

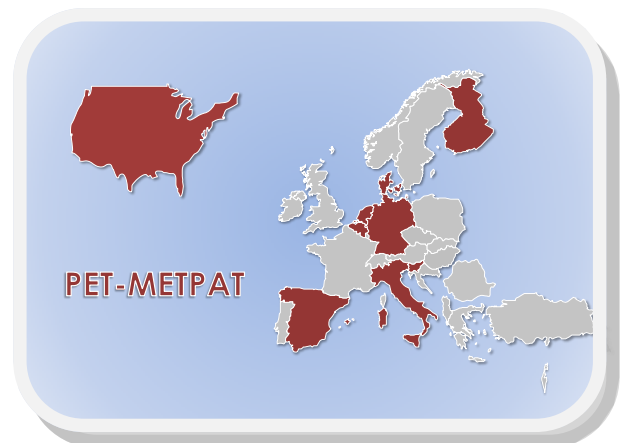
**PETMETPAT**

**Harmonisation metabolic FDG brain pattern characteristics**

This Working Group will investigate how best to perform and process a particular form of brain scan for patients who suffer from a brain disease such as Parkinson’s disease or dementia. The scan is called an FDG-PET scan that, using the radiotracer FDG, allows for the measurement of glucose utilisation in the brain. Glucose is the only source of energy for brain tissue: through the breakdown of glucose by oxygen, biological energy carriers like the substance ATP are generated. Much energy is needed by the brain in order to make nervous tissue function possible.

However, the result of an FDG-PET scan performed in one centre is not necessarily the same as one performed in another centre. To be able to compare FDG-PET scans throughout Europe and beyond, it will be necessary to compare results and to agree to how the scan should be performed. If comparisons are made possible, then automated image analysis will be more achievable and data collection for diagnostic and clinical research in larger groups will be possible.

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