

LOCATION MAIN 2

SUMMARY OF THE EXAM

Positron Emission Tomography (PET) is a special exam used to detect cancer in the body. It helps to diagnose certain types of cancers and heart problems. PET scan is unique because it can provide information at early stages of the disease process, provide exact locations of tumors and help determine the extent of a disease. PET scan can be used to help plan and evaluate the course of treatment after a diagnosis has been made.

WHAT TO EXPECT

You will not be able to eat or drink anything (except plain water) for at least four – six hours before your exam, including gum or mints. Sugar and caffeine should be limited the day before your exam.

You will receive an injection of a radioactive tracer in your room, and after approximately one hour, you will be taken to the PET scanner. You will be asked to lie down on the exam table, and images will be obtained for about 30 minutes.

The scan involves the administration of radioactive materials. The scans are not routinely performed on women who are pregnant or breastfeeding.

LENGTH OF EXAM: Plan to spend about two hours in the department.

AFTER THE EXAM: You will be able to eat and drink after the scan.