PET/CT Scan

Why should I order a Positron Emission Tomography (PET) / Computed Tomography (CT) Scan?

Because a PET/CT Scan:

- is non-invasive, which reduces the chance of infection and morbidity.
- provides more accurate location and tumor staging and restaging information, which can influence treatment.
- provides better sensitivity and specificity than CT alone for the major cancer indications (i.e. Lung, Colorectal, Head and Neck and Lymphoma), which could improve diagnosis.
- can affect patient treatment/management with improved localization of nodal disease for more accurate biopsy and surgical intervention.
- can detect metabolic activity in an area as small as 5mm( ), which would insure an early start on treatment.
- identifies and locates metastatic disease throughout the entire body, which would effect treatment.
- locates and differentiates active cells from residual scar tissue and radiation necrosis, which aids in correct diagnosis.
- is performed in 30 minutes or less in a comfortable setting and without extensive patient preparation. Total procedure takes 1 ½ hour.
- information is available for interpretation immediately after the test is concluded, which allows for faster treatment planning.
- fuses both images to create a very accurate picture of the active area and the location in the body. This aids the radiologists in their interpretation
- can control medical expenses by elimination of other redundant and less informative tests (i.e. SPECT, Gallium bone scan, and biopsy).
- is covered by Medicare for 88% of cancers detectable by PET. Private insurance companies cover even more. This demonstrates the data supported confidence in PET scans.
- is performed on the second generation GE Medical Systems Discovery ST, which offers both 2-D and 3-D imaging for a no-compromised imaging solution. GE LightSpeed 16-slice CT provides the precise anatomy images that are fused with the PET metabolic images in 20 minutes or less. The advanced software provides the fastest and clearest images for the radiologists and information to the oncologists they cannot get with any other test.

To schedule call 217-277-3500, ext. 7749

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