

PET / CT Tables

As you are aware, the proper alignment of the image fusion process of the PET image and the CT image is all important.

One of the major factors in the proper alignment of the PET image and the CT image is the table alignment accuracy.

The PET/CT design is simple a PET unit married to a CT unit – either in separate gantry housing structures or in a single housing structure – but they are still two separate units. This makes the total gantry tunnel length quite long.

The various manufacturers' table capacity rating is in the 350 to 400 pound range.

Experience indicates the scanning of very heavy patients (over 300 pounds) causes the table to flex when it is extended all the way into the gantry for the CT scan. Table flex causes a misalignment of the PET image and the CT image which results in a loss of sharpness and shadowing on your images.

Once flexed, the table will likely remain misaligned even after the heavy patient has been removed.

It is recommended you contact your manufacturer to determine how much weight the table will actually hold without flexing when in the fully extended position for CT scanning.