

Indocyanine Green dye (ICG) in suspected Early Stage Ovarian Cancer

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You have been given this leaflet because you are about to have surgery for a pelvic mass. We have a new procedure available within our Trust as part of a Trust Audit. It involves the use of Indocyanine Green dye (ICG) during your operation. Please take your time to read the following information carefully. Ask us if there is anything you do not understand.

What is the surgical management of a pelvic mass?

A pelvic mass can be:

- a benign mass (no need for treatments other than the surgery)
- a borderline tumour
- a malignant tumour

The only way to be sure is to remove it surgically. During the surgery a sample of the mass will be sent to the laboratory and the results will be sent back within half an hour.

If the results show that the mass is a borderline or a malignant tumour the surgeon has to remove the lymph glands (nodes) as well. This is necessary as it is possible that ovarian cancer may spread from the ovary to one or two lymph nodes first, then to other lymph nodes and then to other parts of the body. The first lymph nodes are called 'sentinel nodes'. As it is not always possible to see if the nodes have cancer cells within them on scans it is necessary to remove them at the time of the surgery.

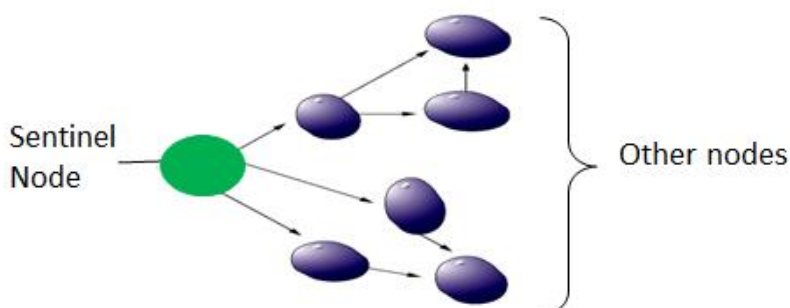
If the laboratory results show that it is not cancer, the procedures described here will not be done.

What is the new procedure?

The new procedure involves injecting a small amount of Indocyanine Green dye (ICG) (green dye) immediately next to the pelvic mass during the surgery. This dye will travel to the sentinel nodes and makes it easier to find them so they can be removed. This is important as it will help decide whether you need further treatment after your operation.

Once the surgeon has removed your sentinel nodes, the other nodes in your pelvis and possibly those nodes higher up around the big blood vessels of your body will be removed. This is a usual thing to do in this kind of operation.

The sentinel node will be analysed more thoroughly and this will improve the information gained from the surgery. In future, it may allow other women to have less lymph nodes removed which will reduce their risk of complication.



Are there any risks?

There is a risk that you may have an allergic reaction to ICG dye, about 1 out of every 10,000 patients. It is advised to avoid it if you know that you have an allergy to iodine.

The ICG dye is removed from your body by your liver within a few hours. Please let your doctor know beforehand if you are taking any medication which affects how your liver works or if you have any concerns about your medication or health.

Complaints

If you have a concern about any aspect of this procedure, you should ask to speak with the surgical team who will do their best to answer your questions (0191 445 2021). If you remain unhappy and wish to complain formally, you can do this through the NHS Complaints Procedure. Details can be obtained from the hospital.

Harm

In the event that something does go wrong and you are harmed during the procedure there are no special compensation arrangements. If you are harmed and this is due to someone's negligence then you may have grounds for a legal action for compensation against Gateshead Health NHS Trust but you may have to pay your legal costs. The normal National Health Service complaints mechanisms will still be available to you. If problems develop, please call Ward 21 (0191 445 2021) or your Consultant's secretary (0191 445 2872).

Who has reviewed the new procedure?

This study has been reviewed and approved by Gateshead Health NHS Trust New Procedures Committee.

Whom should I contact for further information?

Mr Raj Naik (Consultant) or Miss Nithya Ratnavelu (Consultant) would be happy to answer any questions you might have. Please phone 0191 445 2872. In case of emergency outside office hours, please contact Ward 21 directly on 0191 445 2021.

Data Protection

Any personal information is kept confidential. There may be occasions where your information needs to be shared with other care professionals to ensure you receive the best care possible.

In order to assist us to improve the services available, your information may be used for clinical audit, teaching and anonymised for National NHS Reviews. Further information is available in the leaflet Disclosure of Confidential Information IL137, via Gateshead Health NHS Foundation Trust website or the PALS Service.

This leaflet can be made available in other languages and formats upon