



## Dominion Radiology Associates Announces Chesapeake Expansion

Patients and providers in the greater Chesapeake region now have access to nationally recognized excellence in radiological services, with the introduction this summer of Dominion Radiology Associates (DRA). DRA brings community-based and focused radiologists together with an administrative team with a proven track record of clinical excellence and high patient and provider satisfaction.

Serving four locations within the Chesapeake region since June 1, DRA consists of more than 45 providers, including diagnostic radiologists, interventional radiologists and women's imagers. DRA's board-certified, fellowship-trained physicians have graduated from some of the most respected training programs in the U.S. with subspecialty training and experience in neuroradiology, musculoskeletal/body imaging, oncology, cardiac, and breast imaging.

Working with local providers who have served the Chesapeake community for years, DRA is providing imaging services in collaboration with Chesapeake Regional Healthcare at Chesapeake Regional Medical Center, Chesapeake Regional Imaging's Kingsborough and Kempsville locations and the Jennings Outpatient Center.

DRA is a physician-owned group focused on bringing high-quality diagnostic imaging, interventional radiology and women's imaging to residents of Southeastern Virginia and Northeastern North Carolina.

"We are excited about this expansion of value-added, clinical-quality service offerings within the area, as well as the opportunity to collaborate with a long-standing radiology group and a highly respected health system that has made a significant investment in the community," said DRA Chief Executive Officer Ed Swager. "It is our goal to assure a high level of excellence in all areas of imaging services."

## Gallium-68 PET/CT Improves Cancer Detection, Treatment

It is like trying to see a picture through a thick wrapper of cellophane, then peeling the cellophane away.

That is how Dr. Neil B. Green of Dominion Radiology Associates (DRA) describes significant improvements in medical imaging quality now possible for detecting carcinoids and other neuroendocrine cancers.

Gallium-68 imaging studies using the positron emission tomography/computed tomography (PET/CT) scanner at the PET Institute of Hampton Roads are greatly enhancing the ability of radiologists to detect and assess neuroendocrine tumors. These tests are helping local physicians diagnose cancerous tumors at earlier, more treatable stages and determine which treatments to pursue, in some cases avoiding surgery.

"This is an exciting new technology available in the Chesapeake region," said Dr. Green, PET/CT medical director for DRA.

"Neuroendocrine cancers mostly arise from the gastrointestinal tract, but they can be in other parts of the body, producing symptoms such as diarrhea and shortness of breath that can be mistaken for other illnesses. They are usually not detected through routine imaging and often are not diagnosed until the advanced stages of disease. Gallium-68 PET/CT imaging studies are helping change that," he explained.

What makes Gallium-68 PET/CT imaging so powerful is its use of radioactive chemical compounds called radiopharmaceuticals to enhance differentiation within an image.

Dr. Green and other board-certified, fellowship-trained radiologists at DRA who subspecialize in nuclear medicine are trained to interpret images and provide treatments using radiopharmaceuticals.

NETSPOT is the first kit approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration for the preparation of Gallium-68 dotatate injections, a type of radiopharmaceutical called a radiotracer that binds to the hormone receptors of neuroendocrine tumors so affected areas of the body are highlighted in medical images.

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## Radiologist Spotlight: Neil B. Green, M.D.

Dr. Neil Green was drawn to radiology because of his fascination with technology and appreciation for the specialty's role in diagnosing a broad spectrum of medical conditions. But it was family that inspired his medical career choice – and his most gratifying patient case to date.

### Medical Inspiration

Growing up, the South Florida native was especially close with his grandfather, a rural physician who made house calls and handled everything from delivering babies, to learning how to administer electrocardiograms (EKGs).

“He was just an incredible physician, and there was an outpouring of grief in the community when he passed away,” Dr. Green recalled.

With another physician in the family, his great uncle, also steering him toward the healing arts, he pursued his degree at Baylor College of Medicine. A computer enthusiast who had once owned a Franklin, an early Apple clone, Dr. Green was equally intrigued by anatomy. So, radiology seemed a natural fit. But it was the discipline's interplay with other specialties that was especially compelling.

“While working with the director of radiology, on reorganizing teaching files as a medical student, I was astounded by all the pathology that is seen in radiology. I was fascinated by the fact that almost every specialty coalesced into radiology, and that 75% of diagnoses are made through medical imaging,” Dr. Green noted.

After graduation he completed his residency and fellowship at the University of Miami/Jackson Memorial. The school offered a cutting-edge program, one of very few at that time that combined radiology and nuclear medicine.

