

Magnetic resonance imaging of pancreatic adenocarcinomas

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Abstract

AIM: To compare the efficiency of the different MR sequences in the diagnosis of pancreatic adenocarcinomas and to assess the MRI findings.

METHODS: 70 patients with pancreatic adenocarcinoma proved by surgically or clinically underwent MR imaging with a 1.5 T superconducting unit. MR imaging sequences included T₁WI, T₂WI, fat-suppressed T₁WI, dynamic FMPSPGR and delayed contrast-enhanced T₁WI. The MR images were viewed. We analyzed of the

quality and quantity MR sequences.

RESULTS: The tumors could be seen more clearly on FT₁WI and 72.22% appeared as obvious hypointense. FT₁WI was the most effective sequence in the detection of small non-contour-deforming pancreatic carcinoma. Dynamic FMPSPGR and delayed contrast-enhanced T₁WI were more sensitive sequences in the demonstration of dilated biliary ducts. Blood vessels around pancreas could be shown distinctly on dynamic FMPSPGR. Metastasis of retroperitoneal lymph node could be defined clearly on T₁WI. T₂WI was the most sensitive sequence in the display of liver metastasis. MRCP was very useful for obstructive jaundice.

CONCLUSION: MR images are useful in the diagnosis of pancreatic adenocarcinomas.

Key words: Pancreatic neoplasms/diagnosis; Adenocarcinoma/diagnosis; Magnetic resonance imaging

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