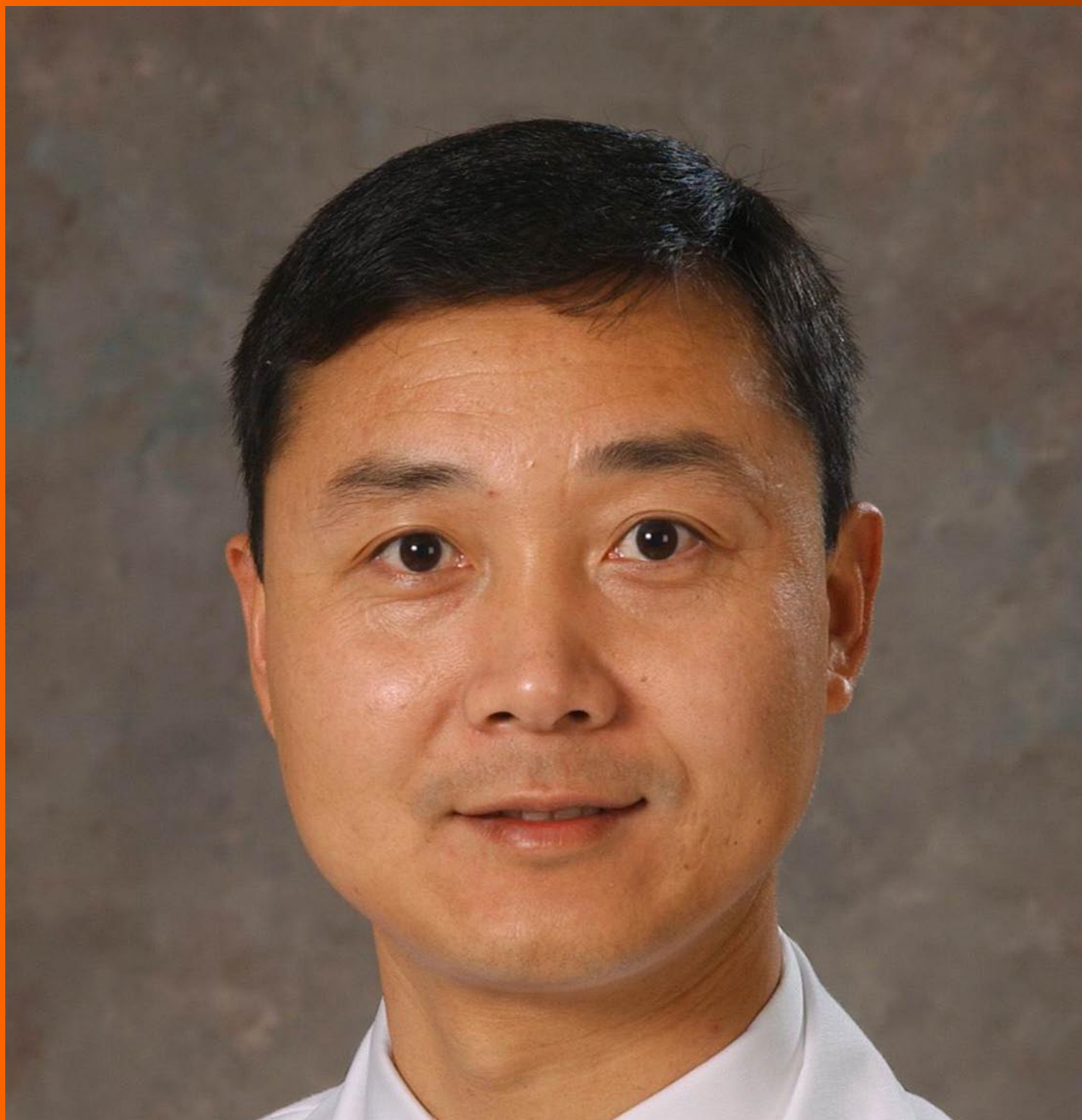


World Journal of *Radiology*

World J Radiol 2017 September 28; 9(9): 339-370



**MINIREVIEWS**

- 339 Radiographic and magnetic resonances contrast agents: Essentials and tips for safe practices

Nouh MR, El-Shazly MA

ORIGINAL ARTICLE**Retrospective Cohort Study**

- 350 Clinical significance of prostate ¹⁸F-labelled fluorodeoxyglucose uptake on positron emission tomography/computed tomography: A five-year review

Chetan MR, Barrett T, Gallagher FA

Retrospective Study

- 359 Reliability of the pronator quadratus fat pad sign to predict the severity of distal radius fractures

Loesaus J, Wobbe I, Stahlberg E, Barkhausen J, Goltz JP

CASE REPORT

- 365 Imatinib response of gastrointestinal stromal tumor patients with germline mutation on *KIT* exon 13: A family report

Engin G, Eraslan S, Kayserili H, Kapran Y, Akman H, Akyuz A, Aykan NF

ABOUT COVER

Editorial Board Member of *World Journal of Radiology*, XW Cui, PhD, Professor, Department of Medical Ultrasound, Tongji Hospital of Tongji Medical College, Huazhong University of Science and Technology, Wuhan 430030, Hubei Province, China

AIM AND SCOPE

World Journal of Radiology (*World J Radiol*, *WJR*, online ISSN 1949-8470, DOI: 10.4329) is a peer-reviewed open access academic journal that aims to guide clinical practice and improve diagnostic and therapeutic skills of clinicians.

WJR covers topics concerning diagnostic radiology, radiation oncology, radiologic physics, neuroradiology, nuclear radiology, pediatric radiology, vascular/interventional radiology, medical imaging achieved by various modalities and related methods analysis. The current columns of *WJR* include editorial, frontier, diagnostic advances, therapeutics advances, field of vision, mini-reviews, review, topic highlight, medical ethics, original articles, case report, clinical case conference (clinicopathological conference), and autobiography.

We encourage authors to submit their manuscripts to *WJR*. We will give priority to manuscripts that are supported by major national and international foundations and those that are of great basic and clinical significance.

INDEXING/ABSTRACTING

World Journal of Radiology is now indexed in PubMed, PubMed Central, and Emerging Sources Citation Index (Web of Science).

