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Validation of Iodine-131-meta-iodobenzylguanidine cardiac scintigraphy in Parkinsonism: a preliminary study

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Key words: ¹³¹I-MIBG, cardiac sympathetic scintigraphy, Parkinson's disease, parkinsonism

Abstract

Introduction

¹²³I-MIBG is the most commonly used radiopharmaceutical to depict cardiac sympathetic innervation. The purpose of this study was to validate the feasibility of ¹³¹I-MIBG as an alternative myocardial sympathetic imaging probe in differential diagnosis of Parkinsonism.

Methods

We recruited 17 patients with PD, 21 patients with other parkinsonism (17 with MSA and 4 with PSP), and 6 normal controls. All participants underwent ¹³¹I-MIBG scintigraphy for both early and delayed imaging. The image quality was independently assessed by two experienced nuclear medicine specialists and graded into three categories: 1, good image quality; 2, suboptimal but sufficient for diagnosis; and 3, poor or nondiagnostic. Cardiac MIBG uptake was quantitatively measured using H/M ratio and washout rate.

Results

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