Role of Ultrasound & Color Flow Imaging in Assessment of Cervical Lymphadenopathy Correlative Study with Fine Needle Aspiration Cytology

Thesis
Submitted for partial fulfillment of M.D. degree in Radiodiagnosis

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Thanks first and last to God as we owe him for his great care, support and guidance in every step in our life.

Words do fail when I come to express my sincere indebtedness, profound gratitude and cordial appreciation to my Prof. Dr. Salwa Taha Ismail Professor of Radiodiagnosis, Faculty of Medicine, Ain Shams University, for her moral support, valuable supervision and for enabling me to fulfill this work. She is not only my professor to whom I am very grateful, but she is also a mother to whom I wish always the best of everything.

I also wish to express my sincere gratitude to **Prof. Dr. Laila Hosny** Professor of Radiodiagnosis, Faculty of Medicine, Ain Shams

University, whose interest in the subject of the research has been of great help.

Special thanks are due to assistant Prof. Dr. Sahar Naeim
Assistant Professor of Radiodiagnosis, Faculty of Medicine, Ain Shams
University, for dedicating so much of her PRECIOUS time and effort, and
for her kindness, honest and constant guidance to complete this work.

SHERINE

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

% = Percent

+ve = Positive

-ve = Negative

AIDS = Acquired immunodeficiency syndrome

AUC = Area under curve

CDS = Color Doppler sonogram

cm = Centimeter

CT = Computed tomography

CW = Continuous wave

EDV = End diastolic velocity

Ef% = Efficacy percent

Fig. = Figure

FN = False negative

FNAC = Fine needle aspiration cytology

FP = False positive

H and E stains = Hematoxylin & Eosin

HD = Hodgkin's disease

HIV = Human immunodeficiency virus

Hz = Hertz

L/T = Longitudinal to transverse ratio

MHz = Mega hertz

mm = Millimeter

MRI = Magnetic resonance imaging

NHLs = Non Hodgkin's lymphomas

P = Probability

P-% = Predictive value for a negative test

P+% = Predictive value for a positive test

PDS = Power Doppler sonogram

PI = Pulsatility index

Pol = Pourcelot index

PRF = Pulsed repetition frequency

PSV = Peak systolic velocity

RI = Resistance Index

RNA = Ribonucleic acid

ROC = Receiver operating curve

RS = Reed - Sternberg

S/L = Short axis to long axis ratio

SD = Standard deviation

SN% = Diagnostic sensitivity percent

Sp% = Diagnostic specificity percent

TN = True negative

TP = True positive

US = Ultrasound

WHO = World Health Organization

LIST OF TABLES

Ta		Pa
ble		ge
1	Subtypes of Hodgkin's disease (Modified Rye Classification)	26
2	Clinical differences between HD and NHLs	27
3	Clinical stages of Hodgkin's and non –Hodgkin's lymphomas	31
4	Common ultrasound scan planes used in the examination of cervical nodes in different regions of the neck	46
5	Common sites of metastatic, lymphomatous and tuberculous nodes in the neck	47
6	Number of patients, their age and their pathological diagnosis	72
7	Sex distribution in the studied groups	73
8	Shape and associated features of examined lymph nodes by gray scale sonography	75
9	Distribution of L/T ratio among different diagnostic groups	81
10	Distribution of nodal hiale among different diagnostic groups	81
11	Distribution of nodal perfusion pattern among different diagnostic groups	81
12	Distribution of vascular pattern (Power Doppler) among different diagnostic groups	81
13	Cutoff value	82
14		

LIST OF FIGURES

Figu		Pa
re		ge
1	Schematic diagram of a typical lymph node	3
2	Functional compartments of the lymph node	4
3	Schematic map used to indicate the exact location of abnormal nodes detected with US	11
4	Classification of cervical lymph nodes according to their location in the neck	12
5	Sound ranges	32
6	Sound wave compressions and rarefactions	33
7	Normal spectral analysis. The spectral analysis displays the received sound signal that is representative of the cardiac cycle and the Doppler shift, with the frequency distribution on a time scale	40
8	Spectral Doppler in evaluation of vascular resistance	45
9,10	Sonograms showing transverse scans of different shapes of malignant and tuberculous nodes	48
12,1 3,14	Sonograms showing transverse scans of metastatic, lymphomatous and tuberculous nodes.	49
15,1 6,17	Sonograms showing different hiale pattern in metastatic lymphomatous and tuberculous nodes	50
18,1 9,20	Sonograms showing different echogenecity in metastatic, lymphomatous and tuberculous nodes	51
21	Sonogram showing micronodular appearance in lymphomatous nodes	52
22,2	Sonograms showing punctuate calcifications in	53