FLYLEAF

I-III Editorial Board

EDITORS FOR THIS ISSUE

Responsible Assistant Editor: Xiang Li
Responsible Electronic Editor: Li-Min Zhao
Proofing Editor-in-Chief: Lian-Sheng Ma

Responsible Science Editor: Jin-Xin Kong
Proofing Editorial Office Director: Jin-Lei Wang

NAME OF JOURNAL
World Journal of Radiology

ISSN
ISSN 1949-8470 (online)

LAUNCH DATE
January 31, 2009

FREQUENCY
Monthly

EDITORS-IN-CHIEF
Kai U Juergens, MD, Associate Professor, MRT und PET/CT, Nuklearmedizin Bremen Mitte, ZEMODI - Zentrum für morphologische und molekulare Diagnostik, Bremen 28177, Germany

Edwin JR van Beek, MD, PhD, Professor, Clinical Research Imaging Centre and Department of Medical Radiology, University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh EH16 4TJ, United Kingdom

Thomas J Vogl, MD, Professor, Reader in Health Technology Assessment, Department of Diagnostic and Interventional Radiology, Johann Wolfgang Goethe University of Frankfurt, Frankfurt 60590,

Germany

EDITORIAL BOARD MEMBERS
All editorial board members resources online at <http://www.wjgnet.com/1949-8470/editorialboard.htm>

EDITORIAL OFFICE
Xiu-Xia Song, Director
World Journal of Radiology
Baishideng Publishing Group Inc
7901 Stoneridge Drive, Suite 501, Pleasanton, CA 94588, USA
Telephone: +1-925-2238242
Fax: +1-925-2238243
E-mail: editorialoffice@wjgnet.com
Help Desk: <http://www.f6publishing.com/helpdesk>
<http://www.wjgnet.com>

PUBLISHER
Baishideng Publishing Group Inc
7901 Stoneridge Drive, Suite 501, Pleasanton, CA 94588, USA
Telephone: +1-925-2238242
Fax: +1-925-2238243
E-mail: bpgoffice@wjgnet.com
Help Desk: <http://www.f6publishing.com/helpdesk>
<http://www.wjgnet.com>

PUBLICATION DATE
September 28, 2017

COPYRIGHT
© 2017 Baishideng Publishing Group Inc. Articles published by this Open-Access journal are distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution Non-commercial License, which permits use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original work is properly cited, the use is non commercial and is otherwise in compliance with the license.

SPECIAL STATEMENT
All articles published in journals owned by the Baishideng Publishing Group (BPG) represent the views and opinions of their authors, and not the views, opinions or policies of the BPG, except where otherwise explicitly indicated.

INSTRUCTIONS TO AUTHORS
<http://www.wjgnet.com/bpg/gerinfo/204>

ONLINE SUBMISSION
<http://www.f6publishing.com>

Retrospective Cohort Study

Clinical significance of prostate ^{18}F -labelled fluorodeoxyglucose uptake on positron emission tomography/computed tomography: A five-year review

Madhurima R Chetan, Tristan Barrett, Ferdia A Gallagher

Madhurima R Chetan, School of Clinical Medicine, University of Cambridge, Cambridge CB2 0SP, United Kingdom

Tristan Barrett, Ferdia A Gallagher, Department of Radiology, Addenbrooke's Hospital and University of Cambridge, Cambridge CB2 0QQ, United Kingdom

Author contributions: Chetan MR, Barrett T and Gallagher FA designed the research; Chetan MR performed the research; Chetan MR, Barrett T and Gallagher FA analysed the data; Chetan MR wrote the paper; Barrett T and Gallagher FA critically revised the manuscript for important intellectual content.

Institutional review board statement: The study was reviewed and approved by Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge.

Informed consent statement: The requirement for informed consent for data analysis was waived.

Conflict-of-interest statement: The authors have no competing interests.

Data sharing statement: No additional data available.

Open-Access: This article is an open-access article which was selected by an in-house editor and fully peer-reviewed by external reviewers. It is distributed in accordance with the Creative Commons Attribution Non Commercial (CC BY-NC 4.0) license, which permits others to distribute, remix, adapt, build upon this work non-commercially, and license their derivative works on different terms, provided the original work is properly cited and the use is non-commercial. See: <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc/4.0/>

Manuscript source: Unsolicited manuscript

Correspondence to: Tristan Barrett, MB BS, BSc, MRCP, FRCR, Department of Radiology, Addenbrooke's Hospital and University of Cambridge, Box 218, Cambridge CB2 0QQ, United Kingdom. tb507@medschl.cam.ac.uk
Telephone: +44-1223-336890

Fax: +44-1223-330915

Received: September 20, 2016

Peer-review started: September 23, 2016

First decision: November 21, 2016

Revised: February 20, 2017

Accepted: March 21, 2017

Article in press: March 22, 2017

Published online: September 28, 2017

Abstract**AIM**

To determine the significance and need for investigation of incidental prostatic uptake in men undergoing ^{18}F -labelled fluorodeoxyglucose (^{18}F -FDG) positron emission tomography/computed tomography (PET/CT) for other indications.

METHODS

Hospital databases were searched over a 5-year period for patients undergoing both PET/CT and prostate magnetic resonance imaging (MRI). For the initial analysis, the prostate was divided into six sectors and suspicious or malignant sectors were identified using MRI and histopathology reports respectively. Maximum and mean ^{18}F -FDG standardised uptake values were measured in each sector by an investigator blinded to the MRI and histopathology findings. Two age-matched controls were selected per case. Results were analysed using a paired t-test and one-way ANOVA. For the second analysis, PET/CT reports were searched for prostatic uptake reported incidentally and these patients were followed up.

