

CHATTANOOGA ■ I M A G I N G

(423) 553-1234

Your appointment is scheduled for: Date _____ Time _____

Type of PET/CT _____ Ordering physician _____

Diagnosis _____

Copy of report sent to _____

Thank you for choosing Chattanooga Imaging. The following information will assist you in understanding your diagnostic procedure.

PET/CT

What is PET/CT?

In one continuous full-body scan, PET captures images of miniscule changes in the body's metabolism caused by the growth of abnormal cells. CT images simultaneously allow the physician to pinpoint the exact location, size, and shape of the diseased tissue or tumor. Essentially, small lesions or tumors are detected with PET and then precisely located with CT.

What To Expect

The technologist will start an intravenous line in your arm. You will then be injected with a radioactive glucose (sugar) that will be detected on our PET/CT scanner. You will not feel the injection of the glucose. After the injection, the technologist will lead you to a quiet room where you can rest for about an hour. This will allow the glucose to circulate through your system. The PET/CT scan itself usually takes 20 to 50 minutes, depending on the areas of the body being scanned. You will need to lie on your back and remain as still as possible. Images from the PET/CT scan will be reviewed by the radiologist and correlated with your history, other available x-rays, and related studies. The radiologist will send a report to your physician.

Patient Preparation

You should not have anything to eat or drink for at least 6 hours before arriving for your PET/CT scan. You should not engage in strenuous exercise for 48 hours before your exam. If you need to take medications, they can be swallowed with a small amount of water. If there are medications you need to take with food, you may have a few saltine crackers. Diabetic patients need to regulate their blood sugar, because the glucose in the blood competes with the radioactive glucose that will be administered during your exam. Your **blood glucose level needs to be less than 200** at the time of your scan. If you take insulin (injection or pill form), it must be taken **at least 4 hours** before your scan. If your glucose levels are over 200, please contact Chattanooga Imaging before coming in for your scan so that we can work with you and your physician to obtain a high-quality scan. You should bring medications for pain, anxiety, or claustrophobia if you need them.

If you have any questions about your test, please call us.

Thank you for choosing

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