

Providing PET/CT scans five days a week with our state-of-the-art PET/CT scanner.

Preparation prior to procedure

Do not eat any food or drink anything other than water for four hours prior to the exam. Patients may have water to drink on the day of the exam. No gum chewing, breathe mints (this includes sugar-free items). Please no perfume.



1. Continue to take any routine medicines as prescribed. This includes diabetes, pain medications and claustrophobic medications. If patient needs medication for claustrophobia it should be obtained from their physician. No prescriptions or medication are administered at the facility.
2. No barium studies should be performed one week before PET/CT scan.
3. Please arrive 30 minutes prior to your scheduled appointment time to allow for registration and assessment.
4. No strenuous activity for 24 hours prior to your appointment.
5. In most cases, you may wear normal clothing for the entire procedure, although metal objects must be removed. Hospital gowns are available if preferred.
6. The procedure will take approximately 1 1/2 - 2 hours from the time of arrival to departure.
7. If you have previous exams or reports, please bring a copy of the images (CDs are preferred, but hard-copy images are also accepted) so that they can be compared to the PET/CT.
8. The weight limit of the scanner is 400 lbs (maximum).

How should I prepare for a scan?

- Make sure you make your scheduled appointment day and time.
- Call us in advance if you are pregnant, nursing, severely claustrophobic, special needs, e.g. language barrier, wheelchair requirements or oxygen support.
- Bring a list of current medications or medications including over the counter medications.
- Dress comfortably. The scan room must be kept cool, please dress accordingly - wear warm clothing.

What should I expect during the procedure?

When you arrive, the technologist will ask questions about your health history, explain the test, and check your blood sugar. Your blood sugar must be less than 200 mg/dl for the scan to be performed. You will receive an injection in your arm or hand. The injection will contain a tracer amount of radioactive material (FDG). The tracer is safe, and no adverse reactions have been documented. After the injection, you will sit in a private room for approximately one hour while the tracer circulates. In most cases, you may relax or read. After the waiting period, you will be asked to empty your bladder and proceed to the scan room. The scanner is similar to a CT scanner. You will lie on your back for 30- 40 minutes and slowly move through the scanner as your body is imaged. Movement can ruin images, so it is important that you are as comfortable as possible. The scan itself takes about 30-40 minutes. You should plan on being here for approximately 1 1/2 - 2 hours. After exam is complete drink plenty of fluids the remainder of the day. Resume normal daily activities.

When will I know about my results?

Results usually take approximately 2-3 days and may be obtained from the ordering physician of the exam. If a CD of the exam is needed, please notify the department (bring photo ID). If you need more information regarding the PET/CT scan, please call (229) 312-1660. For scheduling please call Centralized scheduling at (229) 312-4800.