THE ROLE OF SONOGRAPHY IN DIAGNOSIS
OF HEPATIC ABSCESSES

Essay

Submitted for Partial Fulfilment of Master Degree in RadioDiagnosis

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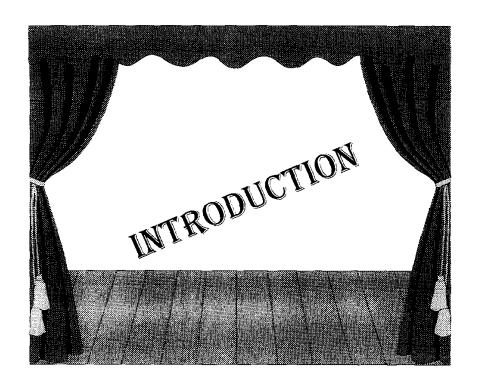
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Introduction

The main bulk of the circulating amoeba reach the liver through the portal circulation into which the parasites are lodged in small portal radicles producing proteolytic enzymes that destroy liver parenchyma leading to abscess formation. (Landay et al., 1980).

Pyogenic abscesses are caused by systemic and the organisms, that reach the liver through systemic circulation. (Sukov et al., 1980).

It is evident that although some sonographic features of amebic liver abscesses differ from those of pyogenic abscesses, these differences are not significant to allow specific diagnosis on the basis of sonography.

Sonography can expedite abscess detection and when coupled with clinical laboratory data can aid in differentiating pyogenic from amoebic liver abscess (Ralls et al., 1987). Sonography has been proved successful in the diagnosis of amoebic liver abscess.