



Multifocal electroretinogram (MFE)

Information for Plaquenil patients

What is a multifocal electroretinogram (MFE)?

The MFE is a test used to assess and monitor central retinal (macular) function.

What does this test involve?

Your eyes (pupils) are dilated using drops; dilation takes approximately 20 minutes. Local anaesthetic drops are then applied to numb the eye in preparation for the contact lens electrode; each eye is tested separately. The electrode is placed in position over the eye and you are required to focus on a target (usually a red X) while a rapidly changing black and white hexagonal pattern plays in the background. Each recording lasts approximately 35 seconds, with eight recordings required per eye.

Why do I need this test?

Your ophthalmologist has referred you for this test as you are, have been or will be taking Plaquenil. There is a small risk that Plaquenil may affect your eyes. This is a different test to what you may have already performed with your ophthalmologist. Each time we book this test it is at the request of your ophthalmologist.

How often do I need this test?

This is dependent on your ophthalmologist's request and may be affected by your own medical history.

How long does the appointment take?

The appointment takes 1 to 1.5 hours. This includes reading a few eye charts and the dilating time.

Does it hurt?

There may be a brief sting from the drops used. The anaesthetic drops work to desensitise the eye. You will be aware of the electrode, but it should not be painful.

What do I bring?

Please bring any current prescription glasses, even if you don't wear them, and your Medicare card. Please have your Plaquenil therapy history, including your dosage and when you started. Sunglasses will help with the glare after testing.

Please do not wear eye make-up.

When do I get my results?

Your results are sent to your referring doctor. This usually takes four to six weeks. Your doctor can request a technical report sooner if required.

What if I can't make my appointment?

Please contact us directly on 6457 2866 and we will attempt to reschedule. Please note that rescheduling your appointment close to the date may result in a lengthy delay.

What if I need an interpreter?

We will organise an interpreter if one has been requested by your referring doctor. If you need an interpreter and do not know if your doctor has included this request, please let us know as soon as possible before your appointment.



Where do I go?

Department of Medical Technology and Physics (MTP)

Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital
Ground Floor, G Block

Enter through the glass sliding door off
Watling Walk near the blue lifts.

Please note: We are not located at the Eye
Clinic or the Lions Eye Institute.

SCGH has no childcare facilities on site.
Please make arrangements for someone to
look after your children during the testing.

Aftercare instructions

Please be careful with handling your eyes for
a few hours after your test.

Your eyes may remain dilated for several
hours after the completion of testing and will
make it unsafe to drive. Sunglasses will help
with the glare.

Your eyes should have recovered completely
by the following day. In the unlikely event
that your vision remains blurred or you are
suffering an irritation (redness or burning
sensation of the eyes), please seek medical
advice and report the event to us.

Medical Technology and Physics

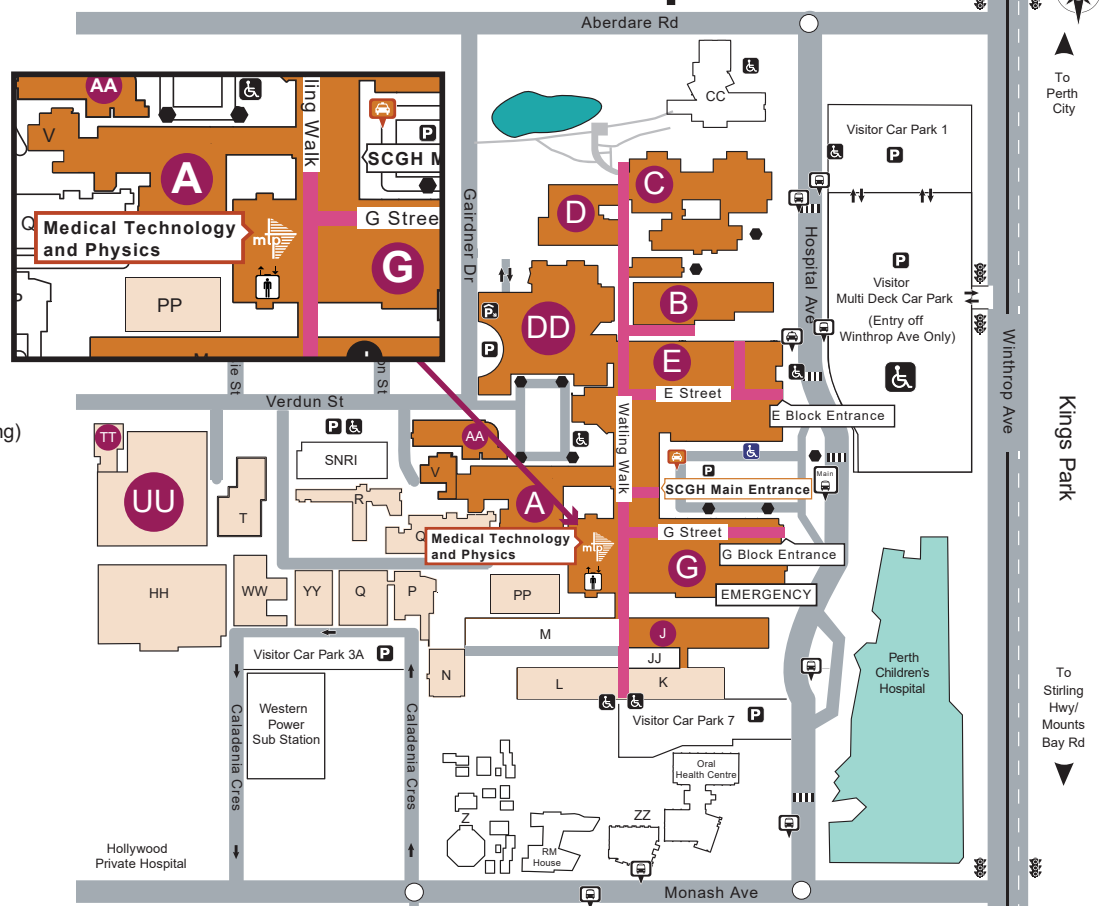
G Block, Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital
Hospital Avenue, Nedlands 6009
Phone: (08) 6457 2866
Email: scghmtp@health.wa.gov.au
Monday to Friday, 8am to 5pm

Note: We are unable to organise transport.
There is public parking on site; the multi-deck
car park is only accessible from Winthrop Ave.
The QEIMC buggy service operates from the
carpark to our clinic. Call 0481 438 731 or
hail one of our friendly volunteers and ask
for a ride.

Key

- Visitors Car Parking
- Internal Walkway
- Taxi
- Bus Stop
- Crosswalk
- ACROD Parking
- Underground Car Parking
- Set down
(drop of bays 15 minute parking)

Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital



We are proud to be a smoke-free site.
Thank you for not smoking or vaping in
any buildings or on our grounds.

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