ROLE OF RADIOLOGY AND IMAGING TECHNIQUES IN THE DIAGNOSIS OF CASES WITH PHEOCHROMOCYTOMA

ESSAY

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INTRODUCTION AND AIM OF WORK

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Introduction and aim of work

Adrenal glands are two small organs that are essential for life and if they were completely destructed by a disease or removed surgically, collapse and death occur unless replacement hormonal therapy is adminsterated for life.

Once an adrenal disorder is suspected clinically and by laboratory studies then comes the role of radiology which is to identify and localize the underlying pathology to aid in planning the appropriate line of treatment.

Pheochromocytoma is a tumour arising from the suprarenal medulla and secretes ample amounts of catecholamines that endanger various body systems and leads to serious or fatal complications. Early detection of these neoplasms lead to early management and hence the drawbacks of excessive hormone release can be avoided or controlled.

The purpose of this work is to review the usefullness and the limitations of the available radiological modalities in the evaluation of pheochromocytoma and to determine the diagnostic sequence that could be effective to reach the proper diagnosis.

ANATOMY OF THE ADRENAL GLAND