RESULTS

Over a 5-year period, 15 patients underwent both PET/

CT and MRI and had biopsy-proven prostate cancer. Malignant prostatic sectors had a trend to higher ^{18}F -FDG uptake than benign sectors, however this was neither clinically nor statistically significant (3.13 ± 0.58 vs 2.86 ± 0.68 , $P > 0.05$). ^{18}F -FDG uptake showed no correlation with the presence or histopathological grade of tumour. ^{18}F -FDG uptake in cases with prostate cancer was comparable to that from age-matched controls. Forty-six (1.6%) of 2846 PET/CTs over a 5-year period reported incidental prostatic uptake. Of these, 18 (0.6%) were investigated by PSA, 9 (0.3%) were referred to urology, with 3 (0.1%) undergoing MRI and/or biopsy. No cases of prostate cancer were diagnosed in patients with incidental ^{18}F -FDG uptake in our institute over a 5-year period.

CONCLUSION

^{18}F -FDG uptake overlaps significantly between malignant and benign prostatic conditions. Subsequent patient management was not affected by the reporting of incidental focal prostatic uptake in this cohort.

Key words: ^{18}F -labelled fluorodeoxyglucose; Positron emission tomography reporting; Positron emission tomography/computed tomography; Prostate cancer; Magnetic resonance imaging

© The Author(s) 2017. Published by Baishideng Publishing Group Inc. All rights reserved.

Core tip: ^{18}F -labelled fluorodeoxyglucose (^{18}F -FDG) uptake overlaps significantly between malignant and benign prostatic conditions. In a cohort of nearly 3000 patients over a 5-year period, the reporting of incidental elevated prostatic ^{18}F -FDG uptake did not affect subsequent clinical management or patient outcomes.

Chetan MR, Barrett T, Gallagher FA. Clinical significance of prostate ^{18}F -labelled fluorodeoxyglucose uptake on positron emission tomography/computed tomography: A five-year review. *World J Radiol* 2017; 9(9): 350-358 Available from: URL: <http://www.wjgnet.com/1949-8470/full/v9/i9/350.htm> DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.4329/wjcr.v9.i9.350>

INTRODUCTION

Positron emission tomography of ^{18}F -labelled fluorodeoxyglucose uptake combined with computed tomography (^{18}F -FDG PET/CT) is a mainstay of oncologic imaging. PET/CT imaging is well-tolerated and therefore has become a powerful tool for the diagnosis, staging and monitoring of many metabolically-active cancers. However, ^{18}F -FDG PET/CT imaging is not routinely used for detecting prostate cancer for both biological and technical reasons. Firstly, glucose uptake in well-differentiated prostatic adenocarcinoma is less avid than in many other

cancers due to low glycolytic activity^[1]. Secondly, urinary excretion of ^{18}F -FDG in the bladder and urethra can mask pathological uptake in the adjacent prostate. Thirdly, there is a large overlap in ^{18}F -FDG uptake between malignant disease, benign hyperplasia and inflammation of the prostate^[1].

In men undergoing ^{18}F -FDG PET/CT for unrelated reasons, incidental prostatic uptake is found in 0.6%-2.8% of studies^[1-5]. Although this is a small percentage of cases, it affects a large number of men given the growing number of PET/CT studies performed per year: 50000 annually in the UK and 2 million annually in the United States^[6,7]. The significance of such incidental uptake, together with the need for further investigation, is both uncertain and controversial.

A previous meta-analysis of prostatic uptake on ^{18}F -FDG PET/CT imaging showed that PET/CT cannot reliably differentiate benign from malignant disease, although only a small percentage of these patients underwent a definitive biopsy^[8]. The published positive predictive value of ^{18}F -FDG uptake for detecting prostate cancer ranges between 30% (in a low-risk population of men with bladder cancer undergoing radical prostatectomy) to 65% [in a high-risk population of men undergoing prostate magnetic resonance imaging (MRI)]^[9,10]. Some studies argue that the positive predictive value is increased if ^{18}F -FDG uptake shows a high SUV_{max} , the lesion is in a peripheral location and the CT demonstrates a lack of calcification^[11-13]. However, these features all show considerable overlap between malignant and benign disease.

Serum prostate-specific antigen (PSA), multiparametric prostate magnetic resonance imaging (mpMRI) and prostate biopsy can be used to investigate incidental prostatic ^{18}F -FDG uptake to determine if the patient has significant prostate cancer^[5,9]. However, there is no consensus on the management of patients with incidental prostatic ^{18}F -FDG uptake^[9].

In order to better understand the significance of incidental prostatic ^{18}F -FDG uptake, we investigated both the correlation of prostatic ^{18}F -FDG uptake with findings from MRI and histopathology, and the impact on patient management of reporting increased ^{18}F -FDG uptake in the prostate.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Study design and patient population

This single-institution retrospective study was approved locally, with the need for informed consent for data analysis waived. The hospital radiology database was searched to identify a total of 2846 ^{18}F -FDG PET/CT studies performed on male patients in the period January 2010 to September 2015. For the first part of the study, 23 eligible men were identified who had both a prostate MRI and an ^{18}F -FDG PET/CT study. 15 of these men had prostate adenocarcinoma on

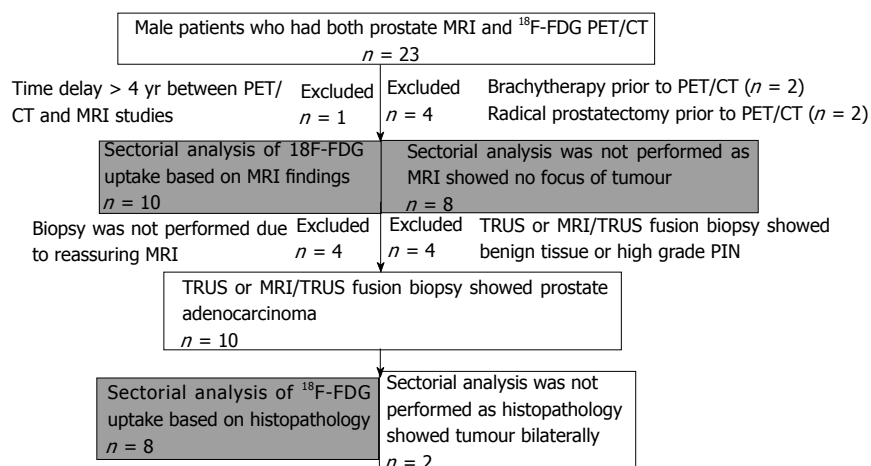


Figure 1 Flowchart showing inclusion and exclusion criteria for selection of cases for sector-based analysis.

