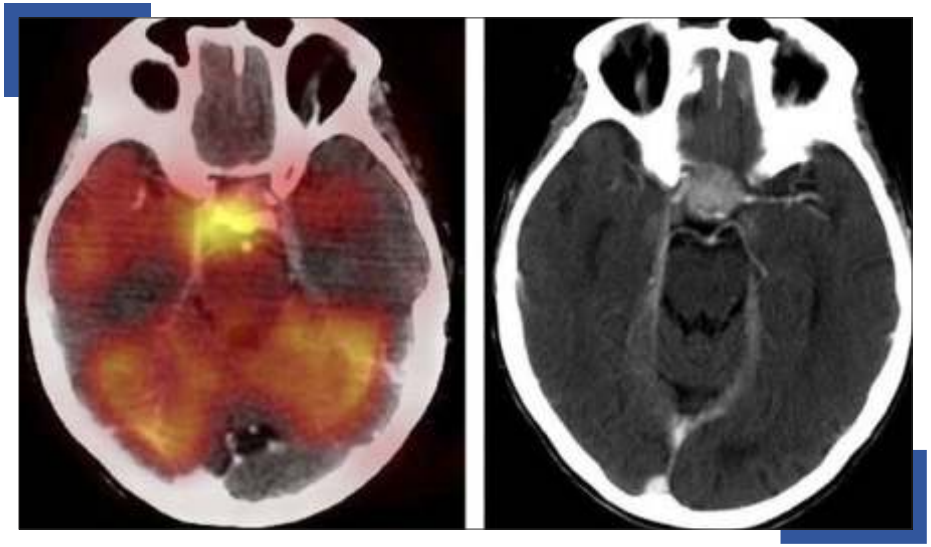
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DIAGNOSTICS AND THERAPY
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Understanding
18F-FDG Whole-Body PET-CT with Brain



What is 18F-FDG Whole-Body PET-CT with Brain?

This scan uses a radioactive tracer called Fluorine-18 Fluorodeoxyglucose (18F-FDG) to show how active your body (brain included) is. A PET and CT scan are taken to produce images of your organs and tissues. This scan can show areas of increased glucose uptake, which may indicate cancer, infection, inflammatory, or neurological conditions.

Why is it Performed?

This scan is generally used to identify and assess cancer. It can also identify how far the cancer has spread in the body and how well the treatment is working. Brain imaging can help to assess areas of increased metabolism within the brain. This could be due to certain neurological conditions, brain tumours or suspected cancer involvement in the brain. This can also help doctors to further investigate any unexplained symptoms.

Preparation

- Inform the imaging team if you are pregnant, think you may be pregnant or are breastfeeding.
- Share details of your current medicines, medical history and any history of diabetes.

Procedure

You will be injected with a small amount of radioactive tracer through a vein in your arm. After this, you will be asked to rest for a short period of time whilst the radioactive tracer travels through your body. Once this has happened, you will be asked to lie down on the PET-CT scanner bed. You will be asked to stay still whilst images are taken of your whole body, including your brain. The length of time will depend on the scan protocol.

Important Instructions

- Avoid strenuous physical activity before the scan.
- Remain relaxed and avoid unnecessary movement during the waiting period.
- Inform the staff if you feel uncomfortable during the injection or scan.

Safety Precautions

As we are dealing with a type of radiation, please let us know if you think you may be pregnant, breastfeeding, diabetic, or have any relevant medical conditions. You may be asked to have a blood test to assess your sugar levels. The medical team will advise you on how much fluid to consume and will give any safety advice for pregnant ladies and young children.

When to Seek Medical Attention?

If you have any unusual or persistent symptoms, please see your doctor. If you are experiencing any difficulty breathing, facial/throat swelling, or any other symptoms of anaphylaxis, please seek medical attention. Please speak to a healthcare specialist about your results. Molecular Diagnostics and Therapy can help you with your diagnosis.