

PSMA PET/CT Scan Preparation



What is a PSMA PET/CT Scan?

This scan uses a special tracer (Gozellix) to highlight prostate cancer cells. It helps your care team see how the cancer is behaving and guides treatment decisions. Your appointment will take approximately 2 hours. This includes test explanation, IV start, injection for imaging, wait period, and scan time.

Before Your Appointment

- **No fasting required** – you may eat and drink normally.
- **Medications** – continue taking your regular medications.
- **Hydration** – drink plenty of fluids before your appointment.
- **Comfort** – you should be able to lie flat on your back for at least 30 minutes.
- **Smoking** – no restrictions, but your smoking history will be documented.

Barium Studies

- If possible, postpone high-density barium studies until after the exam.
- If not possible, wait at least 72 hours before your PET scan.

Cancer Treatment Timing

- **Chemotherapy** should ideally be completed 10-14 days before the scan, unless your doctor advises otherwise.
- **Radiation therapy** should be completed 3-4 months before the scan if the purpose is to assess treatment response.
- Areas of treatment and the last date of therapy will be documented.

Drug Interactions

- Therapies targeting the androgen pathway (such as androgen deprivation therapy or androgen receptor antagonists) may affect how Gozellix shows up in prostate cancer.
- The impact of these therapies on scan performance is not fully established.

If Prep Isn't Followed

- The technologist will contact the radiologist and your doctor for guidance.
- Your doctor will decide whether to proceed or reschedule.
- If no physician can be reached, your appointment may be rescheduled.
- If the scan is discontinued, your doctor will be notified with the reason.

After The Scan

- After the scan, drink plenty of fluid and flush the toilet twice for the rest of the day.
- Limit time around pregnant woman and children.

Key Takeaway

Following these guidelines helps ensure your scan is safe and accurate. If you have questions about medications, treatments, or preparation, please contact your care team before your appointment.