

Role of Magnetic Resonance Imaging in Assessment of Postoperative Shoulder Joint for rotator cuff injuries

Thesis

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بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

قالوا

لَسْبَحَانَكَ لَا يَعْلَمُ لَنَا
إِلَّا مَا عَلَّمْتَنَا إِنَّكَ أَنْتَ
الْعَلِيمُ الْعَظِيمُ

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List of Contents

<i>Title</i>	<i>Page No.</i>
List of Figures	i
List of Tables	v
Introduction	1
Aim of Work.....	4
Review of Litratute	
Chapter (1): Anatomy of the Shoulder Joint	5
Chapter (2): Pathological Consideration	36
Chapter (3): Surgical Aspects of Rotater cuff Injuries	69
Chapter (4): MRI Technique and Sequences	82
Patient and Method	97
Case Presentations.....	102
Results.....	109
Discussion.....	120
Summary	127
References	128
Arabic Summary.....	--

List of Abbreviations

<i>Abbr.</i>	<i>Full term</i>
ABER	: Abduction and External Rotation.
AC joint	: Acromioclavicular joint.
ALPSA	: Anterior labroligamentous periosteum sleeve avulsion lesion.
ARAC	: Arthroscopic resection of the acromioclavicular joint.
BLC	: Biceps labral complex.
CHL	: Coracohumeral ligament.
FOV	: Field of view.
FSE	: Fast spin echo sequences.
GLAD	: Gleno-labral articular disruption lesion.
GR	: Gradient sequences.
HAGL	: Humeral avulsion of glenohumeral ligaments lesion.
IGL	: Inferior glenohumeral ligament.
IGLC	: Inferior glenohumeral ligament complex.
LLC	: Labro-ligamentous complex.
MDI	: Multidirectional instability.
MGL	: Middle glenohumeral ligament.
MRI	: Magnetic resonance imaging.
PD	: Proton density sequences.
POLPSA	: Posterior labrocapsular periosteal sleeve avulsion.
RF	: Radiofrequency.
SE	: Spin echo sequences.
SGL	: Superior glenohumeral ligament.
SLAP	: Superior Labral Anteroposterior lesions.
STIR	: Short tau inversion recovery sequences.
T1WI	: T1-weighted image.
T2WI	: T2-weighted image.
TA	: Time of acquisition.
TE	: Time of Echo.
TR	: Time of repetition.
TSE	: Turbo spin echo.

List of Figures

Fig. No.	Title	Page No.
Figure (1):	Skeletal anatomy of the shoulder.....	7
Figure (2):	Types of acromion.....	8
Figure (3):	Glenoid cavity and labrum.....	10
Figure (4):	Normal glenohumeral ligaments.....	19
Figure (5):	Lateral view of right shoulder shows the superior glenohumeral ligament (SGHL), middle glenohumeral ligament (MGHL), and inferior glenohumeral ligament (IGHL)	22
Figure (6):	Rotator cuff muscles.....	25
Figure (7):	Bursae related to shoulder joint.	28
Figure (8):	Normal MRI anatomy on axial section.....	30
Figure (9):	Normal MRI anatomy on coronal section of normal shoulder.....	32
Figure (10):	Normal MRI anatomy on sagittal section of normal shoulder.....	34
Figure (11):	Various acromion shapes.....	35
Figure (12):	Oblique sagittal section GRE sequence (0.5 T, TE=20msec, TR=1800msec).....	37
Figure (13):	51-year-old man with delaminating partial thickness tear of supraspinatus tendon.	40
Figure (14):	34-year-old man with delaminating tear of supraspinatus tendon.	41
Figure (15):	Oblique sagittal section. Large defect in the supraspinatus tendon. Retraction of the muscle belly with fatty atrophy	43
Figure (16):	Rupture of the subscapular tendon. Oblique sagittal section GRE sequence (0.5 T, TE=35msec, TR=600msec, flip angle =30 degrees)	45
Figure (17):	Axial T1-weighted TSE fat-suppressed magnetic resonance arthrogram image shows bony defect involving posterolateral humeral head.....	48
Figure (18):	Bony Bankart lesion. A, T1 fat-suppressed axial shoulder MR arthrogram.....	49
Figure (19):	Diagram shows labrum divided into six areas.....	51

