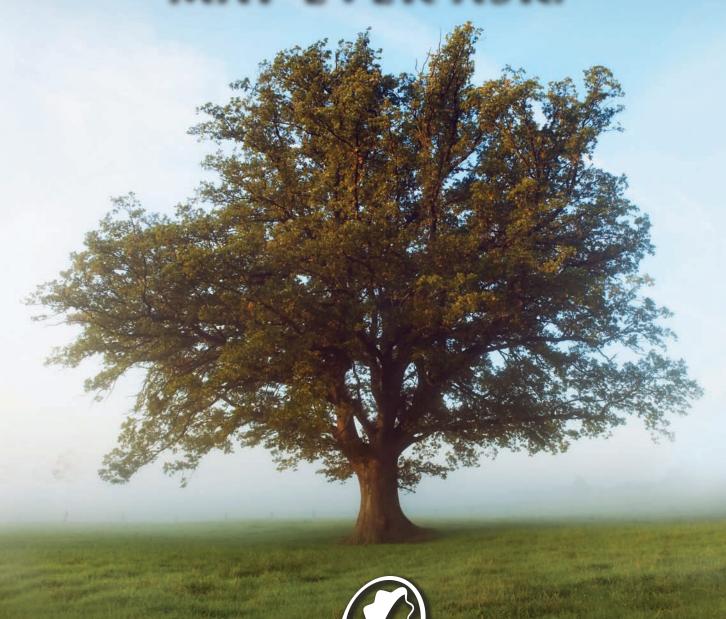
# THE MOST IMPORTANT QUESTIONS YOU MAY EVER ASK.





# ANSWERED.

#### WHAT IS A PET/CT SCAN?

An integrated PET/CT scan is the most advanced imaging technology for the detection and evaluation of cancer. The whole-body scan generates high-resolution images of abnormal activity and its location.

Abnormal biological activity often takes place before physical changes can be identified by other imaging exams such as MRI, CT, x-ray and ultrasound. A PET/CT scan provides images of the entire body, detecting primary and secondary disease earlier and more accurately than any other imaging technology.

#### WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF A PET/CT SCAN?

- PET/CT often replaces multiple medical testing procedures with a single exam.
- PET/CT frequently identifies disease before it shows up on other exams.
- PET/CT evaluates all organ systems of the body in a single exam, indicating whether or not cancer has spread.
- PET/CT shows the progress of disease and how the body responds to treatment.
- PET/CT reduces or eliminates ineffective or unnecessary surgical or medical treatments.

Physicians use PET/CT images to determine the extent of disease and the effectiveness of chemotherapy, radiation therapy or surgery. PET/CT scanning can provide early detection of the recurrence of cancer, revealing tumors that might otherwise be obscured by scar tissue resulting from surgery and radiation therapy.

### HOW IS THE PET/CT SCAN CONDUCTED?

A small amount of radioactive sugar is injected into your bloodstream. The radioactive sugar circulates in your body while you relax for approximately one hour. You then lie on a bed that slowly passes through the scanner. The PET/CT scan takes approximately 30 minutes. After the scan, you will be on your way.







#### IS A PET/CT SCAN SAFE?

Yes. The risks associated with PET/CT scanning are minimal. Radioactive sugar, also known as glucose, is short-lived and leaves your body quickly. The radioactive sugar is not a contrast agent. The radiation exposure associated with a PET/CT scan is similar to that associated with conventional imaging exams.

#### WHAT WILL I HAVE TO PAY?

You may be required to pay a co-payment or deductible at the time of service.

#### WILL MY INSURANCE COVER A PET/CT SCAN?

Insurance companies and Medicare generally cover a portion or all of the cost of a PET/CT scan for cancer. A patient care coordinator will verify your insurance coverage.

## WHAT IF I DON'T HAVE INSURANCE?

A patient care coordinator will work with you individually to create a payment plan based on your ability to pay.

# WHAT IF I HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT MY FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY?

Please feel free to call us to discuss your financial responsibility or to ask any questions about your PET/CT scan.

## HOW DO I PREPARE?

A patient care coordinator will contact you prior to your appointment to discuss preparation instructions and any prescription medications you may be taking.

# When will my results be ready?

The images generated by the PET/CT scan combined with a written report from an interpreting physician will be communicated to your physician within 48 hours of your scan. Your physician will share the results with you.





NORTH FLORIDA • LAKE CITY

7000 NW 11th Place Gainesville, FL 32605 phone: (352) 331-0900 fax: (352) 331-1511

4520 West US Hwy 90 Lake City, FL 32055 phone: (386) 755-0601 fax: (386) 755-0602