3		
24	Sonogram showing dense calcifications with acoustic shadowing in lymphomatous and tuberculous nodes after treatment	53
25,2 6,27	Sonograms showing coagulation necrosis and cystic necrosis, which is commonly found in tuberculous and metastatic nodes	54
28,2 9,30 ,31,3 2,33	Sonograms showing ancillary features commonly seen in tuberculous nodes.	55
34,3 5,36 ,37,3 8,39	Sonograms showing different vascular pattern in tuberculous, lymphomatous, and metastatic nodes	56 , 57
	A an distribution in studied ansures	
40	Age distribution in studied groups	73
40 41	Sex distribution in the studied groups	73 73
41	Sex distribution in the studied groups Distribution of L/T ratio in different diagnostic groups Distribution of nodal hiale among diagnostic groups	73
41 42	Sex distribution in the studied groups Distribution of L/T ratio in different diagnostic groups Distribution of nodal hiale among diagnostic groups Distribution of nodal perfusion pattern among the diagnostic groups	73 74
41 42 43	Sex distribution in the studied groups Distribution of L/T ratio in different diagnostic groups Distribution of nodal hiale among diagnostic groups Distribution of nodal perfusion pattern among	73 74 75
41 42 43 44	Sex distribution in the studied groups Distribution of L/T ratio in different diagnostic groups Distribution of nodal hiale among diagnostic groups Distribution of nodal perfusion pattern among the diagnostic groups Distribution of vascular patterns as evaluated by Power Doppler among diagnostic groups ROC curve analysis showing the diagnostic performance of RI	73 74 75 76
41 42 43 44 45	Sex distribution in the studied groups Distribution of L/T ratio in different diagnostic groups Distribution of nodal hiale among diagnostic groups Distribution of nodal perfusion pattern among the diagnostic groups Distribution of vascular patterns as evaluated by Power Doppler among diagnostic groups ROC curve analysis showing the diagnostic	73 74 75 76 77
41 42 43 44 45 46	Sex distribution in the studied groups Distribution of L/T ratio in different diagnostic groups Distribution of nodal hiale among diagnostic groups Distribution of nodal perfusion pattern among the diagnostic groups Distribution of vascular patterns as evaluated by Power Doppler among diagnostic groups ROC curve analysis showing the diagnostic performance of RI ROC curve analysis showing the diagnostic performance of PI Gray scale sonography criteria of case 1	73 74 75 76 77 79
41 42 43 44 45 46 47	Sex distribution in the studied groups Distribution of L/T ratio in different diagnostic groups Distribution of nodal hiale among diagnostic groups Distribution of nodal perfusion pattern among the diagnostic groups Distribution of vascular patterns as evaluated by Power Doppler among diagnostic groups ROC curve analysis showing the diagnostic performance of RI ROC curve analysis showing the diagnostic performance of PI	73 74 75 76 77 79 80

51	Gray scale sonography criteria of case 2	87
52	Power Doppler criteria of case 2	87
53	Doppler indices of case 2	87
54	Gray scale sonography criteria of case 3	89
55	Power Doppler criteria of case 3	89
56	Doppler indices of case 3	89
57	Gray scale sonography criteria of case 4	91
58	Color Doppler criteria of case 4	91
59	Doppler indices of case 4	92
60	Color Doppler criteria of case 5	94
61	Color Doppler picture of case 5	94
62	Doppler indices of case 5	95
63	Gray scale sonography criteria of case 6	97
64	Doppler indices of case 6	97
65	Gray scale sonography criteria of case 7	99
66	Color Doppler criteria of case 7	99
67	Doppler indices of case 7	10
		0
68	Gray scale sonography criteria of case 8	10
	Power Doppler criteria of case 8	2
69	1 ower Doppier Citieria of Case 8	10

	Danular indiana of assa 0	
70	Doppler indices of case 8	10
		3
71	Gray scale sonography criteria of case 9	10
		5
72	Power Doppler criteria of case 9	10
		5
73	Doppler indices of case 9	10
		6
74	Gray scale sonography criteria of case 10	10
		8
75	Power Doppler criteria of case 10	10
		8
76	Doppler indices of case 10	10
		8
77	Gray scale sonography criteria of case 11	11
		0
78	Power Doppler criteria of case 11	11
		0
79	Doppler indices of case 11	11
		0
80	Gray scale sonography criteria of case 12	11
		2
81	Gray scale sonography criteria of case 12	11
		2

