

# F-18 FDG Whole Body PET Scan

(4th version June 16, 2021)

## **Purposes of this study:**

1. To detect the presence, location, and severity of tumor, possible local or distal metastasis, or the tumor response after prior treatment.
2. It can also be used for other conditions such as inflammation/infection.

## **Health Insurance Indications**

1. The staging, treatment and suspected relapse or re-staging of breast cancer and lymphoma.
2. The staging and suspected relapse or re-staging of colorectal cancer, rectal cancer, esophageal cancer, head and neck cancer (excluding brain tumor), primary lung cancer, melanoma, thyroid cancer, and cervical cancer.

## **Procedure of this study:**

1. You should have nothing to eat or drink except plain water for six hours before your appointment time.
2. Patients of diabetes need to inform in advance.
3. On the day of the exam, you will check in at the PET-CT center (1st Medical Building B2).
4. A Nuclear Medicine Technologist will explain to you the procedure. You may also be asked several important questions about your health. What happens, in most cases, is that an injection of a small amount of radiopharmaceutical called F-18 FDG will be injected into one of your veins (usually in your hand or elbow).
5. After the injection of the radioactive tracer, a scan is required 40 - 60 minutes after injection. The Technologist will position you on a bed under a machine called a PET scanner. You will be asked to lie flat and keep as still as possible during imaging. The camera may pass over you. The scan time will be about 15-25 minutes and vary depending on what your doctor is looking for.
6. If you are an inpatient, you will be returned to your hospital room. If you are an outpatient, you may go home and continue your regular activities. A report describing the findings of your scan will be sent to your physician. You should make an appointment to see your referring doctor to obtain the results of your test.
7. Any diagnostic procedure may have some risks, and you should consult your physician regarding the risks and benefits of this procedure. F-18 FDG causes minimal side effects. The test and material are used routinely worldwide under physician supervision.

**Other notices:**

1. If you have any possibility of pregnancy, please tell us in advance. Pregnancy is a relative contraindication to this test.
2. You may continue to drink plain water normally prior to, and after the Scan. If you are on any medications, you may continue to take them. Drinking plenty of fluids before and after the injection of the F-18 FDG often helps to give better pictures. It is also recommended that you void frequently following injection.
3. Remove jewelry and any metal objects that might interfere with the images.
4. Please keep still during scanning in order to achieve a high quality picture.
5. Please avoid contact with babies and pregnant women the day you receive the low dose radioactive isotope injection. No obvious side effects will occur when in touch with babies and pregnant women. Please do not worry. This test is very safe. No severe side effect has been reported. Allergy could happen but very rare.

**Please feel free to contact us if you have any question.**

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