

# All About Your PET/CT Scan

## Positron Emission Tomography/ Computed Tomography

### What happens after the exam?

After imaging, you are free to resume your normal diet. You should drink additional fluids for several hours after the scan.

### When will my results be ready?

The results of your scan will be available to your physician within approximately two to three business days.

If you have any questions about the exam, please call the PET/CT department at:  
**419-690-7979.**

### When and where do I get my test?

For more information on PET/CT scanning, or to schedule an appointment, please call the PET/CT department at 419-690-7979.

Bay Park Community Hospital routinely provides positron emission tomography/computed tomography service in its radiology department on site.

### Appointment Information

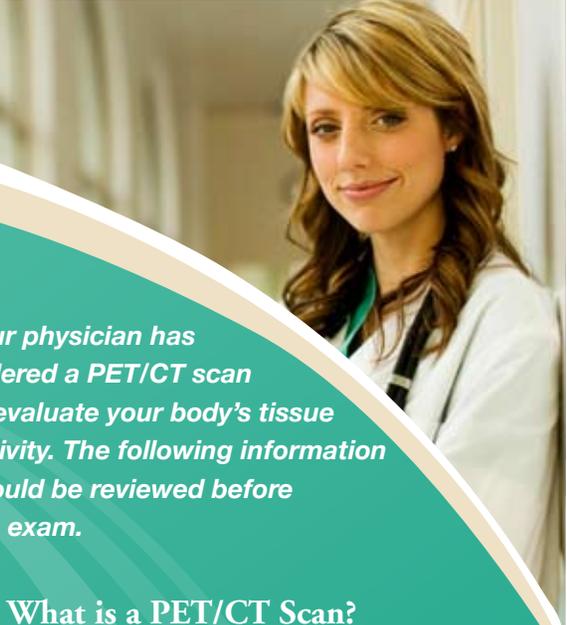
DAY: \_\_\_\_\_  
DATE: \_\_\_\_\_  
TIME: \_\_\_\_\_

\* A special radioisotope is ordered and delivered to the PET/CT scanner for your exam. If you are unable to keep your appointment, it is very important to cancel at least 48 hours before your scheduled exam time. Call **419-690-7979** if you must cancel the appointment.



FLOWER HOSPITAL

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*Your physician has ordered a PET/CT scan to evaluate your body's tissue activity. The following information should be reviewed before the exam.*

### **What is a PET/CT Scan?**

PET/CT imaging is a diagnostic procedure used to visualize activity in tissue using glucose molecules. These molecules, labeled with radioactive Fluorine-18, are referred to as FDG. After the FDG is injected into the blood stream, it is distributed throughout the body, picked up and incorporated into cells. These cells, containing small amounts of radioactivity, will be detected by the PET/CT scanner to generate images used in diagnosis. The PET/CT combines PET and CT exams into one exam, providing an accurate metabolic and structural image.

### **What are the risks with a PET/CT Scan?**

The quantity of radiation is low and has a short life span in your body. Patient exposure to radiation from a PET/CT scan is similar to the exposure received in a CT scan and a standard nuclear medicine procedure.

### **How does the PET/CT procedure work?**

You will register for your exam in the radiology department, on the first floor of Bay Park Community Hospital. An IV will be inserted and a small amount of blood will be taken to check your blood sugar level. The radiopharmaceutical (FDG) will be administered through the IV. There is no danger to you from this injection. Glucose (also known as sugar) is a common substance every cell in your body needs to function.

You will wait approximately one hour while the material circulates in your body. After the waiting period, you will empty your bladder and be taken to the scanning area. You will lie on the imaging table for approximately 30 minutes during the scan.

### **How should I prepare for the PET/CT exam?**

- Wear warm, comfortable clothing.
- Do not eat or drink anything for four hours prior to your exam.
- Prescription medicine may be taken before your exam, but only with water.
- Tell the PET/CT technologist if you are diabetic or claustrophobic.
- If you are pregnant, or think you may be pregnant, please notify the technologist before your exam.
- Prepare to spend up to three hours total at the hospital for your exam.

