Thallium 201 SPECT

Studies suggest that thallium 201 (201Tl) planar scans of brain tumors more accurately reflect viable tumor burden than CT, MRI, or radionuclide studies with other single-photon emitting compounds.

Kim et al. have previously reported the utility of 201TI SPECT index in distinguishing low- from highgrade gliomas elsewhere.

They also describe the technical considerations of deriving a simple 201Tl index, based on uptake in the tumor normalized to homologous contralateral tissue, from SPECT images of brain tumors. We evaluated the importance of consistently correcting for tissue attenuation, as it may achieve better lesion discrimination on qualitative inspection, and the methodologic limitations imposed by partial volume effects at the limits of resolution ¹⁾.

1)

Kim KT, Black KL, Marciano D, Mazziotta JC, Guze BH, Grafton S, Hawkins RA, Becker DP. Thallium-201 SPECT imaging of brain tumors: methods and results. J Nucl Med. 1990 Jun;31(6):965-9. PubMed PMID: 2161453.

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