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## **Guide to Administering oral Fluorescein Sodium For Ophthalmic Angiography**

Fluorescein Angiography (FA) is a technique used to visualise, in real time, the vascular physiology of the eye to identify various ocular diseases. Fluorescein is usually given intravenously but there have been case studies/reports of mild to severe systemic complications. These range from nausea and vomiting to occasional instances of severe anaphylaxis, cardiac arrest with fatalities. This is further compounded by the problems of venous access and/or a fear of needles and therefore the use of oral administration is a safer and viable option in both children and adults requiring this type of ophthalmic imaging.

### **Oral angiography (under 18 years) for the purpose of Fluorescein Ophthalmic imaging at GOSH**

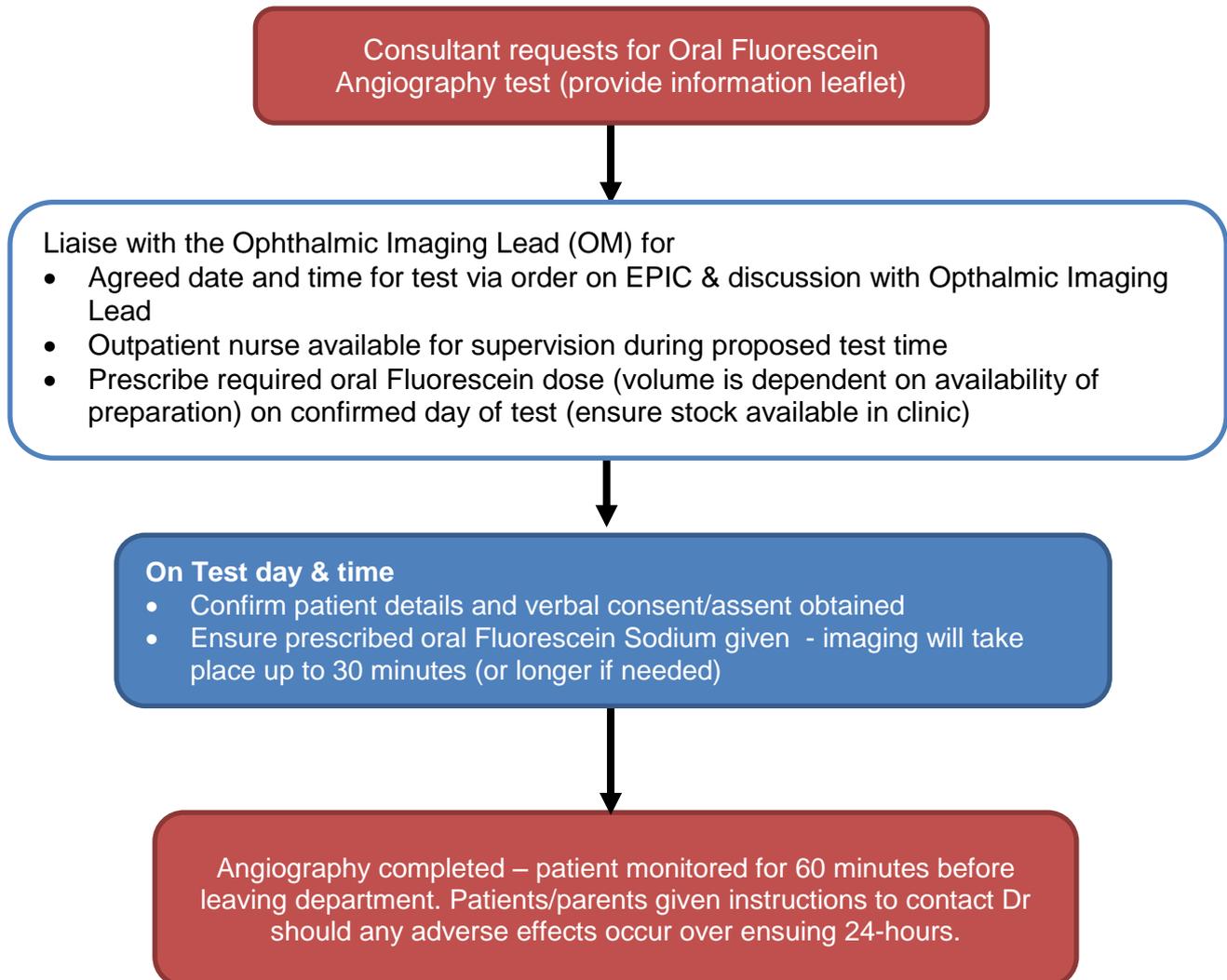
- On admission, patient will be weighed and recorded as per routine GOSH procedure.
- Oral dose required is prescribed, administered and recorded on the GOSH Electronic Prescribing and Administration System as per standard procedure by the requesting clinician.

#### **Dose**

Age	Dose of Fluorescein Injection for oral administration	Volume required if using Fluorescein 20% Injection	Volume required if using Fluorescein 10% Injection
> 18 years old	1 g	5 ml	10 ml
< 18 years old	7.5 mg/kg	0.0375 ml/kg	0.075 ml/kg
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• As contact with Fluorescein Sodium can stain skin and clothing, it would be advisable to wear gloves and apron before preparing the dose</li> <li>• Draw up the required dose in an oral syringe and administer in water/iced (or very cold) orange or apple drink. This can be further washed down with additional fluid to clear the taste</li> </ul>			
NB: Fluorescein 20% injection is 1000 mg in 5ml Fluorescein 10% injection is 500 mg in 5 ml			

- Patient will then have the ocular imaging over 1 - 30 minutes period to gain relevant diagnostic data.
- Patient should be monitored throughout the procedure for any adverse effects (mild transient gastric discomfort or minimal nausea have been reported a few minutes after ingestion of the dye)
- Patient should not be left unattended until completion of the imaging and the light is back on, and they should remain within the Ophthalmology outpatient department for 60 minutes post-administration of the Fluorescein Sodium.

## Summary of Procedure for Fluorescein Angiography in Ophthalmology



## References

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- Hara T, Inami M, Hara T. Efficacy and Safety of Fluorescein Angiography with orally administered Sodium Fluorescein. *American J of Ophthalmology* 1998;126 (4):560 - 564
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