The Value & Quality of Nuclear Medicine
PET for Oncology Information for Healthcare Provider

How Does a PET Scan Work?
Watch this informative video from the National Institutes of Health to learn more about how a PET scan detects disease.

For a video of how a PET Scan works, scan this QR code or click here.

What is Nuclear Medicine?
Nuclear medicine uses very small amounts of radioactive materials called radiopharmaceuticals to diagnose and treat disease.

For more information scan this QR code or click here.

What is PET-CT?
PET-CT is a combination of positron emission tomography (PET) and computed tomography (CT) that produces highly detailed views of the body. A combined PET-CT study can provide detail on both the anatomy and function of organs and tissues. This is accomplished by superimposing the precise location of abnormal metabolic activity (from PET) against the detailed anatomic image (from CT).

For information on how a PET scan works and how it is performed, scan this QR code or click here.

Advantages of PET
- PET is a powerful tool for diagnosing and determining the stage of many types of cancer, including lung, head and neck, colorectal, esophageal, lymphoma, melanoma, breast, thyroid, cervical, pancreatic, and brain cancers.
- PET scans may eliminate the need for surgical biopsy or identify the optimal biopsy location.
- PET scans help physicians choose the most appropriate treatment plan and assess whether chemotherapy or other treatments are working as intended.
- For most cancers, PET scans are currently the most effective means of detecting a recurrence.

To download CPT Codes for Nuclear Medicine Procedures, scan this QR code or click here.

For Appropriate Use Criteria for FDG PET/CT Restaging and Treatment Response Assessment in a variety of diseases, scan this QR code or click here.

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