

学位論文の要旨

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学位論文名 Computed Diffusion-weighted Imaging Using 1.5-T
Magnetic Resonance Imaging for Prostate Cancer
Diagnosis

発表雑誌名 Clinical Imaging
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論文内容の要旨

INTRODUCTION

Diffusion-weighted and magnetic resonance imaging (DWI and MRI, respectively) are now being widely used in the body cancer imaging for detection, characterization, and assessment of treatment response. It has been reported that DWI obtained with ultra-high b-values provide good contrast between cancerous and background tissue for a better prostate cancer (PCa) detection.

The Computed DWI (cDWI) is an introduced computational technique that can produce any b-value images from DWI acquired with at least two different b-values. The cDWI technique allows higher b-value images to be obtained with a good SNR (signal noise ratio) at 1.5T MRI because it can suppress background noise while maintaining the original lesion signal.

The cDWIs of $b=2000$ s/mm² (cDWIs-2000) in MRI have gradually become known to be useful in detecting prostate cancer compared with measured original DWIs (mDWIs) of low b-value, using 3-T MR systems. To our knowledge, there are few reports about cDWIs-2000 to detect prostate cancer using 1.5-T MR systems.

This study aims are to show the contrast ratio (CR) of computed diffusion-weighted images of $b=2000$ s/mm² (cDWIs2000) comparing with measured DWIs of $b=1000$ (mDWIs1000) and $b=2000$ (mDWIs2000) for the prostate cancer (PCa) and to evaluate the prostate cancer detection of cDWIs2000 comparison with those of mDWIs using 1.5-T MR systems.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The study protocol was approved by the Ethics Committee of Shimane University and written informed consent was obtained from all subjects.

mDWIs for 24 patients with PCa were obtained preoperatively at different b-values (0, 1000, 2000 s/mm²) on 1.5-T MR. cDWIs2000 were generated by using two b-value combinations: 0-1000 s/mm², with image procession using image J and Windows-based calculation formula. cDWIs2000 and mDWIs were evaluated to assess image quality for each DWIs, CRs of cancerous and non-cancerous lesion were evaluated and to compare the detectability of PCa for each DWIs, referencing histopathological findings. Receiver operating characteristic analysis was used.

CRs of cDWIs2000 were significantly higher than those of mDWIs ($p < 0.05$ Tukey-Kramer's test). Furthermore the detectability of PCa in cDWIs2000 was as well as that of mDWIs2000. Area under the curve of cDWIs2000 was equivalent to mDWIs2000.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

CRs of cDWIs2000 were significantly higher than those of mDWIs ($p < 0.05$ Tukey-Kramer's test). Furthermore the detectability of PCa in cDWIs2000 was as well as that of mDWIs2000. Area under the curve of cDWIs2000 was equivalent to mDWIs2000.

The DWIs and ADC map using a high b-value is generally known to be useful to detect prostate cancer on 3T-MRI and 1.5T-MRI. High b-value on mDWI produce decreasing SNR. Using mDWIs2000 on 1.5T MRI unit, it needs more time than only mDWIs1000 in order to obtain the same image quality and mDWIs2000 have the more noise problem. Therefore the high power field system with high SNR fit high b-value on mDWI. The 3.0T MR system is now widely used, there are many hospitals in which only 1.5T MR system is running. cDWI2000 is more effective on 1.5T MR system than on 3.0T MR system.

The previous reports about the detectability of prostate cancer on 3T MRI using cDWIs showed that cDWIs are useful in detecting prostate cancer and are as valuable as mDWIs-2000.

In this study, the diagnostic performance of all methods did not differ significantly, however the sensitivity of cDWI-2000 was superior to that of mDWI. On the other hand, the specificity of cDWIs-2000 was inferior to that of mDWI. Because cDWIs had higher CR than that of mDWI, the readers might more easily detect abnormal signal intensity as a prostate cancer. The cDWIs-2000 by adding the other sequences, such as ADC map and dynamic MRI, may be able to improve specificity.



