

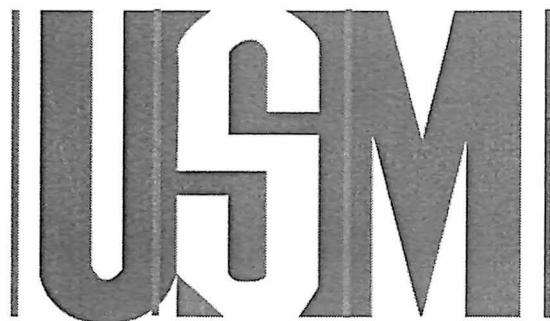
**The Association Study Between MRI and
Percutaneous Transpedicular Biopsy (HPE)
findings in Vertebral Lesions**

By:

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**Dissertation Submitted In
Partial Fulfillment of the Requirement for
The Degree of Master of Medicine
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**Study Venue : Hospital Kuala Lumpur
HUSM**

From January 2002 to December 2007

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TABLE OF CONTENT

	Page
Acknowledgement	iii
Abstract	xi - xvii
1.0 Introduction	1
2.0 Literature review	4
2.1 General	4
2.2 Incidence and Prevalance of Spinal Metastases	4
2.3 Incidence and Prevalance of Spinal Tuberculosis	6
2.4 Anatomy of the Spine	7
2.4.1 General Anatomy	7
2.4.2 Circulation of Spinal Cord	8
2.4.3 Anatomy spine in relation to Spinal Infection and Metastases	10
2.4.3 Anatomy of Cervical, Thoracic, and Lumbar Pedicles in transpedicular biopsy point of view	12
Figure 1	15
Figure 2	19
2.5 Method of Spread In Tuberculous Osteomyelitis	20
2.6 Pathogenesis of Tuberculosis	26

2.7 Pathogenesis of Spinal Metastatic	
Tumor and Classification	27
2.7.1 Classification of Spinal Metastatic Tumor	28
2.8 Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) in spine infection	30
2.8.1 MRI features in pyogenic infection	31
Figure 3	31
2.8.2 MRI features in Tuberculous Spondylitis	31
Figure 4	34
Figure 5	34
2.8.3 MRI features in vertebral bone tumor	
and metastases	35
2.9 Specificity and sensitivity of MRI for spinal	
Tuberculosis	
Figure 6	37
Figure 7	38
2.10 Bone Biopsy	40
2.11 Percutaneous Transpedicular	
Biopsy in spine pathology	41
Figure 8	43

2.12	Open Biopsy	45
2.13	Management of Spine Tuberculosis	46
2.13.1	Goal of Treatment	46
2.13.2	Surgical treatment	47
2.14	Management of Spinal Metastases	48
3.0	Study Objective	
3.1	General Objective	65
3.2	Specific Objectives	66
4.0	Methodology	67
4.1	Study Design	67
4.2	Study Setting and Time	67
4.3	Inclusion and Exclusion Criteria	67
4.3.1	Inclusion Criteria	67
4.3.2	Exclusion Criteria	68
4.4	Patient, material and method	68
4.4.1	Patient	68
4.4.2	Material	70
4.4.3	Method	71
4.5	Statistical Analysis	72

4.6 Operative Technique	65
Figure 9	79
4.7 Flow chart	80
5.0 Results	81
5.1 Socio- demographic characteristic	81
Table 1 Descriptive statistics of socio- demographic	82
5.2 Prevalance of disease to be detected	83
Diagram 1	83
5.3 Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) finding	84
Diagram 2	84
5.4 Overall radiological diagnosis obtained through	
MRI procedure	85
Diagram 3	85
5.5 Disease detected by percutaneous transpedicular	
biopsy based on HPE	86
Diagram 4	87
5.6 Overall results of HPE diagnosis obtained through	
Transpedicular biopsy procedure	88
Diagram 5	88
5.7 Location of vertebral lesion involved in vertebral mets	
and tuberculosis in percutaneous biopsy/MRI	89

Diagram 6	89
5.8 Types of tissue in vertebral lesion	90
Diagram 7	90
5.9 Percutaneous Transpedicular Biopsy Complication	91
Diagram 8	91
5.10 The association of MRI and Percutaneous transp	
In relation to overall disease	92
Diagram 9	92
5.11 The association between HPE obtained through	
transpedicular biopsy with level of vetebra	93
Diagram 10	93
5.12 The association between tissue type in vertebral	
lesion with HPE	94
Diagram 11	94
5.13 The association between type of disease with HPE	95
Diagram 12	95
5.14 Determination of sensitivity and specificity of MRI	96
Diagram 13.Table 2	96
Diagram 14.Table 3	96
Diagram 15.Table 4	97
6.0 Discussion	98
7.0 Conclusion	108

8.0 Study weakness	111
9.0 Strength of Study	112
10.0 Recommendation and suggestions	112
11.0 References	113
12.0 Appendix	124
Appendix A Patient's Raw data	
Appendix B Questionnaire form	
Appendix C Samples data collection	
Appendix D Consent form	
Appendix E Ethical approval HUSM	
Appendix F MOH/HKL approval	

