

## COMMON USES OF PET/CT SCANS

### ONCOLOGY

- Diagnose benign from malignant tumors
- Survey the entire body to determine if cancer has spread to any area
- Detect recurrent tumors
- Assess tumor aggressiveness
- Monitor the success of therapy

### CARDIOLOGY

- Determine what heart tissue is still alive following a suspected heart attack
- Predict success of angioplasty (balloon) or bypass surgery

### NEUROLOGY

- Dementia – detect signs of Alzheimer’s or other dementia
- Epilepsy – determine the precise location for surgery
- Parkinson’s – assist physicians in the diagnosis of movement disorders

**To schedule an appointment call:  
866-347-8672**

#### **LOCATION:**

350 Boulevard Passaic, NJ 07055  
Phone 973.365.4300 <http://www.smh-passaic.org/>

#### **DIRECTIONS BY BUS:**

707 Paterson-Saddle Brook  
St. Mary’s Hospital stop on Boulevard

#### **DIRECTIONS BY CAR:**

Via Route 80,  
Take Route 80 West to Route 46 West. Take the Paulison Avenue exit and bear RIGHT after the exit to get on Paulison Avenue. Follow Paulison Avenue 1.6 miles and turn RIGHT at Oak Street. Turn LEFT at Boulevard.

#### **VIA ROUTE 3**

Take Route 3 West to the \*Passaic Avenue exit. Bear RIGHT after the exit, making a RIGHT on Passaic Avenue. Follow Passaic Avenue down 1.75 miles and turn LEFT at Boulevard. Hospital will be on right.

#### **VIA THE GARDEN STATE PARKWAY**

Take Exit 153A/Route 3 East. Proceed according to “\*Passaic Avenue” above.

#### **VIA THE NJ TURNPIKE**

Take Exit 16W toward Rt. 3 West/ Rt. 17/Rutherford. Merge onto \*Route 21 North toward Passaic. Take Exit 11A/River Drive. Turn RIGHT at River Drive (which is at the “Stop” sign at bottom of exit ramp.) Turn LEFT at Paulison Avenue and follow down for approx. 0.7 miles. Turn LEFT at Broadway. Turn RIGHT at Boulevard. St. Mary’s will be on right.

#### **VIA ROUTE 21**

Proceed according to “\*Route 21” above.

#### **VIA CLIFTON AVENUE AREA**

Take Clifton Avenue to Paulison Avenue. Turn east on Paulison Avenue toward Passaic. Follow Paulison Avenue 1.1 miles and turn RIGHT at OAK Street. Turn LEFT at Boulevard.

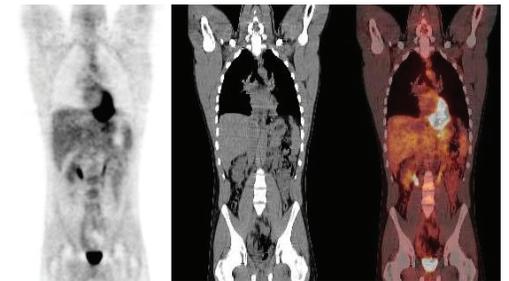


350 Boulevard • Passaic, NJ 07055

Phone :973.365.4300 • [www.smh-nj.org](http://www.smh-nj.org)

St. Mary’s Hospital is Sponsored by the Sisters of Charity of Saint Elizabeth, Convent Station, NJ 07961

## WHAT DO I NEED TO KNOW ABOUT PET/CT? A PATIENT’S INFORMATION GUIDE



**NOT JUST HEALTH CARE.  
HUMAN CARE.**



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## WHAT IS A PET/CT SCAN?

PET stands for “Positron Emission Tomography” and CT is an abbreviation for “Computed Tomography.” PET/CT scans are a powerful imaging technique for the diagnosis and treatment of many diseases. The PET scan shows how the body is working biologically, while the CT scan provides information about the body’s anatomy such as size, shape and location of organs. By combining these two technologies, physicians can more accurately diagnose and identify cancer, heart disease and brain disorders.

## WHY DO I NEED PET/CT?

PET/CT accurately maps metabolic and anatomic information in the human body in a single scan. This allows your physician to examine your entire body at once. PET/CT provides a more complete picture, making it easier for your doctor to diagnose problems, determine the extent of disease, prescribe treatment, and track progress. PET/CT scans are non-invasive tests.

## ABOUT THE SCAN

Before the scan, you will receive an intravenous injection of a safe radioactive liquid that acts as a tracer in your body. You will rest quietly for approximately 45-60 minutes while the tracer is distributed throughout your body.

You will then be asked to lie on a table that passes slowly through the scanner. The CT portion of the test sends x-rays through the body that are processed to show the body’s structure. The PET portion of the test produces a visual map of how the tracer has moved throughout your body. The whole scanning process takes less than 30 minutes.

## BEFORE THE SCAN

- Do not eat or drink anything except water 4-6 hours before your test
  - Wear comfortable clothing
  - Take any prescribed medication unless instructed otherwise
  - Notify your physician if you are pregnant, breast feeding or are diabetic
- Avoid any strenuous activity/exercise 24 hours prior to your scan

