

ANGIOGRAPHY | ARTERIOGRAPHY



Your physician has prescribed an angiography or arteriography test. This test enables doctors to view the blood vessels (veins, arteries) in a part of your body to verify permeability (blood flow capacity). In this procedure, a catheter is used to inject a contrast agent (iodinated dye) into your blood vessels. Depending on the images rendered, a complementary intervention may be performed to treat a lesion (“unclog” a vessel) affecting normal blood flow.

ABOUT THE EXAMINATION

- This type of examination is by appointment only.
- The length of the examination varies case by case (preparation, examination and observation). Plan to spend the entire day for the procedure.
- Find someone to accompany you as you will not be able to drive home. In addition, you should consult our website, santeestrie.qc.ca, to learn the existing guidelines and protocols regarding the presence of family caregivers and those accompanying you to your appointment.
- Your test results will be forwarded to your physician, who in turn will give them to you as soon as possible.

ALLERGY | DIABETES | TAKING GLUCOPHAGE® OR COUMADIN®

If you are diabetic, allergic to iodinated contrast media, or taking Glucophage® or Coumadin®:

- Notify your physician. He will give you specific instructions to follow. If required, he will prescribe an anti-allergen.
- Notify the administrative officer who calls you to confirm your appointment.
- Upon arriving at the medical day care or day surgery unit, mention your condition to the nurse and technologists.

CANCELLING OR POSTPONING AN APPOINTMENT

To cancel or postpone your appointment, dial 819-346-1110, ext. 13600.

PREPARING FOR THE EXAMINATION

Follow the instructions to prepare for your examination as the quality of your test depends on it.

- Shave your groin (approximately 15 cm or 6” in diameter).
- Have a bath on the eve of your examination.

If your examination is before noon:

- Start fasting at midnight on the eve of your examination.
- Only drink water when taking your medications.

If your examination is in the afternoon:

- Have a toast and a cup of coffee for breakfast.
- Do not eat lunch.
- Drink only water when taking your medications.

REMEMBER TO BRING...

- A valid medical insurance card (otherwise you will have to pay for this test).
- A valid hospital card (otherwise you will have to go to the reception and admitting department to get a card before your appointment).
- An up-to-date list of all your medications (ask your pharmacist to provide this list).
- A bag for your personal items. Do not bring or wear any jewels or valuables. The hospital is not responsible for lost or stolen objects.

ON THE DAY OF THE TEST

- You will be admitted to the medical day care or day surgery unit at **Hôpital Fleurimont** (3001 12^e Avenue Nord, Sherbrooke) or at **Hôtel-Dieu de Sherbrooke** (580 Bowen Sud, Sherbrooke).
- A nurse will assign you a stretcher where you will lie down and she will prepare you for the test (usual checks, blood sampling, IV solution).
- You will be carried to the angiography room. A technologist will explain the examination to you. **Bring your glasses:** You will need them to sign documents.
- You will lie down on an X-Ray table and staff will disinfect the puncture site on your body (usually the groin).
- The radiologist will proceed with a local anesthesia. He will insert a catheter and inject an iodinated contrast agent in order to view your arteries. Medical images will be taken. **Do not move! Keep absolutely still during the procedure.**
- You may feel a sensation of heat. That is normal and painless.
- Depending on your physician's request and your blood vessel status, a complementary intervention may be required to "unclog" your vessels.
- You may ask staff for a relaxant to improve your comfort.
- If you have any questions, feel free to ask the technologist or radiologist at any time.

AFTER THE EXAMINATION

- If the intervention is carried out by the **groin**, the technologist will apply compression at the puncture site for approximately 15 minutes to prevent bleeding. You will remain lying down, and your leg will be immobilized by the doctor for an indefinite period. You will then be sent back to the medical day care or day surgery unit with specific instructions.
- If the intervention is carried out by the **wrist**, a plastic bracelet will be placed to apply pressure to your wound and prevent bleeding. You must avoid using your hand during this time. You will then be sent back to the medical day care or day surgery unit with specific instructions.
- You will remain lying down under observation in the medical day care or day surgery unit for a minimum of 4 hours. To prevent bleeding or hematoma, do not move the limb with the puncture site.
- Staff will regularly check your vital signs (blood pressure and pulse) and the limb containing the puncture site to make sure there is no swelling or bleeding.
- If you have an allergic reaction (rash, redness, nausea, etc.), immediately notify staff.
- The staff will inform you when you can leave the hospital. You will have to follow certain guidelines. **You must be accompanied to go back home. This person will need to carry your luggage. You will not be able to drive.** If the procedure was performed via the groin and you need to travel long distances by car, you should make frequent stops to stretch your leg.

BACK HOME

- Limit your activities. Do not force the limb or organ where the puncture site was made.
- It is recommended that someone remain with you for the first 24 hours following the examination.
- In case of pain, acetaminophen (Tylenol) tablets can be taken.
- Check your bandage.
- If you experience or notice any of the following, contact your doctor or visit a walk-in clinic. If the clinic is closed, you can call Info-Santé (811) or go to the nearest hospital emergency room.
 - **Bleeding: Apply immediate pressure with your fingers for at least 20 minutes AND call 911 to get to the emergency.**
 - Increasing pain that is not relieved by acetaminophen (Tylenol)
 - Swelling.
 - Fever and chills (38.5 °C or 101 °F).

WOUND CARE:

- Remove the dressing from your wrist or groin 48 hours after the procedure and leave the wound exposed to air. It is normal to see some bruising (bluish discoloration) in the groin area.

HYGIENE:

- Wait 7 days before taking a bath or swimming (pool, spa, lake, ocean, etc.).
- You may shower 48 hours after the procedure.
- If the procedure was performed via the wrist, avoid immersing your hands in water (e.g., doing dishes) for 7 days.

PHYSICAL ACTIVITY:

Procedure performed via the groin:

- Do not lift objects weighing more than 6 kg (15 lbs), such as grocery bags, a child, etc.
- Avoid sports for a period of 7 days.

Procedure performed via the wrist:

- Avoid wrist rotations for a period of 7 days.
- Do not lift objects weighing more than 6 kg (15 lbs), such as grocery bags, a child, etc.
- Avoid sports that require the use of hands and arms (e.g., tennis, baseball, etc.) for 7 days.

DO YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS?



santeestrie.qc.ca/imaging



Info-Santé 811
OR
Consult your prescriber.

MEMORY-AID

Date of my exam: _____

Hôpital Fleurimont

3001, 12th Avenue Nord Sherbrooke (Québec) J1H 5N4

To cancel or reschedule your appointment:

819 346-1110, ext. 14964

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