

Other Important Information

If you have special needs, please call the Center in advance.

IT IS VERY IMPORTANT THAT YOU ARE ON TIME FOR YOUR TEST ARRIVING AT LEAST 15 MIN. BEFORE YOUR APPOINTMENT TIME.

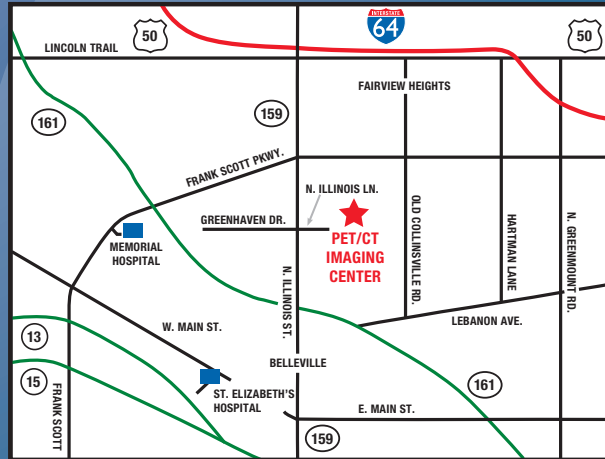
The radioactive tracer is made and ordered especially for you and your appointment time. The dose will be unusable if your appointment time is delayed. We will attempt to notify you in advance of any schedule change.

After the exam you may resume all normal activities. Remember to drink extra fluids.

The results will be sent to your physician within 2–3 working days.

Will my insurance cover the procedure?

Many private insurance companies and Medicare provide coverage for some PET/CT procedures, depending on your diagnosis. Please contact your insurance company before your appointment to confirm reimbursement.



 MEMORIAL &
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CENTER**

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 MEMORIAL &
ST. ELIZABETH'S
**PET/CT
IMAGING
CENTER**



*Information About
Your PET/CT Scan*

Appointment

Date: _____

Time: _____

PET/CT Basics

What is PET/CT?

In one continuous full-body scan (usually about 30 minutes), PET captures images of miniscule changes in the body's metabolism caused by the growth of abnormal cells, while CT images simultaneously allow physicians to pinpoint the exact location, size, and shape of the diseased tissue or tumor.

Positron Emission Tomography (PET) and Computerized Tomography (CT) are both standard imaging tools that allow physicians to determine the possibility of cancer within the body before making treatment recommendations.

Alone, each imaging test has particular benefits and limitations, but when the results of PET and CT scans are "fused" together, the combined image provides complete information on cancer location and metabolism.

Benefits of PET/CT

There are tremendous benefits of having a combined PET/CT scan:

- Earlier diagnosis
- Accurate staging and localization
- Precise treatment and monitoring
- Assess effectiveness of chemotherapy



What to expect

When you arrive, the technologist will ask some questions about your health history, explain the test, and check your blood sugar. You will receive an injection in your arm or hand. The injection will contain a tracer amount of radioactive material. The tracer is safe, and no adverse reactions have been documented. After the injection you will sit in a private room for approximately 1 hour while the tracer circulates. In most cases, you may relax, watch TV, 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. In most cases, you may wear normal clothing for the entire procedure, although metal objects must be removed. The scan itself takes about 20–30 minutes. You should plan on being here for approximately 1½–2 hours.

Preparation for your PET/CT scan

Do:

As with any radiology exam, call us in advance if you are pregnant or nursing.

Drink extra fluids the day before your scan and following your scan.

Drink extra PLAIN WATER before arriving for the scan.

Dress warm and comfortable. The scan room is cool.

Medications (except insulin) can be taken with plain water at any time, if they can be taken on an empty stomach.

Do Not:

Eat, drink (except water – DO DRINK WATER), chew gum, or use breath mints (this includes sugar free items) for 4 hours before the test.

Caffeine and strenuous physical activity should be avoided for 12 hours prior to the exam.

Insulin and diabetic medicine may not be taken within 4 hours prior to the exam.

Other Considerations:

Diabetics are asked to call the Center for specific instructions.