Liver imaging in oncologic patients lecture

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Background: Multiple cancers have potential for metastasizing to the liver. Cancer treatment very often affects liver parenchyma causing for example steatosis or cirrhosis. The lecture aims to discuss imaging techniques (CT, MRI, ultrasound, and PET) in hepatic imaging in oncologic patients as well as the pitfalls of hepatic imaging in an oncologic population.

Content: Available literature on liver imaging in oncologic patients will be reviewed and several cases will be used as examples to illustrate the imaging approach to liver imaging in an oncologic center. Interactive questions/answers with audience will be used to assess the proper delivery of the objectives. In particular the audience will be asked an opinion on multiple cases and the different answers will be discussed during the lecture.

Conclusions: Attendees will be familiar with standardized approach to liver imaging and different imaging modalities in an oncologic population. The attendees will also learn how to assess post treatment response and the pitfalls of hepatic imaging in oncologic patients.

Key words: liver malignancy, magnetic resonance imaging, ultrasound, positron emission tomography.

Pancreatic cancer lecture

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Background: Pancreatic cancer staging is performed by imaging, with CT being the warhorse for T and M staging. MRI and ultrasound are routinely used to address specific clinical questions. Positron emission tomography has a role in post treatment assessment. The lecture aims to discuss the role of common imaging techniques (CT, MRI, ultrasound, and PET) in pancreatic cancer staging and post treatment evaluation.

Content: Available literature on pancreatic cancer staging will be reviewed and several cases will be used as examples to illustrate the imaging approach to pancreatic cancer staging and post treatment follow-up. Interactive questions/answers with audience will be used to assess the proper delivery of the objectives. In particular the audience will be asked an opinion on multiple cases and the different answers will be discussed during the lecture.

Conclusions: Attendees will be familiar with standardized reporting of pancreatic cancer staging and the use of the different imaging modalities. The attendees will also learn how to assess post treatment response and the pitfalls of pancreatic staging by imaging.

Key words: pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma, magnetic resonance imaging, ultrasound, positron emission tomography.

CT in oncology: the evaluation of response to treatment

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Background: In the last decades, cancer treatment has increased in complexity and cost, therefore a careful monitoring of the response to treatment has become increasingly relevant in our clinical practice.

Content: In this presentation the discussion will focus on a few clinical examples able to give an overview of the state-of-the art in cancer treatments and of the most relevant issues in the evaluation of the response to treatment, with particular reference to the role of computed tomography (CT). Patient series of different oncologic subspecialties will be also analyzed, highlighting challenges and opportunities in terms of the use of CT for assessing the response to treatment. The materials will be put in a clinical perspective to give practical guidance to the participating physicians.

Conclusions: The presentation aims will be achieved if the participating physicians will improve their knowledge of the most relevant issues in the evaluation of the response to oncologic treatments.

Key words: computed tomography, cancer therapy, treatment response evaluation.