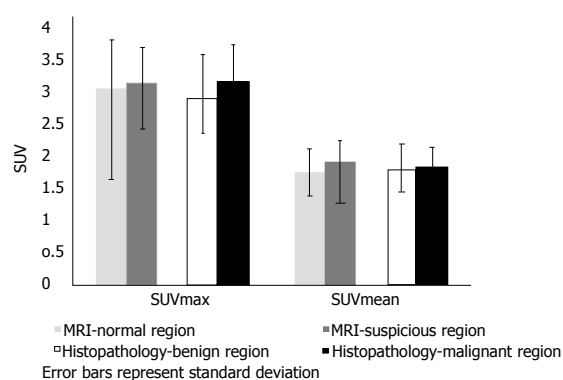


Figure 2 Sectorial analysis comparing ^{18}F -labelled fluorodeoxyglucose uptake in sectors found to be suspicious on magnetic resonance imaging or malignant on histopathology with ^{18}F -labelled fluorodeoxyglucose uptake in the remaining sectors. Mean values and standard deviations have been shown.

ultrasound-guided biopsy or MRI/ultrasound fusion biopsy. Five men were excluded (the prostate cancer was treated prior to undergoing PET/CT in 4 patients, and one patient had > 4 years between MRI and PET/CT). For the second part of the study, the ^{18}F -FDG PET/CT reports were searched to identify patients with incidentally reported focal prostatic ^{18}F -FDG uptake. Patient records were examined for details of follow-up investigations and management. Two cases were included in both the first and second parts of the study.

MRI and ^{18}F -FDG PET/CT analysis

A proprietary workstation and software (Volume Viewer, Advantage Workstation, GE Healthcare, Milwaukee, WI, United States) were used to review the ^{18}F -FDG PET/CT images. The prostate was divided into six sectors: Left and right sides at the apex, mid-zone and base of the gland. Standardised uptake values (SUV) in each sector were measured by an investigator who was blinded to the MRI and histopathological findings. A threshold of 75% of the SUV_{max} was used to

calculate the $\text{SUV}_{\text{mean}}^{[14]}$.

MRI reports were used to identify the prostatic sectors that were suspicious for tumour. Histopathology reports were used to identify the prostatic lobe(s) in which cancer had been detected. Sectorial analysis could not be performed for patients with no tumour focus on MRI, or bilateral tumour on histopathology (Figure 1).

Age-matched controls undergoing ^{18}F -FDG PET/CT but without prostate cancer were randomly selected for each case from PET/CT studies recently undertaken in the department; two controls for each case were acquired. Age matching within 18 mo was used as the criterion, and patients with a known tumour close to the prostate were excluded.

Statistical analysis

A paired two-tailed student's *t*-test was used to compare the ^{18}F -FDG uptake within suspicious or malignant sectors, with that in the remaining prostate for each individual patient. A paired two-tailed student's *t*-test was also used to compare prostatic ^{18}F -FDG uptake in patients with that from the controls. A one-way ANOVA was used to compare prostatic ^{18}F -FDG uptake between histopathological subgroups. Statistical analyses were performed using GraphPad Prism version 6.00 (GraphPad Software, La Jolla, CA, United States).

RESULTS

Eighteen patients who had both ^{18}F -FDG PET/CT and prostate MRI studies were included in the first part of the study. The median age was 72 years, median PSA was 7.30 ng/mL and median time difference between the ^{18}F -FDG PET/CT and the prostate MRI was 11.5 mo. See Table 1 for patient characteristics.

There was a trend for a higher ^{18}F -FDG uptake in prostatic sectors shown to be suspicious on MRI or

Table 1 Characteristics of patients who had both ¹⁸F-labelled fluorodeoxyglucose positron emission tomography/computed tomography and prostate magnetic resonance imaging studies

Age (yr)	MRI before or after PET/CT?	¹⁸ F-FDG PET/CT indication	Prostate SUV _{max}	Prostate MRI indication	MRI result	PSA (ng/mL)	Biopsy result
73	2 mo before	Bone metastases (prostate primary)	3.4	Negative TRUS biopsy	T2aNxMx	20.8	Gleason 4 + 5 = 9
72	11 mo after	Non-Hodgkin lymphoma	2.7	Elevated PSA, negative TRUS biopsy	T2aNxMx	8.8	Gleason 5 + 3 = 8
62	3 mo after	Cancer of unknown primary	3.9	Prostate cancer staging	T3bNxMx	37	Gleason 4 + 3 = 7
75	46 mo after	Head and neck cancer	3.4	Active surveillance	T1NxMx	2.28	Gleason 4 + 3 = 7
76	6 mo before	Gastrointestinal stromal tumour	3	Elevated PSA, negative TRUS biopsy	T2bNxMx	150	Gleason 3 + 4 = 7
79	22 mo after	Non-Hodgkin lymphoma	2.9	Elevated PSA	T2aNxMx	5.4	Gleason 3 + 4 = 7
66	30 mo after	Non-Hodgkin lymphoma	3.1	Active surveillance	T2cNxMx	4.8	Gleason 3 + 4 = 7
73	26 mo after	Oesophageal cancer	2.4	Active surveillance	T2cNxMx	7.8	Gleason 3 + 3 = 6
68	18 mo after	Cancer of unknown primary	3.9	Elevated PSA	T2aNxMx	6.1	Gleason 3 + 3 = 6
74	5 mo before	Oesophageal cancer	3.9	Elevated PSA	T1NxMx	7.3	Gleason 3 + 3 = 6
68	5 mo before	Hodgkin lymphoma	9.9	Elevated PSA, negative biopsy	No focus of tumour	4.7	High-grade PIN
65	39 mo before	Colorectal cancer	5.2	Elevated PSA, negative TRUS biopsy	No focus of tumour	8.6	High-grade PIN
76	34 mo before	Non-Hodgkin lymphoma	4.2	Elevated PSA	Suspicious foci bilaterally	15	Benign
67	4 mo before	Non-Hodgkin lymphoma	4.1	Incidental prostatic ¹⁸ F-FDG uptake	Suspicious foci bilaterally	5.5	Benign
72	16 mo after	Pyrexia of unknown origin	2.7	Chronic urinary infection	Likely prostatitis	Not done	Biopsy not performed
78	1 mo after	Non-Hodgkin lymphoma	3.1	Elevated PSA	No focus of tumour	11.4	Biopsy not performed
61	12 mo after	Lung nodule	5.2	Elevated PSA, positive family history	No focus of tumour	4.5	Biopsy not performed
68	7 mo after	Colorectal cancer	8.8	Incidental prostatic ¹⁸ F-FDG uptake	No focus of tumour	3	Biopsy not performed

SUV: Standardised uptake value, PSA: Prostate specific antigen, TRUS: Transrectal ultrasound.

