Diagnosis and Follow Up Tests

Laboratory Tests

**Chromogranin A (CgA) - At A Glance**

Why test? [Read more . . . ]

*Elevated Plasma Chromogranin A Is the First Indication of Recurrence in Radically Operated Midgut Carcinoid Tumors* (Full Text)

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**Conclusion:** P-CgA was the first marker to indicate tumor recurrence in the majority of radically operated midgut carcinoid patients. To avoid unnecessary and costly examinations in asymptomatic patients, we suggest that follow-up should comprise measurements of P-CgA twice a year and annual ultrasonography until P-CgA is elevated or clinical symptoms occur, at which time all efforts should be made to identify recurrent tumor lesions in order to give the patient the best possible treatment which, if possible, should be surgical removal of the recurrence.

**NOTE:** The importance of Chromogranin A as a neuroendocrine marker has been known and documented in the medical literature for over 20 years.

**CgA Medical References** (Share these references with your doctor)

**From the Medical Director of the Carcinoid Cancer Foundation**

LETTER OF MEDICAL NEED AND EXPLANATION FOR UNUSUAL BLOOD TESTS BEING USED ROUTINELY

**Note:** The test for Octreotide (Sandostatin) blood levels is still considered experimental by most insurance companies and these companies may therefore NOT pay for this test. For more information regarding this test contact InterScience Institute.

**How to Diagnose and Monitor Carcinoid (neuroendocrine tumors): Which Tests and How Often?**


Susan (a carcinoid patient) has compiled a summary of "Which tests and how often" from information provided by Drs. Anthony, Warner and Woltering. After her summary there is additional information from each of these doctors based on their own experience and additional information for the physician. Susan has provided information and support to the carcinoid community since early 1997.

**Testing preparation**

**Preparing for the 24-hour Urine 5HIAA Test**

*How and Why the SHIAA Test Is Performed, Normal Range* (from Medline Plus, a service of the U.S. National Library of Medicine, National Institutes of Health)

**Imaging**
(4/28/10) **Functional Imaging of Neuroendocrine Tumors: A Head-to-Head Comparison of Somatostatin Receptor Scintigraphy, 123I-MIBG Scintigraphy, and 18F-FDG PET**

Tina Binderup, Ulrich Knigge, Annika Loft, Jann Mortensen, Andreas Pfeifer, Birgitte Federspiel, Carsten Palnaes Hansen, Liselotte Højgaard, and Andreas Kjaer

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Click here to read the Abstract

**What is an OctreoScan®?**

From the Ohio State University Medical Center website.

**Scintigraphic Evaluation of Neuroendocrine Tumors (MIBG, Octreoscan) from Applied Radiology**

Michael W. Hanson, MD
Division of Cardiology at Duke University Medical Center, Durham, NC.

**Whole-body 11C-5-hydroxytryptophan positron emission tomography as a universal imaging technique for neuroendocrine tumors - comparison with somatostatin receptor scintigraphy and computed tomography**

J Clin Endocrinol Metab. 2005 Mar 8

**Conclusion**: This study indicates that WB-(11)C-HTP-PET can be used as a universal imaging method for detection of NET’s. This study also shows that WB-(11)C-HTP-PET is sensitive in imaging small NET-lesions, such as primary tumors, and can in a majority of cases image significantly more tumor lesions than SRS and CT. Presently only available at Uppsala Medical Center, Sweden.

**Gallium-68 PET: a new frontier in receptor cancer imaging.**

The recent introduction of PET imaging with gallium-68 has major bearings in current and future clinical practice. Its labelling with DOTA compounds has cleared the way for somatostatin receptor imaging with a viable PET agent, with all its inherent imaging advantages compared to single photon imaging. The pre-clinical and clinical applications of this technique has been successful in a variety of tumours, particularly Neuroendocrine Tumors (NETs) and its labelling with other ligands and molecules will improve the management of other tumours and the assessment of infection.

**Coming of age for gallium-68 neuroendocrine imaging**

Read more from the **Society of Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging**

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