

Information for patients about DOPA-PET/CT examination

The positron emission tomography combined with computed tomography is one of the most advanced diagnostic imaging method in our days. The applied tracer is an amino-acid molecule (**L-DOPA**) labeled with a radioactive isotope (^{18}F). This radiopharmaceutical helps us to acquire information about the utilization of this molecule in the brain, mainly in terms of malignancies.

The examination is completely painless. We administer a constant dose of ^{18}F -DOPA (200 MBq) and perform a skull CT with standard energy parameters. The effective radiation dose of the whole DOPA-PET/CT scan is estimated to be lower than 5 mSv. In literature there is no evidence of allergic reaction caused by this tracer.

The examination altogether takes approximately 1 hour. Please, keep the appointment date and time accurately.

Patients are not allowed to eat 4 hours prior to the given time, but abundantly drinking sugarless fluid (mineral water) is strongly recommended. It is also recommended to increase fluid intake after the examination to help clear the tracer from the body as soon as possible. Patients may eat after the examination.

Patients may take their medications as usual.

10 minutes before the scan the patient will receive the radiotracer (^{18}F -DOPA) injected intravenously. The duration time of the scan is usually less than 10 minutes. During the scan comfortable but motionless laying position is needed.

To have a successful and efficient examination patients need to be relaxed even during the waiting period. Therefore quiet waiting is expected and patients may be accompanied by one person only.

The doctor has to be informed about pregnancy or the possibility of pregnancy, in such cases the examination cannot be performed. Breastfeeding has to be suspended for 24 hours following the examination. Therefore, in case of breastfeeding the collection of milk for one day is recommended. Pregnant women and children are not advised to accompany patients.

Please bring along your identity card (or passport), insurance card, your medical reports and findings, CT and MR documentations (electronic files or CD-s).

www.scanomed.hu
info@scanomed.hu

Budapest, Laky Adolf str. 44-46, 1145
Debrecen, Nagyerdei rnd. 98, 4032



ScanoMed Budapest

PET-CT examinations financed by the NEAK: (+36) 1 422 3880

Private PET-CT examinations: (+36) 30 639 3500



ScanoMed Debrecen

Examinations financed by the NEAK: (+36) 52 526 020

Private PET-CT examinations: (+36) 30 206 8922

SPECT-CT and isotope therapy examinations: (+36) 30 648 1828