

HKSH Rheumatology Centre

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Service Hours

Monday to Friday: 9:00 am - 5:00 pm
Saturday: 9:00 am - 1:00 pm
Closed on Sundays and Public Holidays

Admiralty

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Saturday: 9:00 am - 1:00 pm
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For enquiries and appointments,
please contact us



Capillaroscopy



What is Capillaroscopy?

As a non-invasive diagnostic procedure, capillaroscopy is performed to examine microscopically the capillaries of nail beds. By analysing the arrangement, density, distortion and bleeding of capillaries, it aids in the diagnosis of Raynaud's phenomenon, systemic sclerosis and other related rheumatic diseases.

It helps detect signs of early onset of rheumatic diseases and monitor their progression. Clinical examination, blood tests and other imaging studies are also performed for diagnosis of rheumatic diseases.



Indications for Capillaroscopy

- Raynaud's Phenomenon, which is characterised by numb, white and cold fingers and toes
- Suspected or diagnosed autoimmune diseases such as systemic sclerosis, dermatomyositis, mixed connective tissue disease (MCTD) and systemic lupus erythematosus

Preparation before Procedure

- Do not smoke and consume caffeine four hours before examination.
- Avoid nail treatment such as nail varnish, nail filing, nail polish and nail makeup three weeks before examination.
- The procedure takes 30 to 60 minutes.

You may leave after the examination.