The cDWI has several advantages. One is that images with high b-values can be obtained regardless of the MR system's ability. Moreover, cDWI can make high b-value images maintain tissue signal intensity without depending on TE. Another possible advantage is that distortion on images with high b-values would be reduced with cDWI. Images with high b-values for the MR

system sometimes suffer from distortion because of the heterogeneity of the gradient field. Such distortion can be reduced with cDWI because images with lower b-values can be used for creating images with higher b-values. Moreover, we do not need special computers or special software to create cDWIs, which means that they do not need to cost extra. We can easily create cDWIs from another hospital's MR DICOM data, unaffected by imaging devices or magnetic forces.

CONCLUSION

CRs of cDWIs2000 appears to be higher than CRs of mDWIs1000 and mDWIs2000. The diagnostic ability of cDWIs2000 for PCa detection was equivalent to mDWIs2000. There is a possibility that cDWIs2000 can replace mDWIs2000.

論文審査及び最終試験又は学力の確認の結果の要旨

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学 位 論 文 名	Computed Diffusion-Weighted Imaging Using 1.5-T Magnetic Resonance Imaging for Prostate Cancer Diagnosis		
学位論文審査委員	主 査	猪俣 泰典	 
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論文審査の結果の要旨

本研究は前立腺癌の診断において 1.5T MRI を用いた computed diffusion-weighted imaging (cDWI) の有用性を検討したものである。MRI の拡散強調像(diffusion-weighted imaging: DWI)は脳梗塞とともに前立腺癌などの癌の診断でも広く利用されている。前立腺癌の診断では DWI の係数の 1 つである b 値が 0/2000 (s/mm²)が有用と報告されている。最近では実測した 2 つの b 値から任意の b 値画像を作成する computed DWI (cDWI) の技術が普及しはじめてきた。この技術は MRI の実際の撮像で生じるノイズを除いた画像を取得でき、癌と正常組織のコントラストが向上することで診断能の改善が期待されており、3T MR 装置では前立腺癌診断での有用性が報告されている。そこで今回、全国で最も普及している 1.5T MR 装置を用いて前立腺癌診断における cDWI の有用性を検討した。b 値 0/1000 の 2 つの画像から cDWI 2000 を作成し、実際に撮像した b 値 0/1000, 0/2000 の DWI (mDWI 1000, mDWI 2000) と癌部、非癌部のコントラスト比(CR)を調べた。さらに癌の検出について、3 つの画像セット(T2 強調像+mDWI 1000, T2 強調像+mDWI 2000, T2 強調像+cDWI 2000)を 2 名の放射線科医が独立して評価した。CR は cDWI 2000 が mDWI と比較し有意に高い値を示した(P<0.05)が、癌の検出率は 3 群間に有意差はみられなかった。3 群間の癌の検出率に差がなかった要因として、画像評価を行った放射線科医が前立腺癌の十分な診断経験があったこと、5mm 以上の大きさの癌を対象としたことなどが要因として考えられる。cDWI は簡便で、患者負担、費用負担のかからない方法であり、他の施設で得られた画像から作成することもできる。本研究は cDWI 2000 が mDWI 2000 と同様、前立腺癌の検出に有用で、1.5T MR 装置でも工夫により 3T MR 装置で撮像した画像の CR に迫り得ることを示したものである。本法は他臓器診断への応用も期待できる優れた研究であり博士(医学)の学位授与に値すると判断した。

申請者らは 1.5T MRI を用いた前立腺癌の診断において cDWI 2000 が mDWI よりもすぐれた CR が得られることを明らかにし、前立腺癌を含む癌の検出率向上に資することを示した。関連知識も豊富であり、学位授与に値すると判断した。
(主査: 猪俣泰典)

申請者は、画像解析ソフトを用いて拡散強調画像の b 値を適正化する事で、1.5T MRI でも前立腺癌の局在診断効率が大きく改善する可能性を示した。臨床的に意義のある前立腺癌の診断的治療戦略からも発展性が大きく期待され、質疑応答も的確であり学位に値すると判断した。
(副査: 椎名浩昭)

申請者は前立腺癌の診断における cDWI 2000 の有用性について 1.5T MRI を用いた検討を行った。cDWI 2000 では mDWI より高い CR が得られたが、放射線診断医による診断率の向上には繋がらなかった。しかしながら、より高い CR が得られたことで、幅広い臨床の現場において検出率向上に寄与する可能性が示唆された。質疑応答にも的確に答え、学位授与に値する。
(副査: 京 哲)

(備考) 要旨は、それぞれ 400 字以内とする。