

## Positron Emission Tomography (PET) Scan

A Positron Emission Tomography (PET) Scan is a nuclear imaging test that includes a computed tomography (CT) scan and the injection of a radioactive tracer through an IV. Images reflecting accumulation of the tracer are superimposed over the CT scan in two-dimensional cross-sections for detailed analysis. The PET scan shows how the brain is using energy, in real time. Unlike x-ray, CT, or MRI scans, which show the brain's anatomy, a PET scan can provide information about how the brain is working.

PET scans help monitor the activity of cancerous tumors. Because malignant cells grow at such a fast rate, physicians often use PET scans to monitor how fast malignant cells grow as well as the impact of treatment therapies. PET scans are also used to evaluate medically uncontrolled seizures.