Specially Dedicated To

My Wife

Fazlina Ahmad

&

My Children

**NAJWA ASYILAH
DANIEL FARIS**

For Their Love and Support

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Abstract

Introduction

Magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) has become the instrument of choice for disease detection in spine pathology. More recent reports have questioned the specificity of MRI detection and concluded that signal intensity change alone is not diagnostic of metastatic lesion. The introduction of percutaneous biopsy has substantially benefited the diagnosis of skeletal disease. It avoids the need for open surgical biopsy in most patients. Percutaneous transpedicular biopsy for vertebral lesions can be performed with minimal morbidity and good diagnostic yield with accuracy up to 92% in bone metastases (Ryohei Ashizawa et al, 1999).

Objectives

Our main objective is to determine the sensitivity and specificity of MRI in disease detection for vertebral spinal lesion specifically in vertebral tuberculosis and metastases. The association between MRI findings were made with transpedicular biopsy findings (histopathological diagnosis). The secondary objective was to determine the correlation of transpedicular biopsy done under C-arm fluoroscopy with respect to major influencing variables such as spinal level, tissue type (lytic and sclerotic) and ultimate tissue pathologic diagnosis (HPE).

Method

In this retrospective study case series, we reviewed 72 patients admitted to our orthopaedic department in Hospital Kuala Lumpur and Hospital University Science, Malaysia between January 2002 to December 2007. All patients with suspected case of metastases, tuberculosis and pyogenic disease based on their clinical sign, symptoms and Xray findings involving spinal vertebra who underwent MRI and percutaneous transpedicular biopsy were included in the study. The data collected were reviewed and all data pertaining to laboratory investigations i.e FBC (full blood count), ESR (erythrocyte sedimentation rate), tumor marker, Sputum AFB (acid fast bacilli), Mantoux test and PCR (polymerase chain reaction) to assist in disease confirmation were taken to support for clinical diagnosis. The MRI findings of each cases reported by radiologist were reviewed to get radiological diagnosis. The HPE result from the tissues taken through percutaneous transpedicular biopsies procedure which were performed later to MRI to obtain histopathological diagnosis for final disease confirmation were reviewed. The data obtained were analysed for association.

Results

The overall HPE diagnosis obtained for disease detection through transpedicular biopsy were 65% positive (forty seven of seventy two) and negative 34.5% (twenty five of seventy two) for both vertebral tuberculosis and metastases. The overall disease detection by MRI were 97.2% (seventy of seventy two). There

was no significant association between MRI findings with percutaneous transpedicular biopsy (HPE) (p value >0.05) for disease detection. From overall study population, the prevalence of disease detected by percutaneous transpedicular biopsy was 0.653 (95%CI 0.543, 0.763) and the prevalence of similar disease detected by MRI was 0.972 (95% CI 0.934,1.011). The sensitivity and specificity of magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) to detect the disease compared to percutaneous transpedicular biopsy which was taken as gold standard in this study were 0.979 (95% CI 0.937,1.020) and 0.040 (95% CI 0.018, 0.062) respectively. With respect to vertebral level, there was significant association between level of vertebra lesion involved with HPE diagnosis in percutaneous transpedicular biopsy procedure (p value 0.021). For tissue type, there was no significant association between tissue type in vertebral body lesion with HPE obtained through transpedicular biopsy procedure (p value 0.256).

Conclusion

Based on this study, we can conclude that MRI is highly sensitive for disease detection in vertebral lesion. The MRI however has low specificity and not reliable in detecting true negative disease. There is no significant association between MRI and transpedicular biopsy method for disease detection. For inconclusive MRI findings, transpedicular biopsy is clinically useful and reliable to confirm the vertebral disease. For obvious MRI finding with vertebral metastases and tuberculosis, transpedicular biopsy is reliable for confirmation disease diagnosis.

Keyword

Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI), Transpedicular biopsy,

Abstrak

Pengenalan

Magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) telah menjadi satu alat pilihan untuk mengesan penyakit di bahagian tulang belakang. Laporan terkini telah mempersoalkan kebolehan MRI dari segi 'specificity' untuk mengesan penyakit dan telah merumuskan bahawa pertukaran dari segi signal sahaja adalah tidak dianggap satu kebolehan untuk mengenalpasti penyakit kanser menular ke bahagian 'vertebra'. Pengambilan tisu secara teknik 'percutaneous' telah memberi faedah besar dalam diagnosa penyakit yang melibatkan system tulang. Teknik pengambilan tisu melalui tulang 'pedicle' (transpedicular) untuk penyakit tulang 'vertebra' boleh dijalankan dengan komplikasi kecederaan yang minima dan hasil diagnosanya tepat sehingga kadar ketepatan 92% (Ryohei Ashizawa et al,1999).

