



Cancer Care Ontario

March 24, 2017

Dr. Dave Webster
Department of Diagnostic Imaging
Health Sciences North
41 Ramsey Lake Road
Sudbury, ON, P3E 5J1

Dear Dr. Webster,

I am writing to you in response to your recent series of communications on PET scanning in Ontario, and in particular on the processes for referrals for PET scans through CCO's PET Access Program.

We acknowledge your concerns regarding the Ontario program. However, the role of the PET Access Program is to enable patient access to PET scanning for indications that are not currently covered through other funding streams. CCO's role is to facilitate external, expert review by a panel of imaging and treating clinicians. The process requires that the referring physician submit through the online eTool or via secure fax a completed request, using the CCO forms. When completed requests are received, including the relevant clinical documentation, case adjudication is typically less than two business days.

While we encourage you to continue to advise your clinical colleagues on when a PET scan may be beneficial for their patient, requests must be submitted by the physician accountable for patient management.

Through the PET Steering Committee and our partnerships with relevant organizations as well as clinicians across the province, we continue to work to bring new indications to Ontario patients, streamline processes, and make physicians aware of all indications for PET scanning.

Regards,

Robin McLeod, MD, FRCSC, FACS
Vice President, Clinical Programs and Quality Initiatives
Cancer Care Ontario