

Provider Checklist-Outpatient -Imaging

Checklist: Positron Emission Tomography (PET) Whole Body (CPT codes: 78811, 78812, 78813, 78814, 78815, 78816)

Medical Review Note

The use of whole body PET for the clinical management of brain, ovarian, pancreatic, small cell lung, or testicular cancer remains undetermined. However, the National Oncologic PET registry (NOPR) has been collecting data on the efficacy of PET for these and other types of cancer (Lindsay et al., AJR Am J Roentgenol 2007; 188(4): 1109–1113). **Until the results of these studies are available, requests for whole body PET in these cases require secondary (physician) medical review.**

All Indications [***One has to be present**]

***Non-Hodgkin's/Hodgkin's lymphoma [One has to be present]**

Baseline scan as part of part of staging
Baseline scan positive [**One has to be present**]

Periodic assessment during
Restaging after chemotherapy
Periodic assessment during remission with no new Sx/findings

New/worsening Sx/findings with known lymphoma [**One has to be present**]

Enlarged lymph
CT/MRI suspicious for recurrence/metastasis
CT/MRI nondiagnostic for recurrence/metastasis

***Melanoma [One has to be present]**

Baseline scan for stage III/stage IV disease
Baseline scan positive [**One has to be present**]

Periodic assessment during
Restaging after chemotherapy
Periodic assessment during remission with no new Sx/findings

New/worsening Sx/findings with known melanoma [**One has to be present**]

Enlarged lymph nodes
CT/MRI suspicious for recurrence/metastasis
CT/MRI nondiagnostic for recurrence/metastasis

*Non small cell carcinoma of the lung [**One has to be present**]

Baseline scan as part of staging
Restaging after surgery/radiation Rx completed
Suspected recurrence by CXR/CT/MRI

*Colorectal cancer [**One has to be present**]

Baseline scan as part of staging
Restaging after treatment completed
Suspected recurrent colorectal cancer [**Both have to be present**]

CEA (Carcinoembryonic Antigen) increasing/elevated
CT/MRI nondiagnostic for colorectal cancer

*Esophageal cancer [**One has to be present**]

Baseline scan as part of staging
Restaging after chemotherapy/radiation Rx completed
New/worsening Sx/findings with known esophageal cancer [**One has to be present**]

CT/MRI suspicious for recurrence/metastasis
CT/MRI nondiagnostic for recurrence/metastasis

*Breast cancer [**One has to be present**]

Periodic assessment during chemotherapy
Restaging for suspected recurrence/metastases and nondiagnostic CT/MRI

*Head/neck cancer [**One has to be present**]

Baseline scan as part of staging
Baseline scan positive [**One has to be present**]

Periodic assessment during chemotherapy/radiation Rx
Restaging after chemotherapy/radiation Rx completed

New/worsening Sx/findings with known head/neck cancer [**One has to be present**]

Enlarged lymph nodes
CT/MRI suspicious for metastasis/nodal disease
CT/MRI nondiagnostic for metastasis/nodal disease

*Suspected recurrent thyroid cancer [**All have to be present**]

Papillary/follicular carcinoma by Hx
Post thyroidectomy and ablative RAI therapy
Thyroglobulin > 10 ng/mL
Whole body RAI (Radioactive Iodine) scan nondiagnostic for metastasis/recurrence

*Cervical cancer stages IIB–IVA [**One has to be present**]

CT/MRI suspicious for extra–pelvic metastases
CT/MRI nondiagnostic for extra–pelvic metastases