

EVALUATION OF 3.0T MR DIFFUSION-WEIGHTED IMAGING IN RENAL MALIGNANT TUMOR

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Objective: To evaluate 3.0T MR diffusion-weighted imaging and apparent diffusion coefficient value in different pathological type of renal malignant tumor.

Materials and methods: Retrospective study was performed on 66 patients of renal malignant tumors proved by surgery and pathology. The cohort was composed of 51 cases of clear cell carcinoma (10 in grade I, 14 in grade I-II, 14 in grade II, 4 in grade II-III, 8 in grade III, and 1 with sarcomatous change), 9 cases of chromophobe cell carcinoma, 3 cases of papillary cell carcinoma, 1 case of collecting duct carcinoma, carcinoid and rhabdoid tumor each. DWI of all were acquired by single-shot EPI sequence with $b = 800 \text{ s/mm}^2$ at 3.0T MR. ADC values of tumor and the corresponding regions of normal opposite renal cortex were measured. The data were analyzed by independent t test of SPSS 13.0 software. One-way Anova and LSD multi-comparison were conducted within different pathological grade groups of clear cell carcinoma, and ROC curve was used to determine the best diagnostic threshold value of ADC.

Result: ADC values of normal renal cortex ($2.315 \pm 0.213 \times 10^{-3} \text{ mm}^2/\text{s}$) and clear cell carcinoma ($1.988 \pm 0.491 \times 10^{-3} \text{ mm}^2/\text{s}$) were significantly higher than those of renal carcinoma ($1.864 \pm 0.523 \times 10^{-3} \text{ mm}^2/\text{s}$) and non-clear cell carcinoma ($1.443 \pm 0.399 \times 10^{-3} \text{ mm}^2/\text{s}$) respectively ($P < 0.01$). The ADC values of clear cell carcinoma in grade I, II (including grade I-II) and III (including grade II-III and with sarcomatoid change) were $2.136 \pm 0.462 \times 10^{-3} \text{ mm}^2/\text{s}$, $2.065 \pm 0.460 \times 10^{-3} \text{ mm}^2/\text{s}$ and $1.710 \pm 0.504 \times 10^{-3} \text{ mm}^2/\text{s}$ respectively. One-way Anova showed statistic difference within groups of clear cell carcinoma ($P = 0.05$). Multiple comparison analysis indicated that there were statistic differences between grade I and III ($P = 0.04$), grade II and III ($P = 0.03$) respectively. However, no statistic difference was observed among grade I and II ($P = 0.68$). ROC curve showed that cutoff value of $1.70 \times 10^{-3} \text{ mm}^2/\text{s}$ (for differentiating clear cell and non-clear cell carcinoma) and $1.77 \times 10^{-3} \text{ mm}^2/\text{s}$ (for differentiating clear cell carcinoma in grade I and II from other renal carcinoma) resulted in sensitivity, specificity and accuracy of 72.5% and 73.3%, 73% and 72.4%, 71.4% and 71% respectively.

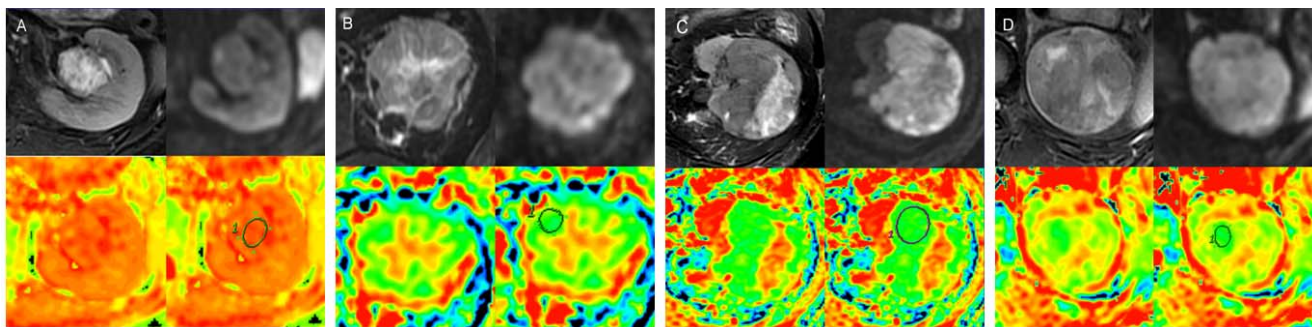


Figure A-D MR demonstration of renal clear cell carcinoma of grade I, II, III and chromophobe cell carcinoma. Every figure was composed of Axial fat-suppressed T2-WI, DWI, ADC map and ROI on ADC map. The ADC values were $2.71 \times 10^{-3} \text{ mm}^2/\text{s}$, $1.40 \times 10^{-3} \text{ mm}^2/\text{s}$, $1.11 \times 10^{-3} \text{ mm}^2/\text{s}$ and $1.17 \times 10^{-3} \text{ mm}^2/\text{s}$.

Conclusion: 3.0T MR-DWI can be used in diagnosis of renal malignant tumor, while ADC value has the potential in differentiating its pathological type and grade.