Table 2 Sectorial analysis, case-control analysis and subgroup analysis showed no significant difference in ¹⁸F-labelled fluorodeoxyglucose uptake

	Mean SUV _{max}	Mean SUV _{mean}
Sectorial analysis		
MRI - normal prostatic sectors	3.02	1.74
MRI - suspicious prostatic sectors	3.1	1.89
Histopathology - benign prostatic lobe	2.86	1.79
Histopathology - malignant prostatic lobe	3.13	1.82
Case-control analysis		
Age-matched controls	3.09	1.83
Cases with prostate cancer	3.26	1.81
Subgroup analysis		
Biopsy not performed	4.95	1.91
Benign disease and high-grade PIN	5.85	2.86
Low-grade prostate cancer (Gleason ≤ 3 + 4)	3.2	1.83
High-grade prostate cancer (Gleason score ≥ 4 + 3)	3.35	1.78

SUV: Standardised uptake value, PIN: Prostatic intraepithelial neoplasia.

malignant on histopathology, compared to those in the

remainder of the prostate, but this was not statistically significant (Figure 2). There was no significant difference in ¹⁸F-FDG uptake between cases with prostate cancer and age-matched controls undergoing PET/CT who did not have prostate cancer. Patients were classified into the following subgroups according to histopathology findings: biopsy not performed ($n = 4$), benign biopsy or high-grade prostatic intraepithelial neoplasia (PIN) ($n = 4$), low-grade prostate cancer with Gleason score $\leq 3 + 4$ ($n = 6$), and high-grade prostate cancer with Gleason score $\geq 4 + 3$ ($n = 4$). ¹⁸F-FDG uptake was not significantly different between subgroups; we therefore found no correlation between prostatic ¹⁸F-FDG uptake and the presence or grade of tumour confirmed on histopathology. Figure 3 illustrates a representative case of a 70-year-old man with high-grade prostate cancer that showed no uptake on PET/CT. See Table 2 for mean values of SUV_{max} and SUV_{mean} derived from sectorial, case-control and subgroup analysis.

For the second part of the study, 2846 male patients undergoing ¹⁸F-FDG PET/CT over a 5-year period were followed-up. 46 men (1.6%) had an

Table 3 Characteristics of patients in whom elevated prostatic ¹⁸F-labelled fluorodeoxyglucose uptake was investigated

Age (yr)	¹⁸ F-FDG PET/CT indication	Prostate SUVmax	PSA (ng/mL)	Urology referral made	Urology outcome
68	Adrenal nodule	10.4	3	Yes	MRI - no suspicious foci
77	Lung nodule	4.5	2.78	Yes	Biopsy - high-grade PIN
67	Non-Hodgkin lymphoma	4.5	5.5	Yes	MRI - suspicious foci Biopsy - benign
68	Colorectal cancer	5.9	3.04	Yes	PSA monitoring
58	Colorectal cancer	7.6	1.38	Yes	PSA monitoring
64	Non-Hodgkin lymphoma	5.4	1.84	Yes	PSA monitoring
58	Non-Hodgkin lymphoma	19.9	7.44	Yes	PSA monitoring
81	Cholangiocarcinoma	10.3	18	Yes	Lost to follow up
75	Hepatic metastases (colorectal primary)	8	-	Yes	Lost to follow up
61	Colorectal cancer	14	1.47	No - PSA normal	
55	Paraneoplastic syndrome	4.8	0.62	No - PSA normal	
61	Non-Hodgkin lymphoma	5.8	2.85	No - PSA normal	
68	Gastrointestinal stromal tumour	13.2	1.48	No - PSA normal	
71	Hepatic metastases (colorectal primary)	9.2	4.9	No - palliative care	
87	Oesophageal cancer	5.3	11.86	No - palliative care	
82	Colorectal cancer	15.4	3.85	No - palliative care	
35	Hodgkin lymphoma	11.8	3.04	No - suspected prostatitis	
71	Oesophageal cancer	7.3	4.58	No - likely urethral uptake	

SUV: Standardised uptake value; PSA: Prostate specific antigen; PIN: Prostatic intraepithelial neoplasia.

