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B17344

**ROLE OF TRANSCATHETER ARTERIAL
MO-EMBOLIZATION AND PERCUTANEOUS
THANOL INJECTION IN TREATMENT OF
HEPATOCELLULAR CARCINOMA**

Thesis

*Submitted for partial fulfillment of the requirements of the
MD degree in
"Radiodiagnosis"*

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**FACULTY OF MEDICINE
TANTA UNIVERSITY
2003**

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

(سَنُرِيهِمْ آيَاتِنَا فِي الْآفَاقِ وَفِي أَنْفُسِهِمْ لَنُحْيِيَنَّهَا لَهُمُ آيَةً
الْحَقِّ، أَوْ لَعَنَ بِكَفَرٍ بِهِمْ أَنَّهُ
عَلَى كُلِّ شَيْءٍ شَهِيدٌ)

(سورة فصلت : الآية ٥٣)

Acknowledgement

*First and foremost, thanks to **ALLAH**, for helping me to achieve this work.*

*I wish to convey my sincere appreciation and utmost gratitude to prof. Dr. **MAHMOUD ABD EL-AZIZ DAWOUD**, Professor and Head of Radiology department, Faculty of Medicine, Tanta University for his thorough concern, meticulous supervision, valuable suggestions, and constant encouragement during the conduction of this work. He was the driving force behind the completion of this work.*

*I would also like to express my profound gratitude to Prof. Dr. **LAILA AHMED KORASHY**, Professor of Clinical Oncology & Nuclear Medicine, Faculty of Medicine, Tanta University, for her useful assistance and valuable remarks through this work.*

*My sincerest thanks to Dr. **MANAL EZZAT BADAWY ABDEL AAL**, Lecturer of Radiology Faculty of Medicine, Tanta University for her valuable supervision, generous efforts and comments which helped this work to attain its present shape.*

My heartfelt thanks to all the staff members of radiology department of Tanta University hospitals, for their kind support and cooperation during the whole study.

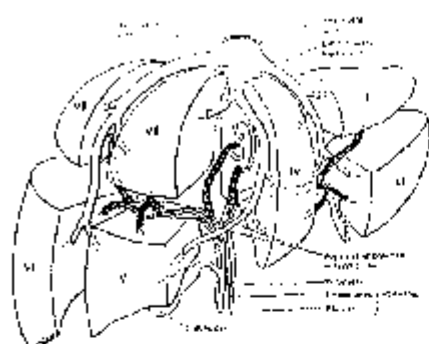
CONTENTS

	<i>Page</i>
INTRODUCTION	1
AIM OF THE WORK	3
REVIEW OF LITERATURE	
• Liver anatomy	4
• Pathology of hepatocellular carcinoma	15
• Radiological diagnosis and imaging of the hepatocellular carcinoma	23
• Hepatic angiography	34
• Hepatic Guided Biopsy	52
• Chemocembolization of hepatocellular carcinoma	56
• Types of embolic materials	65
• Percutaneous ethanol injection therapy for the treatment of hepatocellular carcinoma	77
• Combined TACE and PEI for the treatment of H.C.C.	85
• Other Minimally invasive treatment of H.C.C.	87
• Chemotherapy of Hepatocellular carcinoma	92
• Evaluation of therapeutic effect of PEI and TACE of H.C.C.	94
PATIENT AND METHODS	100
RESULTS	110
CASES PRESENTATION	139
DISCUSSION	160
SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS	177
REFERENCES	181
ARABIC SUMMARY	

Abbreviations

HCC	:	Hepatocellular carcinoma.
HBV	:	Hepatitis B virus
HCV	:	Hepatitis C virus
TNM	:	Tumor Node Metastasis
WHO	:	World health organization
AFP	:	Alpha feto protein
US	:	Ultrasonography
CT	:	Computed tomography
MRI	:	Magnetic resonance Imaging.
CTA	:	CT angiography
CTAP	:	CT arterial portography
T1WI	:	T ₁ weighted image.
T2 WI	:	T ₂ weighted image.
Gd-DTPA	:	Gadolinium Di-ethylene triamine penta acitic acid dimeglumine
T12	:	Thoracic 12
L1	:	Lumbar 1
AUC	:	Area under the drug concentrate
ATPase	:	Adenosine triphosphatase
IBCA	:	Isobutyl-2- cyanoacrylate
PVA	:	Polyvinyl alcohol.
PEI	:	Percutaneous ethanol injection
TACE	:	Transcatheter arterial chemoembolization
A-V shunt	:	Arterio-venous shunts.
Lipiodol UF	:	Lipiodol ultra fluid.
Nd YAG	:	Neodymium yttrium aluminum garent.
SGOT	:	Serum glutamic oxalacetic transaminase
SGPT	:	Serum glutamic pyruvic transaminase.

