**What is a Cu-64 Dotatate scan?**

Copper Cu 64 dotatate is a type of PET scan (positron emission tomography) for localization of somatostatin receptor positive neuroendocrine tumors (NETs).

This tracer is a radiolabeled DOTA-conjugated somatostatin analogue that binds to somatostatin receptors (SSTR) which is overexpressed in neuroendocrine tumors (NETs). After diagnosis of NET we are able to scan for initial staging- to plan treatment, and monitoring the effects of therapy.

**How Is a Dotatate PET Scan Performed?**

A technician injects the radioactive tracer Cu-64 Dotatate, into a vein in the patient’s arm. An hour later, the patient lies down on a table that slides in and out of a donut-shaped machine. The machine collects many images of parts inside the body. The scan is done with a computed tomography (CT) scan to provide more detailed images. A radiologist reviews all the images and reports areas of the body that have high levels of Cu64 Dotatate. The time of scan depends on BMI, it is approximately 30 minutes.

**Preparations:**

* Schedule your Cu-64 Dotatate PET scan 1 to 2 days before your next long-acting sandostatin injection. (Sandostatin, Sandostatin LAR, Signifor, Signifor LAR, Somatuline Depot)
* Drink plenty of fluids on the day of this study. You should arrive for the appointment well-hydrated. There is no diet restriction.
* After the scan, drink plenty of fluids. This will help flush the tracer out of your system.
* If you are claustrophobic, please inform the scheduler before scheduling this exam.