

***THE ROLE OF MRI IN ASSESSMENT OF
MYOCARDIAL VIABILITY***

**Essay submitted for partial fulfillment
Of Master Degree in Radiodiagnosis**

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2011***

دور أشعة الرنين المغناطيسي في تقييم حيوية عضلة القلب

بحث مقدم توطئه للحصول على
درجة الماجستير في الأشعة التشخيصية
مقدم من

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ACKNOWLEDGMENT

First and Foremost thanks to Allah, the Most Merciful and Gracious.

*I wish to express my deepest appreciation and sincere gratitude to **Prof Dr.Maha Hussein Anwer** , Professor of Radiodiagnosis, Faculty of Medicine, Ain Shams University, for planning, supervising this study and for his valuable instructions and continuous help.*

*My deep gratitude to Dr. **Dr. Hazem Fawzy** Assistant Professor of Radiodiagnosis Faculty of medicine Ain Shams University, for her support and help.*

Also, I would like to express my gratitude and appreciation to my father, mother, lovely wife and my family who were supporting me all my life.

Yasser Mohammed Ali



INTRODUCTION

Ischemic heart disease (IHD) is the most common symptomatic manifestation of cardiovascular disease and by far the leading cause of mortality. Atherosclerotic vascular disease is very common and most adults have some degree of atherosclerosis. The presence of risk factors such as hypertension, smoking, hypercholesterolemia, diabetes and obesity identifies a large proportion of patients who are at increased risk for developing symptomatic IHD (*Grainger et al, 2008*).

Cardiac magnetic resonance imaging (CMRI) is a rapidly developing new modality with applications in clinical cardiology for detection and assessment of myocardial ischemia and viability (*Wagner et al, 2003*).

CMRI has recently been applied successfully to the assessment of myocardial perfusion. CMRI has also been shown to assess accurately the extent of injury after a myocardial infarction and the presence of myocardial viability (*Theodoros et al, 2001*).

CMRI perfusion imaging has matured to a point where it can be routinely applied to assess patients with coronary artery disease and ischemic cardiomyopathy. The method has been compared to invasive, catheter-based as well as other noninvasive imaging modalities (echocardiography, single-photon emission computed tomography [SPECT], and positron emission tomography [PET]) for the evaluation of patients with coronary artery disease. Besides



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qualitative evaluation of MR perfusion images, an absolute quantification of global, regional and transmural myocardial perfusion is possible. A relative or absolute myocardial perfusion reserve has been determined noninvasively with MR perfusion imaging, and can provide good agreement with the invasive assessment (**Muhling et al, 2003**).

The use of magnetic resonance (MR) imaging for cardiac diagnosis is expanding, aided by the administration of paramagnetic contrast agents for a growing number of clinical applications (**Edelman et al, 2004**).

Cardiac MRI allows an accurate evaluation of myocardial morphology, function, perfusion, and tissue damage in a noninvasive way (**Belloni et al, 2008**).

Cine imaging is important in the evaluation of cardiac volumes and kinesis and is now considered the reference standard for the assessment of cardiac function and characterization of myocardial tissue abnormalities. (**Reichek et al, 2008**).

Coronary arteries diseases can be obtained by computed tomography angiography (CTA), this requires significant radiation and iodinated intravascular contrast medium. CMR for these applications does not usually require contrast agent, and even when required, the risk is much less than that associated with iodinated contrast



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media. Direct comparison of the best MDCTA and coronary MRA shows that these techniques have essentially equivalent accuracy however MDCTA is a quicker study and is easier to use, and used in patient where MRI is absolutely contraindicated (such as prosthetic valve , pacemaker and stents(*Grainger et al, 2008*)).

For these reasons, cardiac MRI has become an important diagnostic tool for IHD and is the new reference standard for the assessment of cardiac perfusion (*Belloni et al, 2008*).

