

ROLE OF COLOUR DOPPLER IN DIAGNOSIS
OF RENAL ARTERY STENOSIS

ESSAY

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Role of Color Doppler in Diagnosis of Renal Artery Stenosis

Introduction

The incidence of renal artery stenosis as a cause of hypertension varies from 1% to 10% of the hypertensives, although the most widely used figure is less than 1%.

Radionuclide renography has been proposed as a screening tool for renal artery stenosis with a sensitivity of between 75% and 100%. However it suffers from low specificity and similar appearance may be recorded in chronic renal disease of non-vascular aetiology.

Arteriography is clearly the investigation of choice in renal artery stenosis and it is by this technique that all other non invasive studies must be judged. (Robertson et al. 1995)

Doppler ultrasound is a suitable method for evaluation of renal artery stenosis. Considering the whole population of hypertensives the number of patients likely to be helped by surgery or angioplasty is likely to be small and therefore any screening test employed to identify renal artery stenosis should be non-invasive and cheap.

Doppler U/S equipment fulfils these criteria absolutely. (Victor et al 1996).

Aim of the work

The aim of our study is to evaluate the Doppler ultrasound as a screening, non invasive technique for diagnosis of renal artery stenosis.