“I saw an opportunity to blend two fields – radiology, which may use X-rays and CT (computed tomography) to visualize the anatomy; and nuclear medicine, which looks at function, the underlying processes taking place. You need to understand both of these – anatomy and function – to get the full picture in medical imaging,” he explained.

His choice ended up being a smart move. Later, hybrid scanners would be developed that combined positron emission tomography (PET) or single photon computed tomography (SPECT) with CT imaging, offering capabilities not possible before – creating a three dimensional nuclear medicine.

### Community Practice

After completing his medical education and training, Dr. Green and his wife decided to relocate so he could join a physician-owned practice in Virginia.

Today, Dr. Green is helping physicians and patients in our community and beyond in his work with Dominion Radiology Associates at Chesapeake Regional Healthcare's hospital and imaging centers. He serves as:

- PET/CT Medical Director.
- DRA Compliance Officer.
- Past President of the Maryland/Virginia/Washington, D.C., and Delaware delegation of the Mid-Eastern Chapter of the Society of Nuclear Medicine.
- Member of the Virginia Medicare Carrier Advisory Committee.

He is board-certified in diagnostic radiology, nuclear medicine, cardiac CT and nuclear cardiology.

### Gratifying Results

Dr. Green recalled a number of cases over the years where radiology findings improved patient outcomes, but his most gratifying to date involved his father.

His father was in his 70s, physically fit, with no signs of cardiac disease, but Dr. Green encouraged him to undergo a cardiac scan available in his area. Dr. Green's father scored high, and further testing showed serious heart disease, requiring a triple bypass in 2016.

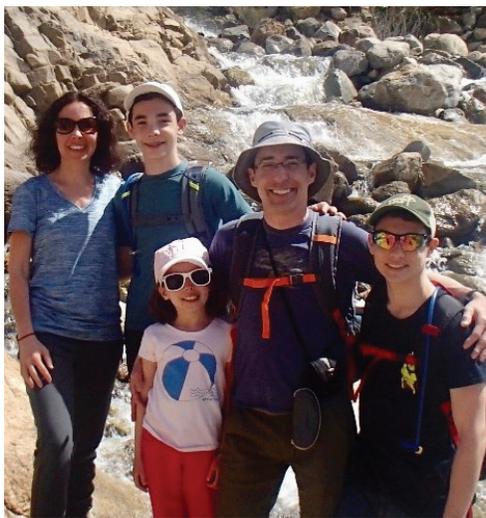
“If I hadn't insisted he have the scan, he might not be here because he would not have had the bypass,” Dr. Green said.

### Family Time

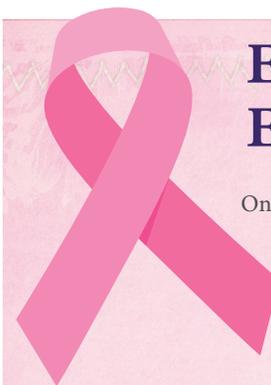
When Dr. Green is off duty, he enjoys vacations with his wife, Cindy, and their three children. He has fond memories of vacations hiking in national parks, Colorado, Mexico, Nevada, Washington State and Oregon.

Dr. Green is also a tennis and running enthusiast. This past January, he and his younger brother completed a half marathon with their parents.

“I'm tickled my parents are in such great shape,” Dr. Green added. “At the end of the half marathon, my brother and I were limping, with ice packs, and my 80-year-old father and 77-year-old mother were just fine.” ■



## Enhanced Breast Imaging Expertise



One in eight women in the United States will develop invasive breast cancer over the course of her lifetime, according to the American Cancer

Society. While the incidence rate of breast cancer in women has increased by about 0.3% annually for the past 10 years, statistics from the National Cancer Institute show that the age-adjusted mortality rate has fallen by 1.5% annually between 2008 and 2017.

October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month, and Fall is a good time to examine one of the keys bringing that mortality rate down: the annual mammogram.

Dr. Roni Talukdar of Dominion Radiology Associates (DRA) urges providers to encourage female patients to begin having yearly screening mammograms at the age of 40. Of women who get breast cancer during their lifetimes, he said, one in six will get it in her 40s.

“No matter how good your radiologist is, if a woman doesn't come in for her mammogram, we can't help her,” said Dr. Talukdar, one of DRA's board-certified, fellowship-trained breast imaging radiologists.

### Experience and Training Matter

DRA brings new expertise in breast imaging to the Chesapeake region, partnering with established local radiologists and Chesapeake Regional Healthcare to provide this critical women's health service.

