



Cancer Institute

## PET Scan

### Preparation Instructions

- You may have NOTHING to eat or drink (except plain water) six (6) hours before your scan: NO gum, mints, coffee, tea, colas, food, etc.
- You may take any necessary medications that can be taken with water and tolerated on an empty stomach, except for over-the-counter medications that contain sugar-like cough syrup.
- Diabetic patients will need to watch their diet and blood glucose closely for several days before the exam. If possible, every effort should be made to avoid foods high in carbohydrates 24 hours before the scan. You may take your oral diabetic medication; however, injections such as insulin may not be taken within six (6) hours before your exam.
- Do not engage in any vigorous activity for at least 24 hours before your scan.
- Wear warm, loose-fitting, comfortable clothing, preferably without metal snaps or zippers. Please leave all jewelry at home. You will not need to remove your clothes for the exam—except for items with metal such as belts, suspenders, metal underwire bras and articles with zippers.
- Family members and friends are welcome to remain in our waiting area; they ARE NOT permitted to wait in the injection area with the patient. Please make arrangements for child care; we cannot be held responsible for unattended children. Patients will be able to drive after the procedure (see exception noted in the next bullet).
- Claustrophobic patients: If you have difficulty with MRI scans and feel the PET scan may cause anxiety, please ask your physician to advise you as you may need to obtain a prescription from your doctor before the appointment. If so, you will need to have a family member or friend accompany you to the appointment to drive you home.
- IT IS EXTREMELY IMPORTANT that you follow the preparation instructions. The accuracy of the PET scan depends very heavily on your body's metabolic activity, which is controlled by the procedure prep.
- If you are unable to keep your scheduled appointment, please contact us by 3 p.m. the day before your scan; we will gladly reschedule to another day for you.

APPOINTMENT DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

TIME: \_\_\_\_\_

### Discharge Instructions

Rest assured that the tracer used in your PET scan has a very short "half-life." This means that it does not remain in your system long, so there's no reason to avoid interacting with other people once your procedure is completed. To be extra safe ...

- Wait for two hours before getting close to an infant or anyone who is pregnant
- Drink plenty of fluids and empty your bladder often over the next few hours

### Directions

#### *From I-385 N*

- Take I-385 North into downtown Greenville
- At 2nd traffic light, turn left onto Church St. (Hwy 29)
- Follow Church St. for a little over a mile to Augusta St.; turn right
- At next traffic light, turn left onto Dunbar
- Follow Dunbar to Andrews St. intersection: Go straight and Cancer Institute is in the Andrews Medical Office Building (Suite 100)

#### *\*Directions from Easley/Clemson/Seneca*

- Take Hwy. 123 into Greenville
- After you cross the bridge over Hwy. 25 (White Horse Road), turn right at the 5th light onto Andrews St.
- Cancer Institute will be on the right in the Andrews Medical Office Building (Suite 100)

#### *Directions from Anderson/Atlanta*

- Take I-85 North to Greenville
- Take Exit 44/Hwy. 25 North (White Horse Road) to Hwy. 123
- Pick up directions at \* above

Cancer Institute-Andrews Street  
200 Andrews St., Suite 100 • Greenville, SC 29601  
(864) 527-8500 • (864) 527-8501 fax