INTRODUCTION



INTRODUCTION



INTRODUCTION

Hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC) is the seventh and ninth most common form of cancer in men and women respectively in the world [Tanaka et al 1992]⁽¹⁾.

With the advance of imaging and surgical techniques, the number of patients undergoing partial hepatectomies for liver tumours has significantly increased during the past decade [Lai et al 1995]⁽²⁾. Improvements in imaging modalities have contributed to the early detection, precise localization and characterization of liver lesions [Tan et al 1995]⁽³⁾.

Nevertheless, in many patients with liver tumours, surgery is not an appropriate option. Patients with primary hepatocellular carcinoma are often poor surgical candidates because of the lack of hepatic reserve resulting from coexisting liver cirrhosis or the presence of multiple lesions at the time of the diagnosis [Colombo et al 1991]⁽⁴⁾.

Non-surgical ablation of HCC can now be achieved owing to new techniques of interventional radiology. Many imaging guided procedures that offer alternatives to surgery have been developed in the past few years and have gained an increasingly important role in the treatment of HCC. [Bartolozzi and Lencioni 1996]⁽⁵⁾.

Two fundamental methods of tissue destruction have been used for non-surgical ablation of HCC: percutaneous ethanol injection (PEI) and transcatheter arterial chemo-embolization (TACE) [Revandiy and Chezmar 1993]⁽⁶⁾.

Percutaneous ethanol injection has recently been performed under ultrasound guidance. It has been shown to be highly effective when it is restricted to lesions smaller than 3cm [Livraghi et al 1988]⁽⁷⁾.

Intratumoral injection of absolute ethanol causes extensive coagulative necrosis of the tumor cells and usually does not damage non cancerous liver parenchyma [Shiina et al 1993] ⁽⁸⁾.

Large HCC (> 3 cm in diameter) have been widely treated with transcatheter arterial chemocombolization by using various combinations of chemotherapeutic drugs and embolic agents. The standard treatment protocol adopted in many institutions includes intraarterial injections of an anticancer-in-oil emulsion and gelatin sponge particles [Savastano et al 1994] ⁽⁹⁾.

This concept of treatment is based on the knowledge that the liver tumor receives virtually all of its blood supply from the hepatic artery. So, when the chemotherapeutic agent is injected into the artery, there is a selective concentration of the drug within the tumor, augmented by the marked difference between the tissue clearance of lipiodol in normal liver and its clearance in hepatocellular carcinoma. Therefore, TACE of HCC has gained its popularity [Melvin et al 1992] ⁽¹⁰⁾.

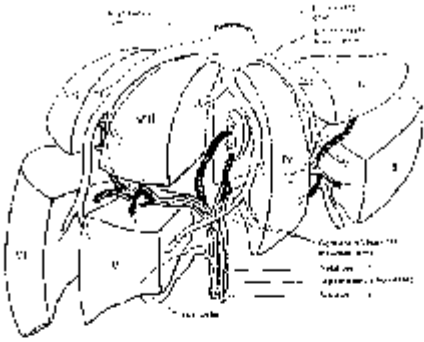
A combined therapeutic approach, consisting of TACE followed by PEI has recently been proposed. In large HCC (> 3 cm in diameter) previously submitted to TACE, tumor consistency is markedly decreased and intratumoral septa are usually disrupted; as a result of the necrotic phenomena induced by TACE [Higuchi et al 1994] ⁽¹¹⁾. These histopathological changes make subsequent treatment with PEI easier, as they provide enhanced ethanol diffusion within the tumor mass. Consequently, higher doses of ethanol with respect to those used in conventional PEI can be injected, enabling complete and homogenous perfusion even of large lesions. Moreover, treatment with PEI is facilitated by the TACE-derived fibrous wall around the lesions, which favors a longer retention of the injected ethanol within the tumor [Bartolozzi et al 1995] ⁽¹²⁾.

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AIM OF THE WORK

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The aim of this work is to study the value of percutaneous ethanol injection and transcatheter arterial chemoembolization as interventional procedures used in the treatment of hepatocellular carcinoma.