

	Clinical Protocol: Tumor Positron Emission Tomography (PET) and PET-CT	
	ORIGINAL EFFECTIVE DATE: 02/21/2012	REVIEWED/REVISED DATE(S): 06/18/2019 08/13/2021 09/08/2022 11/15/2023 07/24/2025
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PROTOCOL OVERVIEW

This Clinical Protocol advises on indications and guidelines for Tumor Imaging Positron Emission Tomography (PET) and PET-CT.

INDICATIONS

- I. Positron emission tomography (PET), with or without simultaneous computed tomography (PET-CT), for tumor imaging may be indicated for **1 or more** of the following:
- II. Cancer or neoplasm, initial evaluation or staging needed (from diagnosis through initial staging), as indicated by **ALL** of the following:
 - a. Additional imaging information required to assess **1 or more** of the following:
 - i. Anatomic extent of tumor, if results will assist with selection of optimal antitumor treatment
 - ii. Appropriateness of patient for invasive diagnostic or therapeutic procedure
 - iii. Optimal anatomic location for invasive procedure
 - b. PET or PET-CT not yet performed (prior to initiation of treatment)
 - c. Solid tumor malignancy, biopsy-proven or strongly suspected
 - d. Treatment not yet initiated
 - e. Tumor Type is:
 - i. Adrenal Cancer / Anal Cancer / Bladder Cancer / Bone Cancer Primary / Brain and Spinal Cord Cancer / Breast Cancer / Cervical Cancer / Colorectal Cancer / Esophageal or gastroesophageal junction cancer / Gallbladder cancer and cholangiocarcinoma / Gastric Cancer / Head and neck cancer (nonthyroid, non-central nervous system) / Hodgkin lymphoma / Kidney cancer / Liver Cancer / Lung cancer, non-small and small cell / Lung nodule, solitary / Melanoma / Multiple Myeloma / Neuroblastoma / Neuroendocrine cancer / Non-Hodgkin Lymphoma / Ovarian Cancer / Pancreatic cancer / Paraneoplastic syndrome, including neurologic syndrome / Pleural mesothelioma, malignant / Skin Cancer, nonmelanoma (basal and squamous cell) / Soft Tissue Sarcoma, including GIST / Teticular Cancer / Thymus Cancer / Thyroid Cancer / Unknown Primary

- III. Cancer or neoplasm, subsequent evaluation or staging needed (after completion of initial treatment through monitoring for recurrence), as indicated by **ALL** of the following:
- a. Additional imaging required to assess **1 or more** of the following:
 - i. Residual disease, suspected, after completion of initial treatment (restaging)
 - ii. Recurrent disease, suspected, well after completion of treatment (monitoring), as indicated by **1 or more** of the following:
 1. Abnormal findings on physical examination
 2. Abnormal laboratory tests or other imaging studies
 3. New symptoms
 - b. Tumor Type is:
 - i. Anal Cancer / Bladder Cancer / Bone Cancer Primary / Brain and Spinal Cord Cancer / Breast Cancer / Cervical Cancer / Colorectal Cancer / Endometrial Cancer / Esophageal or gastroesophageal junction cancer / Gastric Cancer / Head and neck cancer (nonthyroid, non-central nervous system) / Hodgkin lymphoma / Kidney cancer / Liver Cancer / Lung cancer, non-small and small cell / Lung nodule, solitary / Melanoma / Multiple Myeloma / Neuroendocrine cancer / Non-Hodgkin Lymphoma / Ovarian Cancer / Skin Cancer, nonmelanoma (basal and squamous cell) / Soft Tissue Sarcoma, including GIST / Testicular Cancer / Thyroid Cancer

RECOMMENDED RECORDS

Please submit history and physical and/or progress notes, relevant radiology, and lab tests. If suggested by consultant, please include consult notes.

CITATION

MCG Care Guidelines 29th Edition, 3/04/2025 [MCG Releases 29th Edition of Care Guidelines with Updates for Observation Care and Cellular Therapy - MCG Health](#)

CLINICAL PROTOCOL REVISION HISTORY

Revised By:	Ashley Gonzalez, UM Project Coordinator; Konstantin Yengoyan, Supervisor, Clinical Operations	Date: 07/24/25	
Approved By:	Dr. Shenoda Y.A Abd Elmaseh, Assistant Medical Director	Date: 01/29/2026	Signature Shenoda Abd Elmaseh,
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