

# CONTRAST

The official  
newsletter of



With over 30 years of imaging services experience, Imaging Healthcare Specialists has earned an outstanding reputation for providing the highest quality medical imaging technology, highly specialized expertise and exceptional customer service to physicians and patients in San Diego and the surrounding communities.

## PSMA PET/CT:

### AN IMPORTANT NEW DIAGNOSTIC TEST FOR MEN WITH PROSTATE CANCER

PSMA PET/CT is a new type of PET/CT scan that measures prostate-specific membrane antigen (PSMA). PSMA is a protein that exists within cells of the prostate gland. A higher concentration of PSMA is present in malignant cells.

This test is superior to other tests (like CT or nuclear bone scan) to stage prostate cancer and help physicians guide treatment decisions. It can also evaluate a possible recurrence of cancer or help determine if the cancer has spread to other parts of the body. Its 92% accuracy rate at finding metastases is far better than that of conventional imaging, which is at 65%.

#### What is prostate-specific membrane antigen?

Prostate-specific membrane antigen (PSMA) is a transmembrane protein with intracellular and extracellular placement within the prostate cancer cell. It is substantially higher in malignant cells; PSMA is overexpressed in >80-% of men with prostate cancer.<sup>1-6</sup>

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### Cerianna PET/CT

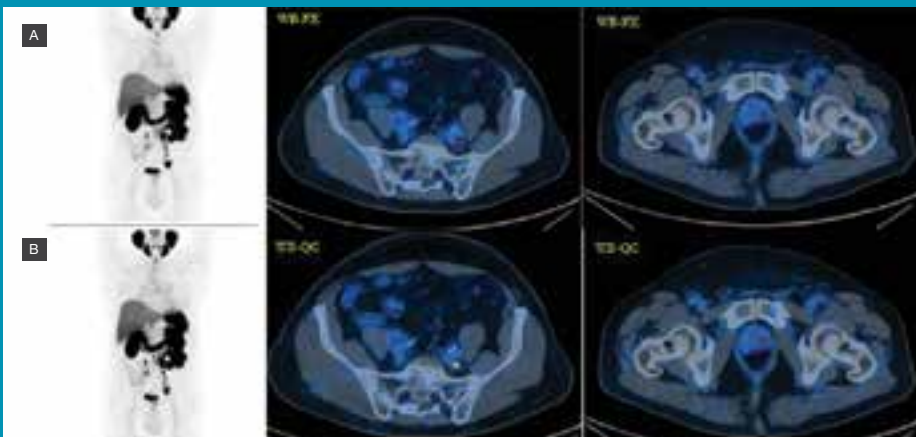
Enabling more personalized treatment for metastatic breast cancer

### Radiologist Spotlight

Dr. Mark Schechter

PSMA PET/CT

**92%**  
ACCURATE  
for finding  
metastases



PSMA images acquired on Discovery MI 3 rings system and reconstructed with PSF OSEM reconstruction (a) and Q.Clear reconstruction (b) demonstrating Q.Clear produces sharper images with better visualization of small lesions in this specific case.



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## How is PSMA PET/CT used?

The test is now used over other methods to diagnose and stage prostate cancer more accurately. It is also used as a noninvasive prognostic biomarker, as well as an excellent tool to guide personalized treatment. To follow are the results of clinical research for the various applications of this test:

### For the diagnosis of localized and advanced disease

- The ProPSMA trial concluded that “PSMA PET/CT is a suitable replacement for conventional imaging, providing superior accuracy to the combined findings of CT and bone scanning.”<sup>7</sup>
- PSMA demonstrated 92% detection accuracy vs 65% with conventional imaging<sup>7</sup>

### As a prognostic biomarker

- The absence of PSMA expression level was positively correlated with 5-year survival rates<sup>4</sup>
- PSMA PET /CT offers detection of a clinically relevant biomarker using a noninvasive diagnostic tool<sup>8,9</sup>

### As a tool to guide treatment decisions

- PSMA PET/CT may help guide clinical management with a tailored approach and enable more therapy options<sup>10</sup>
- PSMA PET/CT after conventional imaging led to management changes in approximately 60% of patients<sup>10,11</sup>

### PSMA PET/CT compared to AXUMIN PET/CT

- In a head-to-head comparison of PSMA PET/CT and Axumin (18F-fluciclovine) PET/CT, PSMA PET/CT achieved more than double the AXUMIN detection rate in patients with PCa BCR after RP and with PSA < 2.0 ng/ml.<sup>11</sup>
- The inter-reader agreement was also consistently higher for PSMA PET/CT than 18F-fluciclovine PET/CT.<sup>11</sup>

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The nuclear medicine specialists at IHS are happy to share additional information with you about PSMA PET/CT, including current and future applications and patient experiences. To consult with us, please call **(858) 888-4398**

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11. Calais, J et al. *Lancet Oncol*. 2019 Sep; 20(9): 1286-1294.

