

## Summary

### Clinical PET Activities in European and Asia-Oceanian Countries

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Clinical diagnosis using positron emission tomography (PET) requires high costs. Therefore, socio-medical evaluation is very important for spread of clinical PET. In this report, sociomedical situation in European and Asia-Oceanian countries, especially concerning transportation of <sup>18</sup>F-FDG and reimbursement of medical costs for clinical PET indications, is reported.

It seems that UK, Germany and Belgium are the most advanced in clinical PET in Europe. In these countries, many PET investigations are reimbursed though systems are different among the countries. In UK, both public and private insurance gives authorization for clinical PET to some extent. In Germany, private health insurance companies give authorization but public insurance has not. In Belgium, private health insurance does not exist and public insurance

gives authorization for clinical PET. Other European countries seem to be in transitional stages. Transportation of <sup>18</sup>F-FDG has been already started in almost every country in Europe and Asia-Oceania. In Japan, neither transportation of FDG nor full reimbursement of clinical PET has not started yet and this situation seems to be exceptional.

To promote clinical PET in Japan, there is the need of at least establishing a list of clinical indications for PET investigations and establishing commercial-based <sup>18</sup>F-FDG supplying system. They could be regarded as a kind of infrastructure for spread of clinical PET.

**Key words:** Clinical PET, Transportation of <sup>18</sup>F-FDG, Health insurance, Reimbursement of medical costs.