

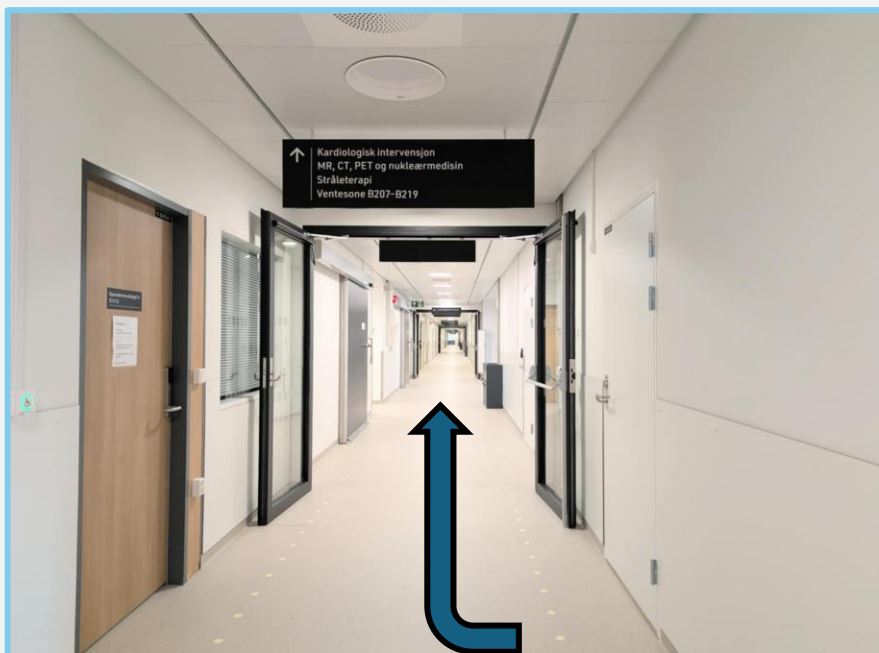
PET/CT

1. Here, you will meet radiographers and nuclear medicine physicians. Radiographers take images of the inside of your body and make sure you are comfortable during the examination. Nuclear medicine physicians are doctors who specialise in nuclear medicine.

In PET/CT examinations, a tracer together with a small amount of radioactive substance is used to create images. The tracer helps the substance reach the organ being examined, and scanners convert the signals into images using computer technology.

The radioactive substance is safe in the small amounts used and is usually given as a small injection in your arm, similar to a blood test.

You will find more information about your examination and how long it will take in your appointment letter -please remember to read all pages carefully.



2. Turn right when you enter the Department of Radiology. You will find the PET and Nuclear Medicine section at the far end of the corridor.

The arrow in the picture shows the direction you came from, to help with orientation.

You will also find toilets along this corridor.



3. There will be a receptionist at the service desk beside your waiting area, for any questions or need.

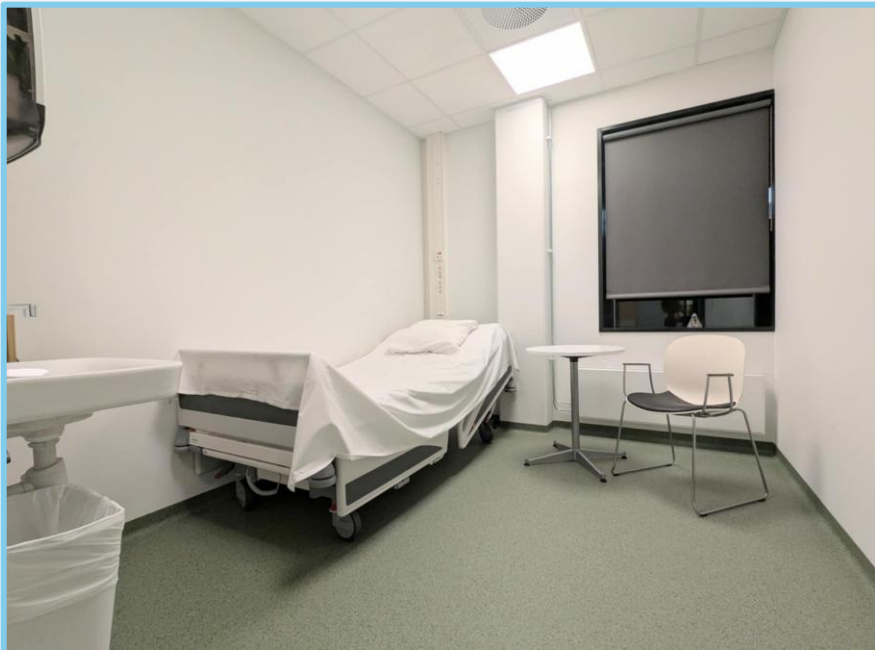
Toilets are available nearby.



4. This is waiting area B219 for Nuclear Medicine and PET. You will be collected from here when it is your turn. In the waiting area, there is a bed where you can lie down if you feel the need to rest.

Sometimes the TV may be on. Please feel free to let us know if you would like the volume turned down.

There is also a dispenser with cold and hot drinking water available, as well as facilities for hand-washing.



5. The radiographer will accompany you to a preparation room and explain how the examination will take place. You will be asked about your height and weight. If you are unsure, both a height measure and scales are available in the preparation room.

The room is equipped with hooks to hang your jacket on, a wash basin, hand sanitiser, a shoehorn and a mirror.

Having the cannula inserted may feel like a brief injection. The needle is then removed, so only the soft plastic tube remains, which is held securely in place with medical tape.

The radioactive substance is given through the cannula using a special device.



6. Here you can see one of the devices used. Its purpose is to deliver the correct amount of radioactive substance through the cannula in your arm or hand. This takes about 2 minutes.

After this, you will need to lie still and relax for 30 to 90 minutes. During this time, it is important that you do not talk, read, use your mobile phone, or take part in any activity. This helps your body absorb the substance properly.

If you move around, the tracer may not be able to guide the radioactive substance to the right place, and the examination may need to be postponed to another day.

You will be provided with a bed and a blanket to help you stay warm and comfortable.



7. This is what a PET/CT scanner may look like. This scanner can take both PET/CT images and standard CT images. The examination itself usually lasts between 15 and 60 minutes. You will lie on your back on the examination table, which moves slowly and smoothly in and out of the scanner.

During the examination, you may be given a contrast agent. This is a fluid that helps us see details inside the body more clearly.

When the contrast agent is given in the CT scanning room, it is completely normal to feel a warm sensation spreading through your body. Some people also experience a feeling as if they might be passing urine, even though this does not actually happen. These sensations are common, harmless, and usually disappear after a few seconds.

If you have been given contrast agent, you will be asked to wait in the waiting area for 20 minutes after the examination before going home. This is to make sure that you are feeling well before you leave.



8. Here, the radiographer shows how you will lie on the table with your arms raised above your head during the examination.

Depending on what is being examined, you may also be asked to lie with your arms resting by your sides, or with your legs going into the scanner first.

Please be prepared to remove any clothing, jewellery or metal items from the area of the body being examined.



9. In the image, you can see that the scanner is open at both ends. You are welcome to close your eyes while lying on the table if you wish, and you can let us know at any time if anything feels uncomfortable.

During the examination, you will hear soft humming and whooshing sounds from the PET/CT scanner. This is normal and simply means that the scanner is working as it should.