List of Figures

Fig. No.	Title	Page No.
Figure (20):	Bankart lesions. A, T1 fat-suppressed axial shoulder MR arthrogram.	52
Figure (21):	Fibrous Bankart lesion. An axial T1 weighted spin echo MR arthrography image with fat saturation,	53
Figure (22):	Classification of Bankart and Bankart variant lesions.	54
Figure (23):	Perthes lesion. Oblique axial T2-weighted TSE image of the shoulder joint with the arm in abduction and external rotation location shows tear of the anteroinferior labrum with intact periosteum, suggesting Perthes lesion.	56
Figure (24):	Anterior labroligamentous periosteal sleeve avulsion (ALPSA) lesion.	58
Figure (25):	GLAD lesion: glenolabral articular disruption.	59
Figure (26):	Glenolabral articular disruption (GLAD) lesion.	60
Figure (27):	Humeral avulsion of the glenohumeral ligament (HAGL).	61
Figure (28):	Reverse bony Bankart lesion.	63
Figure (29):	Superior labral tear propagating anterior and posterior (SLAP) lesion type IIC.	68
Figure (30):	Illustrations of a partial bursal sided tear (a) and partial articular sided tear (b) of the supraspinatus tendon treated with debridement.	70
Figure (31):	Illustrations of different rotator cuff tear shapes including long axis (longitudinal) tear.	71
Figure (32):	Illustrations of a Bankart lesion (a) and labral Bankart repair (b).	75
Figure (33):	Illustrations of glenoid bone augmentation (Latarjet procedure).	77
Figure (34):	Illustrations (a, b) of a large engaging Hill-Sachs defect of the humeral head (solid arrow in a) treated with remplissage (solid arrow in b).	79
Figure (35):	Illustrations of the inferior capsular shift procedure (capsulorrhaphy).	80

List of Figures

Fig. No.	Title	Page No.
Figure (36):	Transverse schematic drawing of the shoulder illustrating the oblique sagittal and oblique coronal planes	83
Figure (37):	Coronal oblique imaging plane.....	85
Figure (38):	Shoulder axial imaging plane.	86
Figure (39):	Shoulder sagittal oblique imaging plane.....	89
Figure (40):	Axial T1-weighted fat-saturated magnetic resonance arthrogram image shows artifact due to inadvertent injection of air into the joint cavity.....	94
Figure (41):	Pie chart gender distribution of the study group.	104
Figure (42):	Pie chart postoperative complains distribution of the study group.	105
Figure (43):	Bar chart MRI finding distribution of the study group.	106
Figure (44):	Bar chart association of patient different post operative complains with MRI finding of post operative retear in the studied patients n=15	107
Figure (45):	Bar chart association of patient different post operative complains with MRI finding of post operative bursitis in the studied patients n=15	108
Figure (46):	Bar chart association of patient different post operative complains with MRI finding of post operative A-C osteoarthropathy in the studied patients n=15	109
Figure (47):	Bar chart association of patient different post operative complains with MRI finding of post operative rotator cuff muscle atrophy in the studied patients n=15	110
Figure (48):	Bar chart association of patient different post operative complains with MRI finding of post operative detection of hill sach' lesion in the studied patients n=15.....	111

List of Figures

Fig. No.	Title	Page No.
Figure (49):	Bar chart association of patient different post operative complains with MRI finding of post operative biceps tenosynovitis in the studied patients n=15	112
Figure (51):	Bar chart association of patient different post operative complains with MRI finding of post operative adhesive capsulitis in the studied patients n=15.....	113
Figure(52)	Sagittal oblique T2 FS MRI. Edema in subscapularis muscle s) econdary to damage during glenohumeral instability surgery.....	114
Figure(53)	Complete tear of the supraspinatus tendon with tendon retraction and marked atrophy of the muscle showing fatty infiltration, subsequent upward migration of the humeral head.....	115
Figure(54)	The supraspinatus and infraspinatus tendons show an old full thickness tear with a retraction gap and subsequent atrophic changes of both muscles with fatty infiltration.....	116
Figure(55)	:Coronal oblique T2 FS weighted MRI: normal appearance after rotator cuff surgery the repaired supraspinatus tendon is thinned with areas of increased signal intensity on T2 – weighted images and irregular margins.....	117
Figutr(56):	Coronal oblique T2 FS MRI. Patient with a poor postoperative function after a tendon to tendon watertight repair shows a large full – thickness re-tear with significant tendon retraction	118
Figure(57)	: Normal postoperative findings on MRI. Axial T2 FS image: anteroinferior labrum is irregular and thickened with a chondral defect, Note remmants of bioabsorbable sutures anchors within glenoid.....	119

