnant or nursing women should avoid this dye.
What You Can Expect

There may be slight pain or bruising at the injection site, much like having blood drawn for lab tests.

Phone Numbers

Please let your nurse or doctor know if you have any problems either during the injection or in the day or so after the test. Please call if you have any problems or questions.

If you have any problems breathing or a severe allergic reaction, call 911.

University Station Eye Clinic, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday (608) 263-7171

When the clinic is closed, your call will be forwarded to the hospital paging operator. Ask for the “Eye Resident on Call”. Give the operator your name and phone number with area code. The doctor will call you back.

If you live out of the area, call 1-800-323-8942 and ask to be transferred to the above number.

Please call if you have any questions or concerns.