

Advantages of FDG-PET/CT accreditation programme

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen,

Please find hereunder the list of services provided to make an accreditation programme function. All these services are included in the fee of € 1,000 net per calendar year/per site/per scanner, which you are paying.

Benefits of accreditation:

The goal is to enhance the quality standard of PET/CT sites for both daily use and for multicentre studies. The EARL FDG-PET/CT accreditation programme is endorsed by the European Organisation for Research and Treatment of Cancer (EORTC). These important milestones pave the way to achieve the aims of EANM and EARL to safeguard high-quality and standardised PET/CT throughout Europe by following widely accepted guidelines and standards.

- ❖ The objective is to provide a minimum standard of PET/CT scanner performance in order to harmonise the acquisition and interpretation of PET and PET/CT scans.
- ❖ FDG-PET/CT accreditation ensures similar performance of PET/CT systems within a multicentre setting. Accredited PET/CT centres of excellence can compare, exchange and combine FDG-PET/CT findings, including SUVs, since data are collected and processed in a standardised manner.
- ❖ The imaging site is characterised by continuing quality control, making it highly eligible as a participant in multicentre studies.
- ❖ Participation in the accreditation program ensures that routine patient examinations are of high quality.
- ❖ The site is listed on the EARL Website as accredited PET/CT centre of excellence.
- ❖ The site receives a certificate as well as the EARL accreditation signet, which can be used on the institute's website, on the accredited scanner, as well as on stationary and collateral material.
- ❖ The SNM is offering accreditation for US centres through their clinical trials network (CTN). The leadership of the EANM and the SNM are working on reciprocity of accreditations. However, this is a long process that could take years.

Services included in the accreditation price:

- ❖ The accreditation fee covers the costs for the initial accreditation process and maintaining the status of an EANM/EARL accredited centre for PET/CT
- ❖ Electronic Data Processing:
 - Set up of EARL server (storage capacity and rental fees)
 - Virtual web server and image backup service
 - Set up of online tool:
 - Online boxes: questionnaire, scan report forms (SRF), history
 - Database to store results of QC documents
 - Admin area
 - The recall rhythm (reminders)
 - Including ongoing modifications
- ❖ Update and maintaining of accreditation documents (questionnaire, manual for accreditation, SOPs, SRFs, statement) and EARL website
- ❖ Salary of EARL employee: management of accreditation program (correspondence with sites, webmaster, book keeping, tax advisor, legal advisor, EANM experts etc; to invoice sites; monitoring of online boxes)
- ❖ Salary of EARL physicist (data analyst): review of online questionnaire, analysis of QC documents - image quality QC (annually), - calibration QC (quarterly); revealing difficulties and giving advice how to meet requirements; analysis of QC documents of re-done QC experiments; checking of several parameters (reconstruction settings etc.)
- ❖ Scientific Control
 - Supervision by EANM expert
 - Dedicated SOPs in order to keep high level of work performance/standardise evaluation
 - Contact with other scientific societies and organisations (e.g. EORTC)
 - Collaboration with other societies in order to provide latest knowledge (e.g. UPICT)
- ❖ Two NEMA phantoms owned by EARL can be sent to sites which need it (contact with sites, freight forwarding company, invoicing etc.)
- ❖ Marketing the value of accreditation to: European Commission, CROs and industry (device and pharma)