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

<i>AA</i>	Ascending Aorta
<i>AMI</i>	Acute Myocardial Infarction
<i>AO</i>	Aorta
<i>APM</i>	Anterior Papillary Muscle
<i>ATP</i>	Adenosine triphosphate
<i>AV</i>	Aortic Valve
<i>AZV</i>	Azygos Vein
<i>B-SSFP</i>	Balanced Steady State Free Precession
<i>C</i>	Carina
<i>CAD</i>	Coronary Artery disease
<i>CE-IR MRI</i>	Contrast Enhanced Inversion Recovery MRI
<i>CI</i>	Cardiac index
<i>CMRI</i>	Cardiac Magnetic Resonance Imaging
<i>CNR</i>	Contrast to Noise Ratio
<i>CO</i>	Cardiac Output
<i>CS</i>	Coronary sinus
<i>CTA</i>	Computed Tomography Angiography
<i>DAo</i>	Descending Aorta
<i>DSMRI</i>	Dobutamine Stress MRI
<i>ECF</i>	Extracellular Fluid
<i>ECG</i>	Electrocardiogram
<i>EDV</i>	End Diastolic Volume
<i>Es</i>	Esophagus
<i>ESV</i>	End Systolic Volume
<i>ETL</i>	Echo Train Length
<i>FAME</i>	Fast Acquisition with Multiple Excitation
<i>FE</i>	Field Echo
<i>FFE</i>	Fast Field Echo
<i>FID</i>	Free Induction Decay
<i>FIESTA</i>	Fast Imaging Employing Steady-state
Acquisition	
<i>FISP</i>	Fast Imaging with Steady Precession

<i>Gd-DTPA</i>	Gadolinium Diethyl Triaminic Pentaacetic Acid
<i>GE</i>	Gradient Echo
<i>HR</i>	Heart Rate
<i>IAS</i>	Inter-Atrial Septum
<i>IHD</i>	Ischemic Heart Disease
<i>IR</i>	Inversion Recovery
<i>IVC</i>	Inferior Vena Cava
<i>IVS</i>	Inter-Ventricular Septum
<i>LA</i>	Left Atrium
<i>LAA</i>	Left Atrial Appendage
<i>LAD</i>	Left Anterior Descending
<i>LCA</i>	Left Coronary Artery
<i>LCC</i>	Left Coronary Sinus
<i>LCCA</i>	Left Common Carotid Artery
<i>LCX</i>	Left Circumflex
<i>LI</i>	Left Inferior
<i>LL</i>	Left Lung
<i>LMB L</i>	Left Main Bronchus
<i>LMB</i>	Left Main stem Bronchus
<i>LPA</i>	Left Pulmonary Artery
<i>LSA</i>	Left Subclavian Artery
<i>LV</i>	Left Ventricle
<i>LVOT</i>	Left Ventricular Outflow Tract
<i>MB</i>	Moderator Band
<i>MDCT</i>	Multi-Detectors Computed Tomography
<i>MDCTA</i>	Multi-Detectors Computed Tomograph Angiography
<i>MI</i>	Myocardial Infarction
<i>MPRI</i>	Myocardial Perfusion Reserve index
<i>MRA</i>	Magnetic Resonance Angiography
<i>MRI</i>	Magnetic Resonance Imaging
<i>MV</i>	Mitral Valve
<i>PA</i>	Pulmonary Artery
<i>PDA</i>	Posterior Descending Artery
<i>PET</i>	Positron Emission Tomography
<i>PLB</i>	Posterior Left Branch

PPM	Posterior Papillary Muscle
PV	Pulmonary Veins
RA	Right Atrium
RAA	Right Atrial Appendage
RARE	Rapid Acquisition with Relaxation Enhancement
RCA	Right Coronary Artery
RCC	Right Coronary Sinus
RCCA	Right Common Carotid Artery
RFP	Radio Frequency Pulse
RI	Right Inferior
RMB	Right Main stem Bronchus
RPA	Right Pulmonary Artery
RS	Right Superior
RSA	Right Subclavian Artery
RV	Right Ventricle
RVOT	Right Ventricular Outflow Tract
SDC	Sudden Cardiac Death
SE	Spin Echo
SENSE	Sensitivity Encoding
SNR	Signal to Noise Ratio
SPECT	Single Photon Emission Computed Tomography
SPGR	Spoiled Gradient-Recalled Echo
SSFP	Steady State Free Precession
SV	Stroke Volume
SV C	Superior Vena Cava
T	Tesla
T2wSTIR	T2Weighted Short-tau Inversion Recovery
TF	Turbo Factor
TR	Time of Repetition
TSE	Turbo Spin Echo
TV	Tricuspid Valve
WMA	Wall Movement Abnormality
2D	Two Dimentional
3D	Three Dimentional

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