DRA provides a high level of expertise, while recognizing that delivering fast diagnostic service that minimizes wait time and anxiety is also an important ingredient in good healthcare. The practice includes fellowship-trained physicians from some of the most-respected programs in the country, including:

- The Carol W. and Julius A. Rippel Breast Center.
- The Ellen Shaw de Paredes Institute of Women's Imaging.
- Duke University.
- Virginia Commonwealth University.
- Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center.
- Yale New Haven Hospital.

“Not every radiologist is capable of reading a mammogram,” Dr. Talukdar said. “You really do need physicians who are experienced in breast imaging, and who make it their life's passion.”

# Breast Imaging Now Available

That's because breast imaging involves so much more than looking at an image. It requires experience and judgment to choose the appropriate follow-up imaging should an abnormality appear. It means talking to the patient about the result and moving through the diagnostic process in a way that reduces anxiety and minimizes wait time.

"It's not just a picture we look at," Dr. Talukdar said. "It's a patient experience."

## Catching it Smaller Boosts Survival

When breast cancers are detected at a size of 10 millimeters (the diameter of a Cheerio) or smaller, they respond better to therapy, and women have a five-year survival rate of about 99%.

DRA physicians can detect cancers as small as 4 millimeters (smaller than the hole inside the Cheerio) using 3D mammography, also known as tomosynthesis. While self breast exams are a recommended practice, they typically detect tumors that are 2.5 cm or larger.

3D mammography also leads to a 35% higher ability to detect cancer than traditional mammography, meaning reduced callbacks, reduced cost and reduced anxiety for women. About 95% of insurance companies provide coverage for 3D mammography. Patients whose insurance does not cover it can still access 3D mammography by paying a small, affordable supplemental fee.

Catching cancers earlier makes consistent annual screenings even more important, so that physicians can catch a tumor not only while it is still small, but also before it has spread to the lymph nodes or other parts of the body.

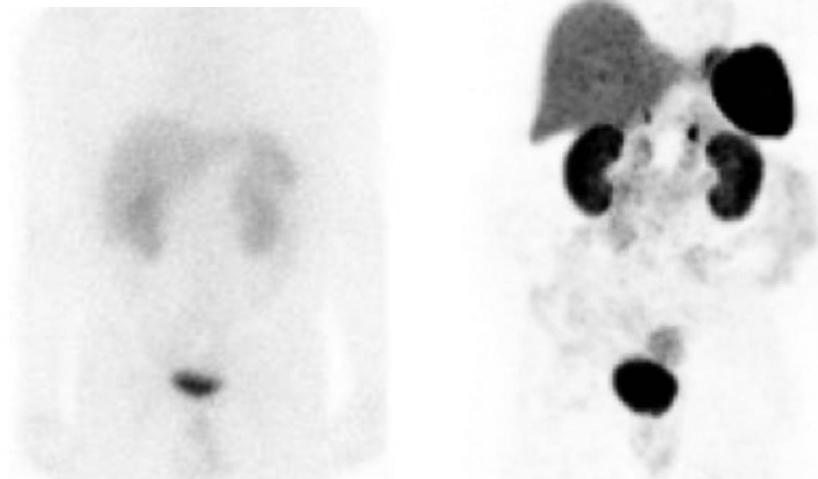
It's also a reminder that women should not put off regular screening mammograms during the COVID-19 pandemic. All locations where DRA provides breast imaging are going above and beyond to provide a clean, safe and healthy environment for women to maintain this important health practice.

Healthcare providers who would like to speak to Dominion Radiology Associates' breast imaging subspecialists can contact the Physician Concierge during weekday business hours at (855) RAD-LINE (855-723-5463) or [concierge@dominionradiology.com](mailto:concierge@dominionradiology.com). ■

## Location

Chesapeake Regional Breast Center  
Jennings Outpatient Center  
844 Battlefield Blvd., North  
Chesapeake, VA 23320  
Phone: 757-312-2232

Gallium-68 PET/CT Imaging continued from page 1



Anterior views using OctreoScan (left) vs. NETSPOT Gallium 68 PET/CT (right).

Patients undergoing the test are first injected with the radiotracer, then wait for one hour while it travels to the intended targets. They are then scanned for 30 minutes using a PET/CT machine that combines PET's ability to image radiopharmaceuticals with CT's capabilities for visualizing the anatomy. This helps radiologists pinpoint any abnormalities.

## Noted Improvements

Gallium-68 PET/CT tests offer a number of benefits over another test, OctreoScan, which uses a gamma scanner and different radiotracer, noted Dr. Green. One reason: Gallium-68 has a much higher energy and therefore a better ability to penetrate the body for more detailed medical images. It can detect 30 percent more lesions than an OctreoScan can, according to one research study.

