

Information for a ⁶⁸Gallium GaTate or PSMA PET Scan

Positron Emission Tomography (PET), is an imaging technique, which uses small amounts of radioactive tracers to help in the management of your condition. A PET scanner is used to produce an image showing the distribution of the tracer in the body. The radiotracers used for a PET scan are substances naturally found in the body and are administered in small amounts via a vein in the arm. There are no known side effects. The scan is performed on a camera that looks like a CT scanner.



Preparing for a PET scan

The entire test takes around 2-3 hours to complete. Follow the checklist below. You may bring a support person with you, but not a pregnant woman or child.

Checklist



Contact us as soon as possible if you are claustrophobic and need sedation. If you need sedation, you will need to have someone with you to drive you home

- **You may eat & drink normally**
 - **We would like you to be well hydrated**
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Do not bring pregnant women or children with you

- You will need to avoid contact with pregnant women and children for 1 hour following your scan
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Contact us if you are arriving by ambulance transport or have been admitted to hospital

On the day of your PET scan:

- A staff member will take your clinical history, explain the test and give you the chance to ask any questions you may have.
- You will be given an injection of the radiotracer into a vein in your arm
- After the injection, you need to wait for 60 minutes before scanning can commence
- The scan generally takes 30 minutes, sometimes additional delayed imaging is required
- A report with the details of your scan will be sent to your referring Doctor
- Please ensure an appointment is made with your referring doctor to get the results

Further information

If you have any questions regarding this information, call the Department of Molecular Imaging and Therapy on (03) 9496 5718