SPIRAL CT IN THE DIAGNOSIS OF PULMONARY EMBOLISM

Essay

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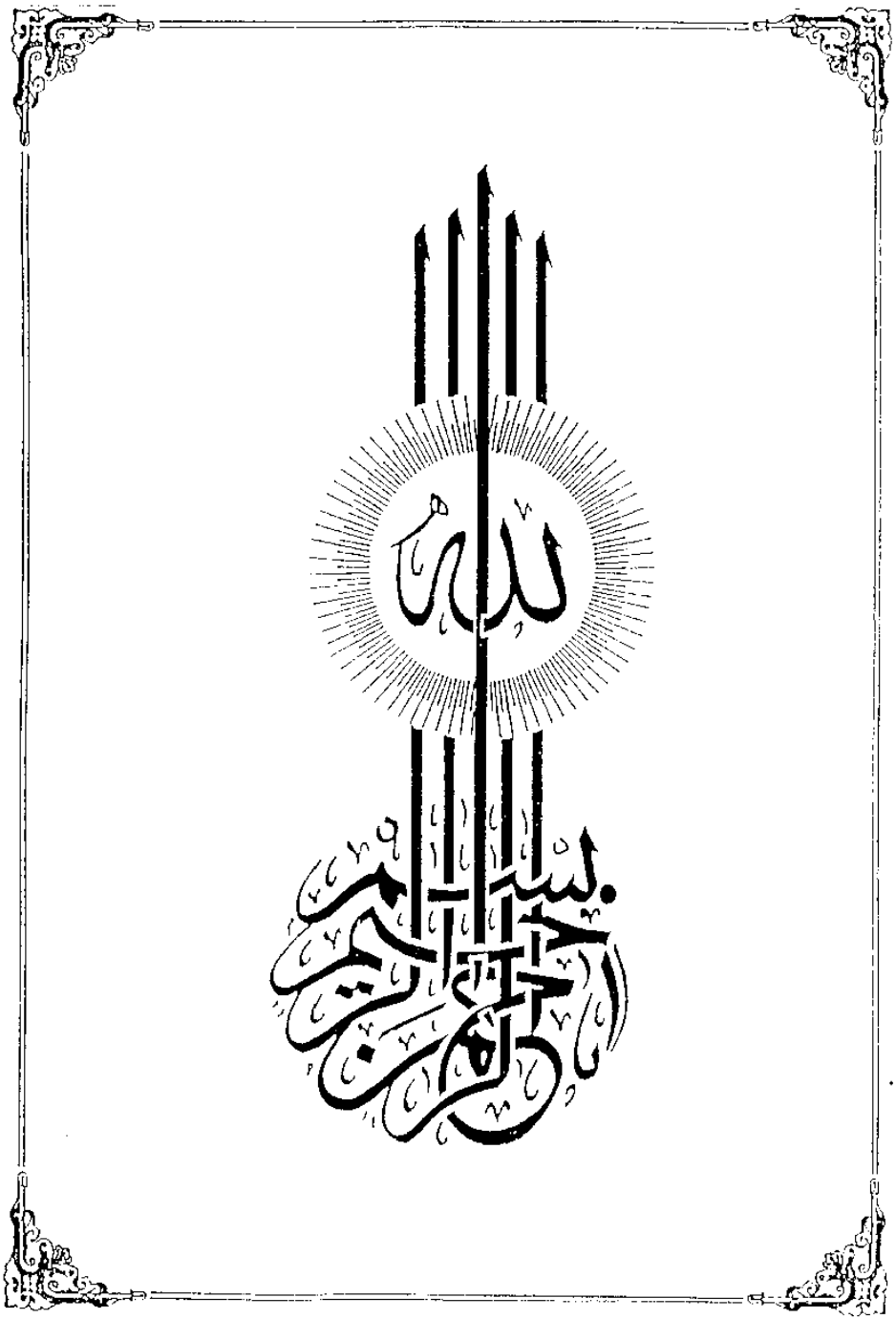

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Abstract

- Pulmonary embolism is a serious and fatal condition however the motality rate would be reduced greatly if the diagnosis was made promptly.
- Because the clinical diagnosis is unreliable various modalities are required for the definite diagnosis such as ; plain chest radiography, ventilation- perfusion scintigraphy and conventional angiography.
- In this context spiral CT angiography was found to be an accurate, cost-effective and safe imaging modality for the diagnosis of pulmonary embolism.

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INTRODUCTION AND AIM OF WORK

Diagnosing pulmonary embolism remains an important challenge in modern medicine. Because the clinical diagnosis of pulmonary embolism is unreliable, imaging modalities are required to establish the definite diagnosis ***(Haellerich and Wigton, 1986).***

These modalities include chest X-ray, ventilation-perfusion scintigraphy, conventional angiography. Recently spiral CT angiography was found to be of high accuracy in detecting and excluding pulmonary embolism ***(Quinn et al., 1991).***

The aim of this study is to illustrate the role of spiral CT angiography of pulmonary arteries in the diagnosis of pulmonary embolism.