

[¹⁸F]-FDG uptake in soft tissue dermatome prior to herpes zoster eruption: An unusual pitfall

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Authors report on a case of [¹⁸F]-fluorodeoxyglucose ([¹⁸F]-FDG) uptake in the soft tissue of a patient referred for [¹⁸F]-FDG coincidence detection emission tomography (CDET) in a search for recurrence of colorectal cancer. A herpes zoster eruption occurred in the same site within two days, but was spontaneously resolved. To the best of our knowledge this is the first description of a false positive [¹⁸F]-FDG result in relation to a viral infection of soft tissue. It shows that interpretation of subcutaneous foci has to be cautious in patients with or without a past history of herpes zoster even in pain-free areas and prior to skin eruption.

Key words: [¹⁸F]-FDG, CDET gamma camera, false positive, herpes zoster