Coronary Angiogram

You will be having a test in Edinburgh Royal Infirmary.

This is a special test to find out about your heart problem.

This will help the Doctors to decide what they can do to help you feel better.
The test is called a **Coronary Angiogram**.

This test will tell the Doctors what is happening to your blood vessels.

This test will show Doctors if some of your blood vessels are too narrow for blood to flow around your body.
Coronary Angiogram

The test will take about half an hour but could take longer.

The test will be carried out by a team of Doctors and Nurses at the hospital.

You may have to stay overnight in the hospital but the Doctors will talk to you about this.
Coronary Angiogram

The Doctors and Nurses will put a **Catheter** into your blood vessel in your arm.

A **Catheter** is a long hollow tube.

It will go into your arm near your wrist.
Coronary Angiogram

You will have a local anaesthetic.

This will make your arm a bit numb.

It won’t hurt when the Doctor puts the catheter in.

The Doctors and Nurses will look at the X-Ray machine to see what is happening inside your blood vessels.
Coronary Angiogram

The Doctors and Nurses will make sure that you are ok during the test.

They will watch a special machine that tells them how your heart is working.

The Doctor will put a special **dye** into the catheter.

This dye will make the blood vessel look a dark colour.

The Doctors and Nurses will be able to see what is happening when the dye is in your blood vessels.
Coronary Angiogram

You won’t be able to feel the catheter inside your body.

You might feel a bit hot when the dye is put into the catheter.

You might feel your heart beating when the catheter is inside your body.

The Doctor may want to look at how your heart is working.
Coronary Angiogram

Sometimes when the Doctor is looking at your heart you may start to feel unwell.

The Doctors and Nurses will make sure that you are ok but tell them if you feel unwell.

When the test is finished the Doctor will take the catheter out.

You will have a dressing on your wrist where the catheter went in.

There will be a tight band around your wrist for a few hours.
Coronary Angiogram

Your wrist might feel a bit sore for a few days.
You may have a bruise.
You should feel better after a couple of days.

The Doctors are only doing this test because you really need it.

If you don’t have this test the Doctors will not know how to help you.
Coronary Angiogram

There is a very small risk of you having a heart attack, a stroke or dying during this test.

The Doctors would not do this test unless you needed it.

If you do not have this test the Doctors won’t know how to help you.
Coronary Angiogram

If you don’t get help there is a very high risk of you having a heart attack, a stroke or dying.

If the Doctors do this test they will be able to help you.

Do you agree to have this test?

Yes [ ]

No [ ]

Date: [ ]

Prepared by Yasmin Simpson – Forensic SLT – NHS Fife – October 2010