

Where to go?

Department of Medical Technology and Physics (MTP)

Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital

Ground Floor G Block

Entry through glass sliding door off Watling Walk near the Blue Lifts.

Short term childcare facilities are not available in the hospital. Please make arrangements for someone to look after your children during the testing.



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
8:00am to 5:00pm

Multifocal Electroretinogram (MFE) for Plaquenil Patients

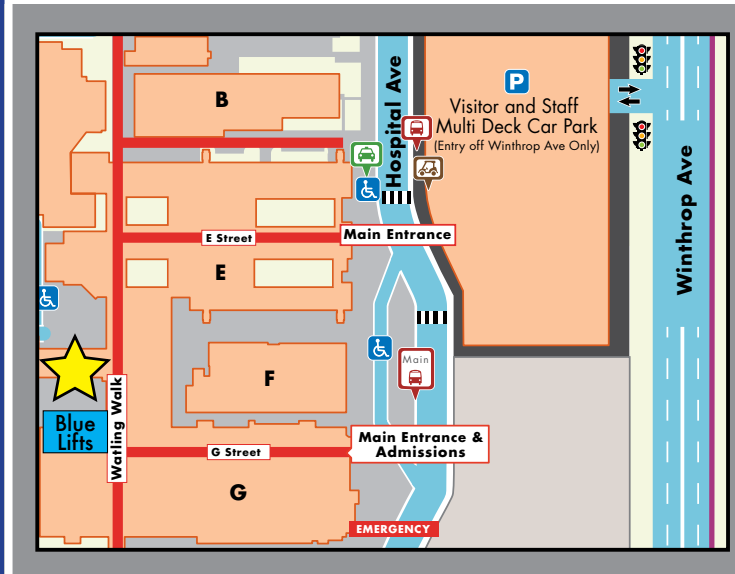


Aftercare Instructions

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

Your eyes will remain dilated for several hours after completion of testing and may 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 also report the event to us.



Multi deck car park is only accessible from Winthrop Ave

We are unable to organise transport

Please confirm your appointment as soon as possible



Government of Western Australia
Department of Health

Multifocal Electroretinogram (MFE)

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?

The eyes are dilated using drops; this takes approximately 20 minutes. Local anaesthetic drops are then applied to numb the eye in preparation for the contact lens electrode. This electrode is placed in position over the eye. Each eye is tested separately. The eye is stimulated by a rapidly changing black and white hexagonal pattern. You are required to fixate on a target (usually a red X) while this pattern plays in the background. Each recording lasts approximately 35 seconds with a total of 8 recordings 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.

How often do I need this test?

Recommended guidelines suggest a baseline test within 6-12 months of starting Plaquenil, a follow up within 5-7 years after starting Plaquenil (depending on your dosage) and then yearly after that. 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 between 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 desensitize 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. If available, 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 4-6 weeks. Should your doctor require the results sooner, he/she can contact us for a technical report.

What if I have stopped taking Plaquenil?

Please contact us. Depending on your previous results and doctor's recommendations, we will advise you whether or not you need to keep your appointment.

What if I can't make my appointment?

Please contact us 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 it 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.