

# NEW JERSEY INSTITUTE OF RADIOLOGY, PC

## ORAL CONTRAST FOR PET/CT SCANS

You are being given this oral contrast because it has been clinically proven to give the Radiologist who reads your exam additional information when looking at your scan, resulting in a more complete and accurate diagnosis. The oral contrast is flavored and has a thin consistency making it palatable to patients.

### WHY ARE YOU DRINKING THIS PRODUCT AND WHAT IS IT CALLED?

Volumen, which is the drink for PET/CT patients, is clear and allows the doctor to see the bowel. It offers a better look at your bowel by completely filling it, when using our state of the art, high speed PET/CT scanner. The new scanners are faster and allow better reconstructions of your scan and this drink will add to a more complete diagnosis.

### WHAT ARE THE INGREDIENTS IN VOLUMEN?

Volumen contains:

- \* *Barium Sulfate* – a radiopaque material, but due to the low concentration of this product the lumen will actually appear translucent.
- \* *Natural Gums* – a suspending agent aiding and maintaining distension.
- \* *Sorbitol* – an osmotic-regulator also influences transit time.
- \* *Simethicone* – a de-foaming agent (dissipating bubbles)

### WHAT IS BARIUM SULPHATE?

Barium sulfate is a radiopaque agent which has been used safely for x-ray studies of the gastrointestinal tract dating back as early as 1896. Radiopaque agents are used to help diagnose certain medical problems.

### IS VOLUMEN SAFE FOR PEOPLE WITH DIABETES?

Volumen has fruit flavor, sweetened with Sorbitol and saccharin, an artificial sweetener found in some candies and other foods for people with diabetes. Sorbitol and saccharin are equally acceptable for people who have diabetes.

### DOES VOLUMEN CAUSE DIARRHEA?

Volumen is specifically formulated not to be absorbed by the body and this gives it the superior filling properties. Therefore, after your CT scan you may notice that you could have loose watery stools. This is normal. The passing of this oral contrast is very common and only temporary. If you still have diarrhea 24 hours following this exam please contact your referring physician and inform him/her of this.

### DRINKING THE ORAL CONTRAST

You will be given two of the bottles of Volumen to drink. You need to drink each bottle over a twenty minute period. Try not to drink it all at one time.

The technologist will give you both bottles after your injection.

If you have any additional questions, please ask the technologist. Thank you.