



METCARE™

2009

**BRAIN – METABOLIC (ALZHEIMER’S) PET SCAN CRITERIA
(MEDICARE)**

CMS states that PET scan is not indicated in the diagnosis and treatment of mild cognitive impairment or early dementia in elderly patients:

Brain Metabolic PET scan is a covered benefit when **ALL** the following criteria are met:

- Recent diagnosis of dementia; **AND**
- Documented cognitive decline of at least 6 months; **AND**
- Meets diagnostic criteria for both Alzheimer’s Disease and fronto-temporal dementia; **AND**
- Evaluated for specific alternate neurodegenerative disease or causative factors and cause of clinical symptoms remains uncertain.

Office must supply:

- Date of onset of symptoms; **AND**
- Mini mental status exam; **AND**
- Neuropsychological testing; **AND**
- Diagnosis of clinical syndrome; **AND**
- Results of MRI; **AND**
- Relevant lab tests – B₁₂, T₃T₄TSH; **AND**
- Presumptive cause (possible, probable, uncertain AD).