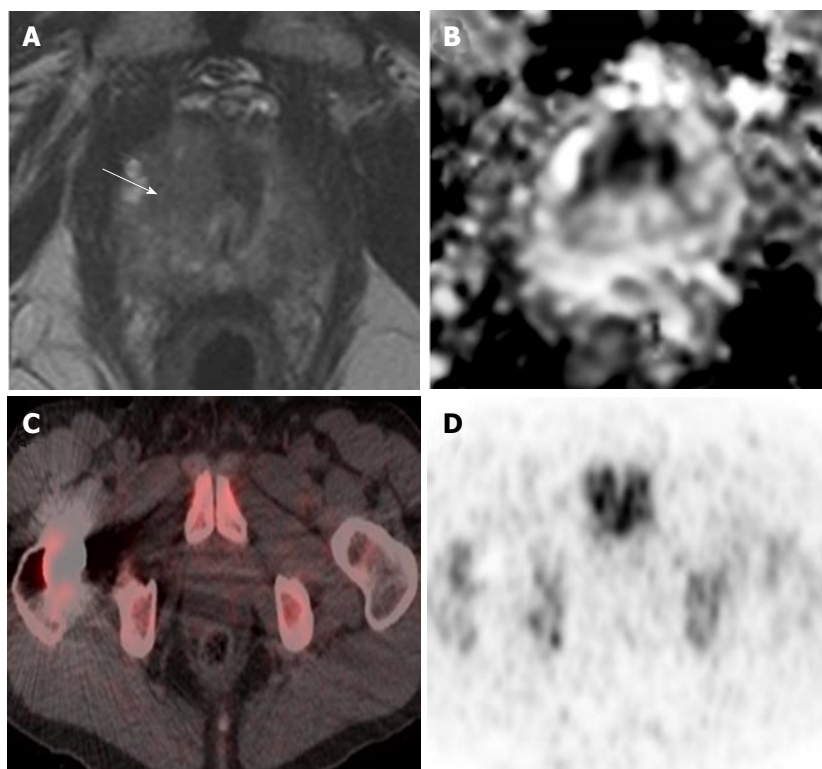


Figure 3 High-grade prostate cancer showing no increased uptake on positron emission tomography/computed tomography in a 73-year-old man. A, B: Prostate MRI performed for raised PSA (19 ng/mL) showed a high probability lesion in the right apex transition zone (arrow in A) with matching restricted diffusion on the ADC map (B). Subsequent targeted transperineal biopsy confirmed Gleason 4 + 5 disease in 40% of cores; C, D: PET/CT performed after a two-month interval and no intervening treatment showed no focal uptake in this region shown as both fused PET/CT imaging (C) and PET alone (D). PET/CT: Positron emission tomography/computed tomography; MRI: Magnetic resonance imaging; ADC: Apparent diffusion co-efficient; PSA: Prostate specific antigen.

incidental and unexplained finding of elevated prostatic ¹⁸F-FDG uptake. 18 (0.6%) of these patients underwent further investigation. They had a median age of 68 years, median prostatic SUV_{max} of 7.80 and median PSA of 3.04 ng/mL. See Table 3 for patient characteristics.

Of these 18 men, 9 (0.3%) were referred to urology. Two men had a prostate biopsy, which showed benign disease and high-grade PIN respectively (Figure 4). No cases of prostate cancer were diagnosed in the 5-year period. See Figure 5 for more detailed clinical outcomes.

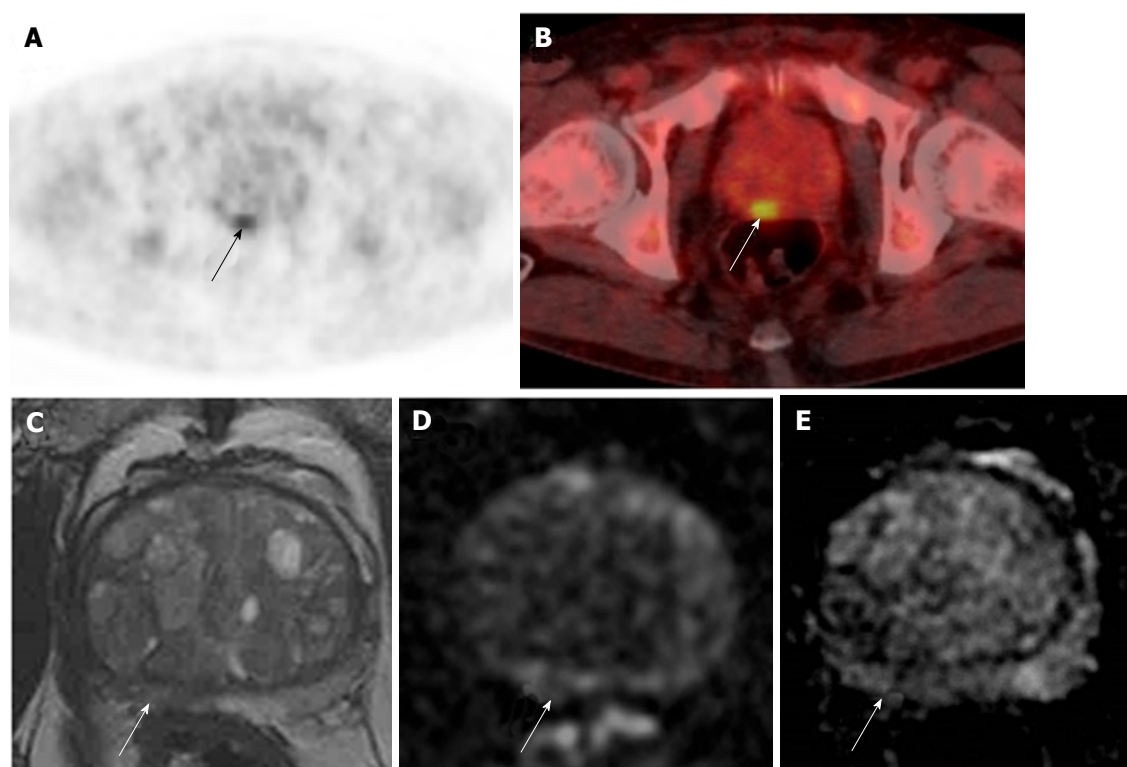


Figure 4 Incidental prostatic ^{18}F -labelled fluorodeoxyglucose uptake in a 67-year-old patient with Stage IV diffuse large B-cell lymphoma. A, B: Focal uptake in the posterior right peripheral zone of the prostate at the level of the mid-gland as demonstrated on PET (A) and fused PET/CT (B); SUV_{max} = 4.5; C-E: Prostate MRI shows non-specific geographical intermediate signal on T2-weighted imaging (C), but with no matching restricted diffusion on b-1400 diffusion-weighted images (D) or ADC maps (E). The MRI findings are low probability for tumour. Subsequent transrectal ultrasound-guided biopsy showed no cancer. PET/CT: Positron emission tomography/computed tomography; MRI: Magnetic resonance imaging; ADC: Apparent diffusion co-efficient.