List of Table

Table No.	Title	Page No.
Table (1):	Demographic data distribution of the study group.	104
Table (2):	Postoperative complains distribution of the study group.....	105
Table (3):	All parameters distribution of the study group.	106
Table (4):	Association of patient different post operative complains with MRI finding of post operative retear in the studied patients n=15.....	107
Table (5):	Association of patient different post operative complains with MRI finding of post operative bursitis in the studied patients n=15.....	108
Table (6):	Association of patient different post operative complains with MRI finding of post operative A-C osteoarthropathy in the studied patients n=15.....	109
Table (7):	Association of patient different post operative complains with MRI finding of post operative rotator cuff muscle atrophy in the studied patients n=15.....	110
Table (8):	Association of patient different post operative complains with MRI finding of post operative detection of hill sach' lesion in the studied patients n=15.....	111
Table (9):	Association of patient different post operative complains with MRI finding of post operative biceps tenosynovitis in the studied patients n=15	112

Abstract

Magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) evaluation of the postoperative shoulder presents technical and diagnostic challenges related to imaging artifacts from hardware and micro metallic shavings, postsurgical scarring, and morphological alterations. MRI plays an active role in post-operative shoulder imaging because of its superior contrast resolution. It is important for the radiologist to accurately diagnose complication that might occurs after surgery to guide optimal treatment.

Key Words: shoulder; postoperative imaging; MRI.

Introduction

Rotator cuff tears are common soft-tissue injuries that often require surgical treatment. Initial efforts to better tendon healing centered on improving the strength of repair. Rotator cuff tear is one of the most common shoulder diseases. The rotator cuff muscles are the supraspinatus, infraspinatus, subscapularis, and teres minor. Repetitive microtrauma and anatomic variations lead to most rotator cuff injuries. Such injuries are commonly encountered in athletic and nonathletic patients *Sanders et al., 2014*.

The postoperative shoulder may be evaluated with various imaging modalities, including radiography, ultrasonography (US), computed tomography (CT), and magnetic resonance (MR) imaging, each of which has advantages and disadvantages. Radiography is adequate for the evaluation of prostheses, bone alignment, and surgical hardware, but it has very low sensitivity and specificity for the evaluation of soft tissues. US is adequate in evaluation of the soft tissues in the rotator cuff but is operator dependent and has limitations in the evaluation of labral and bone abnormalities. CT provides high-resolution depiction of

osseous structures, as well as high-quality multiplanar imaging capabilities *Alberto et al., 2015*.

MR imaging is the modality of choice for obtaining optimal soft-tissue visualization however several factors may decrease its accuracy in the evaluation of the postoperative shoulder. The most frequently performed surgical procedures followed up with MR imaging of the shoulder are subacromial decompression for impingement, rotator cuff repair, and repair of glenohumeral instability *Alberto et al., 2015*.

Magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) evaluation of post-operative shoulder presents technical and diagnostic challenges related to imaging artifacts from hardware and micro metallic shavings, postsurgical scarring, and morphological alterations *Beltran et al., 2014*.

The transition from metallic hardware to bioabsorbable suture anchors used in orthopaedic surgery has rendered less metallic susceptibility artifact over the years allowing more accurate interpretation of MR images. *Bancroft et al., 2012*.

Magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) and MR arthrography have proven valuable for managing the post-

operative shoulder, particularly in relation to the rotator cuff and labrum. MRI has proven to be an accurate imaging technique for differentiating expected findings versus complications in postoperative setting *Uhthoff et al., 2014*.

Aim of work

The purpose of study is to analyse the value of postoperative MRI imaging studies in identifying the appearance of the shoulder after surgical repair of rotator cuff injuries, and assessing postoperative complications.