

Brain PET/CT or PET/MR Scan with an Amyloid Plaque Tracer

Dear patient,

We welcome you to your appointment in our service, taking place in the near future. Please bring your insurance document or a copy of your insurance certificate with you.

What is a PET/CT or PET/MR?

(Positron Emission Tomography), CT (Computed Tomography and MR (Magnetic Resonance Imaging) all produce cross-sectional images of your body. In PET/CT and PET/MR, two of the examinations are combined within one scanner.

PET: a small dose of radioactive tracer - given to the patient - sends rays from within the body. The PET scanner localizes the tracers' whereabouts and represents it in cross-sectional images of the patient.

CT: X-rays travel through the patient and are weakened. The weakening is a measure of the densities of various body tissues. The reconstructed cross-sectional CT-images depict these densities throughout the patient.

MR: the patient - placed in the scanner – is exposed to one strong and weak variable additional magnetic fields. Radio waves are sent into the patient, interact with body tissues and produce other radio waves. As they characterize tissues of the patient, the waves are recorded and reconstructed into cross-sectional images

Preparation for a Brain PET/CT or PET/MR

- You do not have to abstain from food or drink
- You may take all medications
- If you have strong pain, take all your pain medications as prescribed

If you have experienced claustrophobia in the past, please let our medical technicians know. If you have any questions prior to the examination, contact us at +41 (0) 44 255 1818 (option 3).

It is important, that you arrive on time for the examination. Tracers are ready made and will decay, if not used on time.

Amyloid PET/CT or PET/MR examination

In the PET-Center, our technicians await you. Total examination time is one hour. After measuring your blood sugar, you will receive an injection of radioactive tracer (a substance sticking to Amyloid plaques in the brain such as Amyvid or Vizamyl). Amyloid plaques are known to exist in patients with a frequent type of dementia (Alzheimer disease). The substances have no side effects.

Fifty minutes after injection you are placed on the examination table of the PET/CT or PET/MR scanner. The scan will last approximately 20 minutes. During this time a PET and a CT or MR scan of your brain will be performed.

It is important that during this time, you lay quietly on the examination table and do not move. To avoid motions of the head, your head will be placed in a special head support.

After the Amyloid PET/CT or PET/MR exam

You should not be accompanied by children or adolescents to the exam.

Reporting

Evaluating your PET/CT or PET/MR exam takes time. Thus, no results can be given right after the exam. A report will be sent to your physician usually by the end of the examination day.

Please note

If you need to cancel or delay your appointment, contact us the latest one working day prior to the exam. Else, we need to charge you for costs generated. Contact: +41 44 255 35 55 .