Tujuan

Tujuan utama kajian ini adalah untuk menentukan 'sensitiviti' dan 'specificiti' MRI dalam tugas mengesan penyakit yang melibatkan 'tulang vertebra', khasnya untuk penyakit 'tuberkulosis vertebra' dan kanser menular di bahagian vertebra. tisu tulang 'vertebra' dengan faktor-faktor seperti kedudukan paras 'vertebra' terlibat, jenis jenis tisu dan tisu diagnosa secara keseluruhannya.

Kaedah/Cara

Ini adalah kajian 'retrospective' di antara Januari tahun 2002 hingga Disember 2007. Pihak kami telah memeriksa seramai 72 pesakit yang telah dimasukkan ke dalam wad orthopedik di Hospital Kuala Lumpur dan Hospital Universiti Sains Malaysia. Semua pesakit yang di kawatiri mengalami penyakit 'tuberkulosis' dan kanser 'vertebra' berdasarkan tanda – tanda penyakit secara klinikal, gambar xray yang telah melalui proses MRI dan pengambilan tisu di bahagian 'vertebra' secara teknik 'transpedicular' adalah di masukkan dalam kajian.

Keputusan

Diagnosa keseluruhan untuk histopathologi atau HPE untuk penyakit yang dikesan melalui kaedah 'transpedicular' biopsi adalah 68% positif (empat puluh tujuh daripada tujuh puluh dua kes) dan negatif 34.5% (dua puluh lima daripada tujuh puluh dua kes). Kedua dua adalah untuk keputusan penyakit 'tuberculosis' dan kanser yang merebak ke bahagian 'vertebra'. Keseluruhan penyakit yang di kesan oleh MRI adalah 97.2% (tujuh puluh daripada tujuh puluh dua kes). Dengan ini tiada perkaitan di antara keputusan MRI dibandingkan dengan keputusan HPE – *P* value >0.05 untuk kaedah mengesan penyakit. Daripada keseluruhan populasi, penyakit yang telah dikesan oleh pengambilan tisu kaedah 'transpedicular' adalah 0.653 (95%CI 0.543, 0.763) dan taburan penyakit yang sama yang dikesan oleh kaedah MRI adalah 0.972 (95% CI 0.934, 1.011). Untuk 'sensitiviti' dan 'specificiti' MRI dalam kebolehan mengesan penyakit

seperti yang di sebut di atas dibandingkan dengan pengambilan tisu kaedah 'transpedicular' yang di anggap sebagai 'gold standard' dalam kajian ini adalah 0.979 (95% CI 0.937,1.020) and 0.040 (95% CI 0.018,0.062) masing masing. Berkaitan dengan kajian melibatkan bahagian 'vertebra', tiada kaitan secara langsung antara bahagian 'vertebra' terlibat dengan diagnosa 'HPE' (p value 0.021). Untuk kajian jenis tisu, juga tiada kaitan secara langsung antara jenis tisu dengan diagnosa 'HPE' yang diambil menerusi kaedah 'transpedicular' (p value 0.256).

Rumusan

Untuk rumusan, MRI adalah sangat 'sensitif' and di percayai untuk mengesan penyakit yang melibatkan 'vertebra'. Sebaliknya, MRI mempunyai 'spesifisiti' yang rendah dan tidak boleh dipercayai untuk mengesan penyakit yang benar benar negatif. Tiada kaitan secara langsung di antara keputusan MRI dengan kaedah pengambilan tisu 'vertebra' secara 'transpedicular'. Untuk keputusan MRI yang 'tidak dapat dirumuskan- inconclusive', kaedah pengambilan tisu secara 'transpedicular' adalah diperlukan secara klinikal dan kaedah ini boleh dipercayai untuk memastikan penyakit di bahagian 'vertebra'. Untuk keputusan MRI yang jelas diagnosanya, kaedah pengambilan tisu secara 'transpedicular' adalah juga perlu untuk mengetahui ketepatan diagnosanya.

Keyword

Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI), kaedah pengambilan tisu secara 'transpedicular'

1.0 Introduction

In the mid 1980, magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) has become the instrument of choice for disease detection in spine pathology. More recent reports have questioned the specificity of MRI for disease detection and concluded that signal intensity change alone is not diagnostic of metastatic spinal lesion. Lee et al, (1999) however report a 95% and 98% accuracy respectively in differentiating between benign and malignant compression fracture and vertebral osteomyelitis on MRI. While the confidence should be in MRI diagnosis of vertebral lesion, the confirmation through vertebral biopsy material is indicated when radiographic modalities fail to provide a correct diagnosis.

On the other hand, the introduction of percutaneous biopsy has substantially benefited the diagnosis of skeletal lesions. It avoids the need for open surgical biopsy in most patients. It has been reported that percutaneous biopsy of the spine has been performed successfully for more than 60 years (Robertson RC, Ball RP, 1935). It is a key step in the diagnosis of neoplastic, infectious, tumor-like musculoskeletal lesions. As generally known, percutaneous biopsy of neoplasm helps facilitate accurate grading, staging and treatment planning. Open surgical biopsies however, have been the traditional and gold standard for obtaining adequate and representative samples for diagnosis of musculoskeletal lesions.