82	Doppler indices of case 12	11 3
83	Gray scale sonography criteria of case 13	11 5
84	Gray scale sonography criteria of case 13	11 5
85	Color Doppler criteria of case 13	11 6
86	Doppler indices of case 13	11 6
87	Gray scale sonography criteria of case 14	11 8
88	Gray scale sonography criteria of case 14	11 8
89	Color Doppler criteria of case 14	11 9
90	Doppler indices of case 14	11 9

LIST OF CONTENTS

	Page
•Introduction & Aim of the work	X
Review Of Literature	1
 Anatomy of cervical lymph nodes Gross anatomy Sonographic anatomy Pathological considerations Imaging in cervical lymphadenopathy Ultrasound Color Doppler Power Doppler Ultrasound guided biopsy 	
•Material & Methods	64
•Results	70
•Illustrative cases	83
• Discussion	120
•Summary & Conclusion	128
•References	132
Arabic Summary	

INTRODUCTION

Color Doppler ultrasound is a reliable and reproducible method for help in the differentiation between benign and malignant alterations of lymph nodes by using findings of intranodal angio-architecture. It is the only method that can display the angio-architecture of lymph nodes in daily practice (Morton et al., 1988).

Power Doppler sonography, with the advantages of less direction dependence, higher sensitivity and better contrast of vascular contour is combined to the color Doppler for better differentiation of various cervical lymphadenopathies in terms of vascular resistance, vascular pattern and vascular density (*Bude and Rubin*, 1996).

Ultrasound guided fine needle aspiration cytology is suitable for detection, demonstration and exclusion of disease, because of its high sensitivity and high specificity, which can be explained by the fact that, this technique is a combination of an imagining modality and cytologic examination. However, biopsy under the guidance of CT & MRI is time consuming and costly, while ultrasound guided fine needle biopsy takes only a few minutes for each node. It is frequently required not only to determine whether the nodes are neoplastic but also to determine the histology of the neoplasm (*Robert and Johanness*, 1993).

AIM OF THE WORK

The aim of this work is to emphasis the role of ultrasound, color Doppler, power Doppler, and ultrasound guided biopsy in differentiation of benign and malignant cervical lymphadenopathies.

ANATOMY OF CERVICAL LYMPH NODES

Gross Anatomy

Lymph nodes are small, encapsulated, ovoid soft tissue structures ranging in size between 3 and 25 mm according to the body site. Approximately 800 lymph nodes are present in the body most prevalent in the neck, axilla, groin, body cavities and along major vessels (*Gartner and Hiatt, 1997*).

Cervical lymph nodes are composed of lymphoid tissue and are located along the lymphatic vessels in the neck. There are about 300 lymph nodes in the neck, and the lymph nodes are embedded in the soft tissues of the neck and are either partly or completely surrounded by fat (*Gastenholz*, 1990).

Each cervical lymph node is encapsulated by fibrous tissue and is divided into cortical and medullary regions. The cortex is composed of densely packed lymphocytes which group together to form spherical lymphoid follicles and the medulla of the lymph node consists of medullary trabeculae, medullary cords and medullary sinuses. From the inner surface of the capsule, structures called trabeculae, of similar composition of the capsule, extend towards the medullary region of the lymph node. The capsule and trabeculae form a framework to maintain the shape of the lymph node. The portion of the trabeculae in the

medullary region is known as medullary trabeculae, which guide blood vessels and nerves to different regions of the lymph node. The medullary cords and medullary sinuses are composed of reticulum cells. The medullary cords are arranged in a parallel pattern and most of them are long or irregular in shape and surrounded by medullary sinuses. The medullary sinuses are filled with lymph and in which the lymph drains to the efferent lymphatic vessel. The paracortex, an intermediate area between the cortex and the medulla, is a transition area where the lymphocytes return to the lymphatic system from the blood (*Hall*, 1992).

Similar to other lymph nodes, cervical lymph nodes also have blood vessels. The main artery enters the lymph node at the hilum, where it branches into arterioles. In the medulla, some of the arterioles run along the trabeculae to the cortex, while some of them supply the capillary bed of the medulla. In the cortex, the arterioles further branch into capillaries to supply the lymphoid follicles. The venous system has a similar route to the hilum as the arterial system. In the cortex, the venules converge to form small veins, which further converge to form the main vein in the medulla. The main vein then leaves the lymph node at the hilum (Fig. 1) (*Papadimitriou and Kittas*, 1993).