



Information for
patients and
carers

**Why do I need a coronary
angiogram?**

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An angiogram allows the doctors to examine the blood supply to your heart. If the blood supply to the heart is reduced it can cause you to feel chest pain or make you feel breathless. Sometimes you will have an angiogram as part of the preparation for an operation.

What is a coronary angiogram?

A coronary angiogram is a special type of X-ray that looks at the blood flow through the arteries of the heart.

To do this we use a local anaesthetic to numb either your wrist or groin. A thin tube (catheter) is then passed into your artery and using X-rays it is guided up to your heart. Then a special fluid that shows up on X-rays (contrast medium) is passed through the tubes into the arteries of your heart. Then the doctors can look at the X-rays and identify if there are any problems.

How do I prepare?

- You can eat a light meal up to 2 hours before your admission
- You can drink clear fluids up to the time of your appointment
- Please take your medications as normal unless you have been specifically advised otherwise. Your appointment letter will tell you any medications you **NEED** to stop
- Please bring in a list of your medications
- We will provide a top and trousers for you to change into for your angiogram
- If you are wearing a bra we may ask you to remove it during the procedure
- You will not be able to drive for 48 hours after the procedure so please arrange for a friend or family member to provide transport home

- As there is a small risk of bleeding after the angiogram we advise you to arrange for someone to stay with you for twenty-four hours after you go home

What happens after the test?

- Usually you will go home the same day, in rare cases you may be asked to stay in hospital
- Before you go home you will receive the results of your angiogram
- Once the local anaesthetic wears off you may feel some discomfort, painkillers like paracetamol should provide relief

Is this procedure safe?

- This is a routine procedure and complications are rare. However, the complications will be discussed with you on the day and are listed on the consent form included with this leaflet. Please remember to bring this form with you on the day
- We use X-rays during your angiogram. X-rays carry a very small risk of tissue and cell damage. These risks are far outweighed by the benefits of having this procedure. If you want any more information about the effects of X-rays please speak to our staff on the day and they will be happy to help
- If there is any chance you might be pregnant please inform the staff at once

What if I need hospital transport?

If you need hospital transport then please call the number on your appointment letter to arrange it. We strongly advise that you do not use public transport after having this procedure.

Contact details

If you need any help/advice or have any questions please do not hesitate to contact the Cardiac Catheter Suite on:

(Monday-Friday 8-4pm) 01772 524382.

Sources of further information

www.lancsteachinghospitals.nhs.uk

www.nhs.uk

www.accessable.co.uk

www.patient.co.uk

All our patient information leaflets are available on our website for patients to access and download:

www.lancsteachinghospitals.nhs.uk/patient-information-leaflets

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If you want to stop smoking, you can also contact the Quit Squad Freephone 0800 328 6297

Please ask if you would like help in understanding this information. This information can be made available in large print and in other languages.

Gujarati:

આ માહિતીને સમજવામાં સહાયતા જોઈતી હોય તો ફૂપ||કરીને પૂછો. આ માહિતી મોટા છપાણા માં અને અન્ય ભાષામાં ઉપલબ્ધ કરી શકાય છે.

Romanian:

Vă rugăm să întrebați dacă aveți nevoie de ajutor pentru înțelegerea acestor informații. Aceste informații pot fi puse la dispoziție în format mare și în alte limbi.”

Polish:

Poinformuj nas, jeśli potrzebna jest ci pomoc w zrozumieniu tych informacji. Informacje te można również udostępnić dużym drukiem oraz w innych językach

Punjabi:

ਜੇ ਤੁਸੀਂ ਇਹ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਸਮਝਣ ਵੱਲੋਂ ਮਦਦ ਲੈਣੀ ਚਾਹੋਗੇ ਤਾਂ ਕਰਿਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ ਇਸ ਬਾਰੇ ਪੁੱਛੋ। ਇਹ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਵੱਡੇ ਪ੍ਰਿੰਟ ਅਤੇ ਹੋਰਨਾਂ ਭਾਸ਼ਾਵਾਂ ਵੱਲੋਂ ਮੁਹੱਈਆ ਕੀਤੀ ਜਾ ਸਕਦੀ ਹੈ।

Urdu:

دوسری زبانوں اور بڑی اگر آپ کو یہ معلومات سمجھنے کے لیے مدد کی ضرورت ہے تو
یہ چھپا میں یہ ابی دست ہو سکت ہے براے مہر یان پوے چھہی۔ معلومات

Arabic:

مطبوعه بأحرف كبيرة و بلغات إذا كنت تريد مساعدة في فهم هذه المعلومات يرجى أن تطلب
أخرى يمكن تو فير هذه المعلومات

Department: Cardiac Catheterisation Suite

Division: Medical

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