



THE MOST IMPORTANT
QUESTIONS YOU
MAY EVER ASK.

PET IMAGING

ANSWERED.

WHAT IS A PET/CT SCAN?

An integrated PET/CT scan is the most advanced imaging technology for the detection and evaluation of cancer. The whole-body scan generates high-resolution images of abnormal activity and its location.

Abnormal biological activity often takes place before physical changes can be identified by other imaging exams such as MRI, CT, x-ray and ultrasound. A PET/CT scan provides images of the entire body, detecting primary and secondary disease earlier and more accurately than any other imaging technology.

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF A PET/CT SCAN?

- PET/CT often replaces multiple medical testing procedures with a single exam.
- PET/CT frequently identifies disease before it shows up on other exams.
- PET/CT evaluates all organ systems of the body in a single exam, indicating whether or not cancer has spread.
- PET/CT shows the progress of disease and how the body responds to treatment.
- PET/CT reduces or eliminates ineffective or unnecessary surgical or medical treatments.

Physicians use PET/CT images to determine the extent of disease, the effectiveness of chemotherapy, radiation therapy or surgery, and the possibility of recurrence. PET/CT scanning can provide early detection of the recurrence of cancer, revealing tumors that might otherwise be obscured by scar tissue resulting from surgery and radiation therapy.

HOW IS THE PET/CT SCAN CONDUCTED?

A small amount of radioactive sugar is injected into your bloodstream. The radioactive sugar circulates in your body while you relax for approximately one hour. You then lie on a bed that slowly passes through the scanner. The PET/CT scan takes approximately 30 minutes. After the scan, you will be on your way.



IS A PET/CT SCAN SAFE?

Yes, the risks associated with PET/CT scanning are minimal. Radioactive sugar, also known as glucose, is short-lived and leaves your body quickly. The radioactive sugar is not a contrast agent. The radiation exposure associated with a PET/CT scan is similar to that associated with conventional imaging exams.

WHAT WILL I HAVE TO PAY?

You may be required to pay a co-payment or deductible at the time of service.

WILL MY INSURANCE COVER A PET/CT SCAN?

Insurance companies and Medicare generally cover a portion or all of the cost of a PET/CT scan for cancer. PET Imaging's patient coordinator will verify your insurance coverage.

WHAT IF I DON'T HAVE INSURANCE?

PET Imaging will work with you individually to create a payment plan based on your ability to pay.

WHAT IF I HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT MY FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY?

Please feel free to call us to discuss your financial responsibility or to ask any questions about your PET/CT scan.

HOW DO I PREPARE?

PET Imaging will contact you prior to your appointment to discuss preparation instructions and prescription medications.

WHEN WILL MY RESULTS BE READY?

The images generated by the PET/CT scan combined with a written report from an interpreting physician will be communicated to your physician within 48 hours of your scan. Your physician will share the results with you.

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