

PET/CT or PET/MR of the Prostate with Ga-68-PSMA-11

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?

PET (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 (here Ga-68-PSMA-11) given to the patient sends rays from within your body. The PET scanner localizes the tracers' whereabouts and represents it in cross-sectional images of the patient.

CT: in 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 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 PET/CT or PET/MR

- Stop intake of fluids and food for **at least 6 hours** (unsweetened mineral water ok, NO chewing gum, NO candies)
- Take 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, please contact our PET-center at +41 (0) 44 255 1818 (choose option 3).

Please bring a 2 CHF coin with you to securely place your belongings in one of our safety lockers.

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

Ga-PSMA-11 PET/CT or PET/MR examination

In the PET-Center our technicians await you. Total examination time will require approximately 2 hours. To improve image quality we will first give you a diuretic. After this, you need to drink around 0.5 liters of water over 30 minutes. Then you will receive an injection of the radioactive tracer (Ga-PSMA-11 in this case, a tracer, which specifically binds to prostate cancer cells and thus can inform on their whereabouts). Following this, you are placed in a quiet room, so that the substance can reach its targets. Finally, the PET/CT or PET/MR exam proper is carried out and lasts about 20 minutes.

Depending on the questions of the referring physician an additional exam will have to be done with the CT or MR portion of the scanner using contrast media. You should inform us about previous untoward effects with contrast media or allergies you are suffering from. Of particular interest is an allergy against Iodine. If you have experienced above, do not come by car, because pre-medication which we may need to use, makes you a bit drowsy.

After a Ga-PSMA-11 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 examination appointment, please contact us the latest on the working day prior to the examination. Otherwise, we need to charge you for the costs generated. Contact: +41 (0) 44 255 1818 (choose option 3).