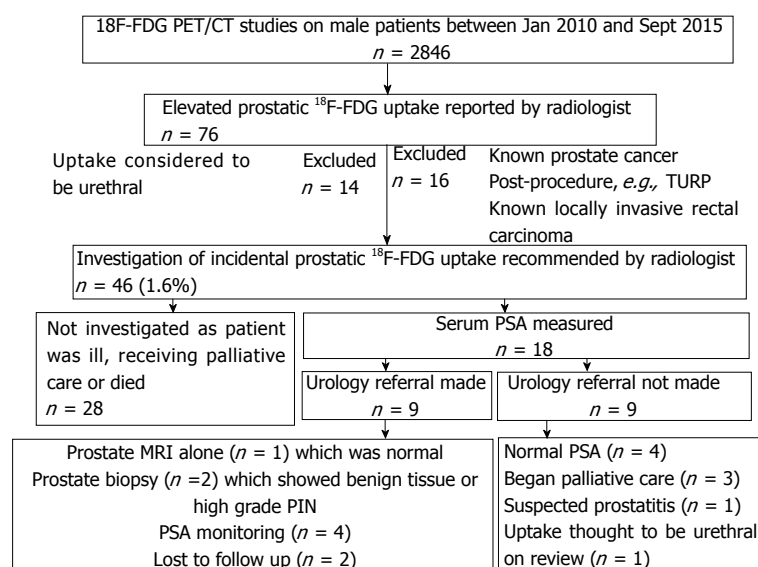


Figure 5 Flowchart showing clinical outcomes in patients with elevated prostatic ^{18}F -labelled fluorodeoxyglucose uptake.

DISCUSSION

Prostate cancer is the commonest male cancer^[15]. There is therefore a potentially high incidence of synchronous prostatic tumour in patients undergoing ^{18}F -FDG PET/CT for other indications. However, PET/CT lacks specificity and sensitivity for primary detection

of prostate cancer; consequently it is unclear how patients with incidental tracer uptake in the prostate should be managed. Our study has shown that focal ^{18}F -FDG uptake is not indicative of prostate cancer in this cohort, with SUV_{mean} and SUV_{max} values significantly overlapping between malignant and benign conditions, and that the reporting of incidental prostatic uptake

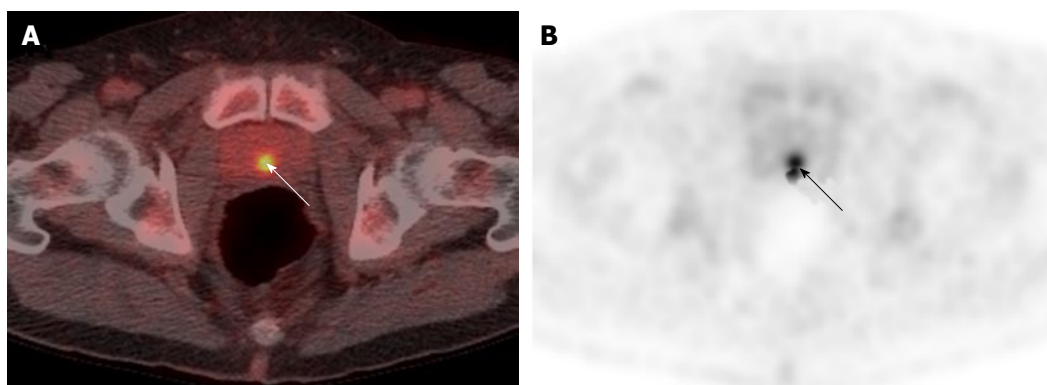


Figure 6 Midline uptake on ^{18}F -labelled fluorodeoxyglucose positron emission tomography/computed tomography in a 71-year-old man with oesophageal carcinoma and serum prostate specific antigen of 4.58 ng/mL. A, B: Fused PET/CT and PET-only imaging shows focal uptake in the midline of the prostate (arrowed). The uptake was considered to be tracer in the urethra given its anatomical location. PET/CT: Positron emission tomography/computed tomography.

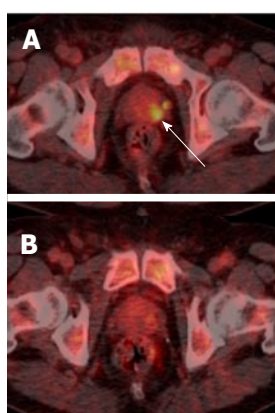


Figure 7 Resolving focal prostatic uptake in a 61-year-old man with Stage IV high-grade non-Hodgkin's lymphoma and serum prostate-specific antigen of 2.85 ng/mL. A: Fused PET/CT imaging performed after 2 cycles of chemotherapy shows focal uptake (arrowed) in the left side of the prostate at the level of the midgland on fused PET/CT; B: Repeat PET/CT performed 4 mo later following completing of 6 cycles of chemotherapy demonstrates resolution of this focal uptake. PET/CT: Positron emission tomography/computed tomography.

did not affect subsequent clinical management of any patient in our institute over a 5-year period.

Sector-based analysis showed that, in individual patients, malignant prostatic sectors had a trend to higher ^{18}F -FDG uptake than benign sectors. However, this difference was not statistically significant and total prostate ^{18}F -FDG uptake in men with prostate cancer was comparable to that from age-matched controls. Comparison of ^{18}F -FDG uptake across patient subgroups showed no correlation between ^{18}F -FDG uptake and histopathological findings. Although some authors have suggested that ^{18}F -FDG uptake weakly correlates with Gleason score, the small numbers in our study did not demonstrate this finding^[9,16]. In fact, we observed a higher SUV_{max} and SUV_{mean} in patients with no biopsy, benign biopsy or high grade PIN than in patients with prostate cancer. This may be partially explained by increased ^{18}F -FDG uptake in prostatitis, where there is also increased glucose uptake within the inflammatory tissue^[17].