Dr. Green said the test has improved disease management, as well, by helping determine how advanced the disease is in a patient and how tumors are responding to treatments. In one of the first patient cases he reviewed, Dr. Green said an OctreoScan had produced a negative result, but a subsequent Gallium-68 PET/CT test showed the patient was, in fact, "strongly positive."

The Gallium-68 PET/CT test is also more convenient for patients. With an OctreoScan, the patient is injected at the facility, then returns to the facility twice more for scanning 24 hours and 48 hours later. A Gallium-68 PET/CT test can be completed in one visit.

Most insurers cover the test for qualifying patients. ■

## More Advancements

The Gallium-68 NETSPOT scan for neuroendocrine tumors is one of several advanced uses for PET/CT tests, said Dr. Neil B. Green, PET/CT medical director for Dominion Radiology Associates (DRA).

Another test available at the PET Institute of Hampton Roads – the Axumin scan – improves the early detection of prostate cancer that may recur after surgery or radiation therapy. It finds recurrences sooner than prostate specific antigen (PSA) tests can, helps pinpoint their location, and is FDA approved and Medicare covered.

Other PET/CT studies can aid diagnosis and inform treatments for cancer, brain disorders and cardiac disease. They can also produce valuable incidental findings.

The PET/CT scanner at the PET Institute of Hampton Roads is available five days a week, which provides flexibility for adding last minute cases when needed. DRA's Board-Certified, Fellowship-Trained radiologists who are experienced in interpreting the studies evaluate results as soon as possible, often the same day, Dr. Green noted. The radiologists are readily available for consultations before and after tests.

## Local PET/CT Contacts

Healthcare providers who would like more information about PET/CT scans can contact Dr. Green through the DRA Physician Concierge during weekday business hours at (855) RAD-LINE (855-723-5463) or [concierge@dominionradiology.com](mailto:concierge@dominionradiology.com).

For scheduling, please contact 757-855-9700.

Healthcare providers can also visit our website for Dr. Green's introductory video about local PET/CT capabilities, at [dominionradiology.com/locations/chesapeake](http://dominionradiology.com/locations/chesapeake).

**dominionradiology.com/  
locations/chesapeake  
(855) 723 5463**

Ed Swager, Chief Executive Officer

Dominion Radiology Associates provides high-quality, high-value medical imaging services to residents of Virginia and Northeastern North Carolina. Through its collaboration with Chesapeake Regional Healthcare, the physician-owned practice serves patients at Chesapeake Regional Medical Center, Chesapeake Regional Imaging's Kingsborough and Kempsville locations and the Jennings Outpatient Center.

DRA publishes *Imaging Advances – Chesapeake* periodically for referring physicians and the greater medical community. For more information, please contact Tammy Gressly, Director of Administrative Operations, at [tgressly@dominionrad.com](mailto:tgressly@dominionrad.com).

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### *Dominion Radiology Associates Expands Radiological Offerings for Chesapeake Region continued from page 1*

DRA brings patients and referring providers access to subspecialty imaging and value-added services. Through utilization management and clinical appropriateness, DRA optimizes the cost of these services, leading to more effective care on all levels. Powered by a team with decades of experience in radiology, DRA is driven to lead the market in its diagnostic capabilities. DRA physicians actively seek out training to stay at the forefront of industry technology, providing a valuable resource to area providers to enhance care to Chesapeake area residents.

Radiologists serving the Chesapeake region offer services in areas including body imaging, cardiac imaging, interventional radiology, musculoskeletal imaging, neuroradiology, nuclear medicine, PET/oncology and women's imaging.

Referring providers interested in learning more can call DRA's Concierge Line at (855) 723-5463, or e-mail [concierge@dominionradiology.com](mailto:concierge@dominionradiology.com). ■



## A Warm Welcome to Dr. Anh Wohler



Dr. Anh Wohler has joined Dominion Radiology Associates, expanding the practice's breast-imaging subspecialty team serving Chesapeake Regional Breast Center, located at the Jennings Outpatient Center.

She was the attending radiologist at the Leslie Simon Breast Care and Cytodiagnosis Center at Englewood Health in New Jersey before joining Dominion Radiology Associates.

Dr. Wohler graduated from medical school at St. George's University, completed her internship and residency in diagnostic radiology at Morristown Medical Center, and

her fellowship in breast imaging at the Carol W. and Julius A. Rippel Breast Center at Morristown Medical Center. There, she also served as chief resident in diagnostic radiology.

She is board-certified in diagnostic radiology. ■