## DR. MARK SCHECHTER

### RADIOLOGIST SPOTLIGHT



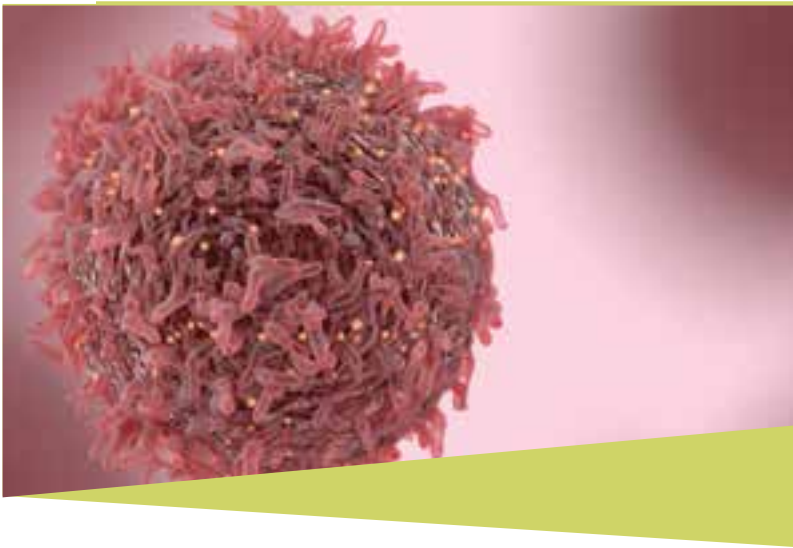
Dr. Schechter performs a wide variety of Diagnostic and Interventional Radiology procedures with special interests in oncologic imaging and in embolization therapies for cancer, uterine fibroids, and vascular malformations. His experience in diagnostic imaging and interventional procedures has also led to a special interest in PET/CT and nuclear medicine brain imaging evaluation for both cancer and neurodegenerative dementing disorders.

He has American Board of Radiology certification in both Diagnostic and Interventional Radiology. He received his medical degree from Pennsylvania State University College of Medicine at Hershey Medical Center. He completed his Internship, Diagnostic Radiology Residency, and Interventional Radiology Fellowship at the University of California Los Angeles (UCLA).

Dr. Schechter has held several leadership positions, including Chief of Radiology at Scripps Mercy Hospital and President of Radiology Medical Group. He is currently Co-Director of Interventional Radiology at Scripps Mercy Hospital and a member of the Level I Trauma Center surgical team.

# CERIANNA PET/CT:

## ENABLING MORE PERSONALIZED TREATMENT FOR METASTATIC BREAST CANCER



Cerianna is an innovative in-vivo biomarker for metastatic breast cancer. It is used with PET/CT imaging to characterize estrogen receptors in metastasized tumors throughout the body. It is FDA approved and is performed at Imaging Healthcare Specialists.

Some breast cancers are sensitive to the hormones that are naturally present in the body. For example, estrogen receptor positive (ER+) cancers have receptors that enable them to use the hormones estrogen to grow. For this type of cancer, endocrine (hormone) therapy may be used effectively to block production of this hormone in the body to halt the growth of cancer cells and starve the tumor. On the other hand, if the cancer is estrogen receptor negative (ER-), endocrine therapy would not be effective and another form of treatment would be prescribed.

By revealing the ER expression across the full spectrum of metastatic breast cancer, the Cerianna biomarkers provide critical information to doctors to help guide treatment recommendations. It enables a more personalized approach to cancer therapy that is not possible with biopsy alone. It can also determine if a treatment is working, and if it should be continued.



**IMPORTANT MRI SAFETY ALERT:** For your patient's safety, please note that metal insulin pumps are not allowed during MRI exams. If your patient has one at the time of an exam, they will be asked to remove it. Please plan ahead as to avoid discarding a recently placed pump.

## THE CURES ACT

### AND HOW IT COULD AFFECT PATIENT CARE

Regulations from the Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology (ONC) Cures Act Final Rule requires the patient to have access to their images and reports without a delay. This means that the patient and provider will simultaneously receive exam results from IHS.

We at IHS do our utmost to urge patients to consult with referring providers before they draw their own conclusions and to ensure that providers have had the chance to review the results first.

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If you have any questions or would like more information, please call us at (858) 658-6566.

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 **Imaging Healthcare**  
SPECIALISTS

858-658-6500  
[imaginghealthcare.com](http://imaginghealthcare.com)

## Our Imaging Locations

- 1 Vista**  
(Ultrasound Services Only)  
1000 Vale Terrace Drive  
Vista CA 92084
- 2 Oceanside (Tri-City)**  
3601 Vista Way  
Bldg A, Ste 101  
Oceanside, CA 92056
- 3 Encinitas**  
477 N. El Camino Real  
Bldg A, Ste 102  
Encinitas, CA 92024
- 4 Poway**  
12620 Monte Vista  
Road  
Ste A  
Poway, CA 92064
- 5 La Jolla  
(Golden Triangle)**  
4150 Regents Park Row  
Ste 195  
La Jolla, CA 92037
- 6 Kearny Mesa**  
(MRI Services Only)  
3939 Ruffin Road  
Ste 102  
San Diego, CA 92123
- 7 San Diego (Alvarado)**  
6386 Alvarado Court  
Ste 121  
San Diego, CA 92120
- 8 Hillcrest**  
150 W. Washington  
Street  
San Diego, CA 92103
- 9 Logan Heights**  
(X-ray/Ultrasound Only)  
1809 National Avenue  
Ste 2104  
San Diego, CA 92113
- 10 National City**  
(MRI, Mammography & Ultra-  
sound Only)  
2427 Transportation  
Avenue  
National City, CA 91950
- 11 Chula Vista  
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