

PET-CT of estrogen receptors

The examination is used to find cancerous tumors and their metastases.

Please reserve approximately 4 hours for the examination.

If you are pregnant or suspect that you are pregnant, call the number listed in the arrival instructions. This examination is generally not carried out during pregnancy.

Preparation for examination

You may eat and drink as usual. Remove all jewellery and any clothes containing metal.

Medication:

Antiestrogen (Tamofen): 5 to 7-week break in medication.

You may take your other medication as usual.

Examination

At the beginning of the examination, you will rest for 1 to 2 hours at the ward. An intravenous catheter (thin tube into a vein) will be placed into your arm, and a small amount of radioactive contrast agent will be given via the catheter.

During the scan, you will be lying down and you will need to remain still. The imaging takes approximately 30 minutes. The examination is painless.

The examination also includes a CT scan (computed tomography). The scans are performed simultaneously.

A CT scan with iodine contrast agent may also be performed. The contrast agent will be administered via the intravenous cannula. The contrast agent will cause a passing warm sensation and a metallic taste in the mouth. The contrast agent leaves your body with urine.

After the examination

Drink plenty of water and empty your bladder more frequently than you normally would after the examination. This is to make sure that the radioactive tracer leaves your body.

After receiving the radioactive contrast agent, do not hold a child or remain in prolonged close contact with children for the remainder of the day.

If you breastfeed, you must stop breastfeeding for 4 hours after the radioactive tracer is administered. The milk expressed during this period must be poured down the drain.

Other things to note

Please take your health insurance card (Kela card) or identity card with you.

Your attending physician will inform you of the test results. Please contact the unit responsible for your care if you do not already have a scheduled appointment or a phone consultation with your doctor.

You will not be charged for the examination separately. Cancel the appointment if you cannot come. If you do not cancel, you will be charged a fine.

Patient information form for PET scan

Please fill in the form the day before the examination and bring it with you.

Name: _____

Personal identity code: _____

Weight: _____ Height: _____

Have you ever had an allergic reaction to contrast material in any previous contrast-enhanced scans?

yes no

Have you had some surgery / endoscopic procedure / biopsy in the past six months?

yes no

Which one, when? _____

Do you have any foreign objects in your body (made of metal):

What objects: _____

Where: _____

Do you have, or have you had any of the following (check the box):

- diabetes tuberculosis
- heart attack intestinal infection
- kidney disease
- other inflammatory disease, please specify: _____
- other long-term illness, please specify: _____
- trauma (fractures, injuries), please specify: _____

Have you taken/received the following medicines in the past 2 weeks?

Cortisone yes no

Blood cell growth factor yes no

Cytotoxic/Cytostatic drugs yes no

If you have received cytostatic therapy or blood cell growth factor therapy within 2 weeks before the examination date, please contact the Nuclear Medicine Unit in Meilahti, tel. 09 471 72554.

Have you received radiation therapy in the past 3 months?

yes no

When? _____

On which area? _____

If you have received radiation therapy within 3 months before the examination date, please contact the Nuclear Medicine Unit in Meilahti, tel. 09 471 72554.

Do you have a scheduled appointment / telephone call with your doctor?

yes no

When is it? _____

Question for women:

Is it possible that you are pregnant?

yes no

If you suspect that you might be pregnant, please contact the unit responsible for your care before the examination.

Thank you for your answers.