

# C-11 CHOLINE AT A GLANCE

**C-11 Choline PET CT and MRI are now available at Decatur Memorial Hospital for imaging patients who are newly diagnosed, or have a biochemical relapse with prostate cancer. DMH is one of only two hospitals in the US that provide this imaging technology.**

## At a glance, here's how it works:

- C-11 Choline is the most accurate and effective imaging agent available today to detect and treat prostate cancer.
- Suspected prostate recurrence is based upon elevated blood prostate specific antigen (PSA) levels following initial therapy.
- Conventional imaging tools such as CT scan, bone scan or MRI, might show the precise location of prostate cancer only once PSA has reached a value of 20.0 ng/mL – 30.0 ng/mL
- C-11 Choline PET has the highest sensitivity at low PSA levels (2.0 ng/mL) for detection of prostate cancer in men who have a biochemical relapse after primary treatment.
- During the scan, prostate cancer absorbs the choline and the scanner picks up the exact locations of tracer concentrations. Lesions appear as brightly illuminated spots or areas.
- C-11 Choline has a rapid rate of decay, losing half of its radioactivity every 20 minutes, which means the tiny amount of original radioactivity is gone quickly from the patient's body.
- In the largest published study in the U.S. on C-11 Choline imaging there was a 32% increased detection rate of prostate cancer lesions which were not identified in a conventional CT scan and bone scan.