Incidental and unexplained prostate uptake was found in 1.6% of all ^{18}F -FDG PET/CT studies in male patients, which is comparable to the rate reported previously^[3-5]. These patients had a median SUV_{max} of 7.8, which is suspicious for tumour; other authors have suggested an SUV_{max} greater than 6.0 should be considered as a cut-off value for high-grade prostate cancer^[9]. Only 40% of patients with incidental and unexplained prostatic uptake were investigated with a serum PSA. Twenty percent of patients were referred to a urologist, and only one-third of these patients underwent further investigation with either biopsy or MRI. This may reflect the fact that the existing cancer diagnosis is the primary factor in determining clinical prognosis, and that the subsequent detection of prostate cancer would not significantly affect patient management due to unsuitability for radical therapy. Another possibility is a reluctance to perform a transrectal prostate biopsy in patients undergoing chemotherapy due to the risk of sepsis. In some patients, incidental prostatic uptake was not investigated for different reasons, *e.g.*, uptake was thought to represent tracer in the urethra upon review (Figure 6), or uptake resolved on repeat PET/CT (Figure 7). Ultimately over a 5-year period in our centre, involving nearly three thousand ^{18}F -FDG PET/CT studies, no change in patient management occurred as a result of an incidental finding of elevated prostatic ^{18}F -FDG uptake. Therefore, our retrospective study questions the need to investigate incidental prostatic uptake of ^{18}F -FDG in men undergoing PET/CT.

Our study has some limitations. Firstly, as a retrospective study our population consisted of patients who underwent ^{18}F -FDG PET/CT primarily for other malignancies, and therefore the time difference between PET/CT and MRI was long in some cases (up to 46 mo). This timescale is similar to previously reported retrospective studies and given that the natural history of prostate cancer is one of a slow-growing tumour, most prostate cancers will be present for years before clinical presentation^[10,18]. Secondly,

the number of eligible patients in our study was small. Thirdly, patients in our study had ultrasound-guided biopsy or MRI/ultrasound fusion biopsy, which are less sensitive in detecting prostate cancer than whole-mount histology derived from prostatectomy samples.

In conclusion, ¹⁸F-FDG uptake has low clinical utility in distinguishing benign and malignant prostatic disease. Reporting incidental prostatic uptake did not affect subsequent patient management or clinical outcomes in this cohort of patients. This study suggests there may be little benefit in investigating incidental elevated prostatic ¹⁸F-FDG uptake on PET/CT which should be addressed with future large prospective studies.

COMMENTS

Background

¹⁸F-labelled fluorodeoxyglucose (¹⁸F-FDG) uptake on positron emission tomography/computed tomography (PET/CT) is used extensively in the diagnosis, staging and monitoring of many cancers. Incidental elevated prostatic ¹⁸F-FDG uptake is found in a significant proportion of men undergoing PET/CT for unrelated reasons. ¹⁸F-FDG PET/CT is not routinely used in prostate cancer because of the relatively low metabolic activity of prostate cancer, the proximity to tracer in the urethra and the presence of significant ¹⁸F-FDG uptake in benign and inflammatory prostatic disease.

Research frontiers

The significance of incidental prostatic uptake, together with the need for further investigation, is unclear.

Innovations and breakthroughs

The results suggest that incidental prostatic uptake has no significant correlation with prostate magnetic resonance imaging or biopsy findings. In a cohort of nearly 3000 men over 5 years, reporting incidental prostatic ¹⁸F-FDG uptake did not alter patient management or clinical outcomes.

Applications

The results suggest there is little benefit in investigating incidental elevated prostatic ¹⁸F-FDG uptake.

Peer-review

This is an interesting study which investigates the clinical significance of incidental FDG uptake. Although the number of eligible patients was small, this is an well written retrospective study.

REFERENCES

- 1 Takahashi N, Inoue T, Lee J, Yamaguchi T, Shizukuishi K. The roles of PET and PET/CT in the diagnosis and management of prostate cancer. *Oncology* 2007; **72**: 226-233 [PMID: 18176088 DOI: 10.1159/000112946]
- 2 Picchio M, Mapelli P, Panebianco V, Castellucci P, Incerti E, Briganti A, Gandaglia G, Kirienko M, Barchetti F, Nanni C, Montorsi F, Gianolli L, Fanti S. Imaging biomarkers in prostate cancer: role of PET/CT and MRI. *Eur J Nucl Med Mol Imaging* 2015; **42**: 644-655 [PMID: 25595344 DOI: 10.1007/s00259-014-2982-5]
- 3 Kang PM, Seo WI, Lee SS, Bae SK, Kwak HS, Min K, Kim W, Kang DI. Incidental abnormal FDG uptake in the prostate on 18-fluoro-2-deoxyglucose positron emission tomography-computed tomography scans. *Asian Pac J Cancer Prev* 2014; **15**: 8699-8703 [PMID: 25374193 DOI: 10.7314/APJCP.2014.15.20.8699]
- 4 Seino H, Ono S, Miura H, Morohashi S, Wu Y, Tsushima F, Takai Y, Kijima H. Incidental prostate ¹⁸F-FDG uptake without calcification indicates the possibility of prostate cancer. *Oncol Rep* 2014; **31**: 1517-1522 [PMID: 24503866 DOI: 10.3892/or.2014.3011]
- 5 Kwon T, Jeong IG, You D, Hong JH, Ahn H, Kim CS. Prevalence and clinical significance of incidental (18F)-fluoro-2-deoxyglucose uptake in prostate. *Korean J Urol* 2015; **56**: 288-294 [PMID: 25874042]
- 6 NHS England. NHS Commissioning B02. PET-CT. [accessed 2016 Jan 22]. Available from: URL: <https://www.england.nhs.uk/commissioning/spec-services/npc-crg/group-b/b02/>
- 7 Czernin J, Allen-Auerbach M, Nathanson D, Herrmann K. PET/CT in Oncology: Current Status and Perspectives. *Curr Radiol Rep* 2013; **1**: 177-190 [PMID: 24883234 DOI: 10.1007/s40134-013-0016-x]
- 8 Bertagna F, Sadeghi R, Giovannella L, Treglia G. Incidental uptake of 18F-fluorodeoxyglucose in the prostate gland. Systematic review and meta-analysis on prevalence and risk of malignancy. *Nuklearmedizin* 2014; **53**: 249-258 [PMID: 25170975 DOI: 10.3413/Nukmed-0668-14-05]
- 9 Reesink DJ, Fransen van de Putte EE, Vegt E, De Jong J, van Werkhoven E, Mertens LS, Bex A, van der Poel HG, van Rhijn BW, Horenblas S, Meijer RP. Clinical Relevance of Incidental Prostatic Lesions on FDG-Positron Emission Tomography/Computerized Tomography-Should Patients Receive Further Evaluation? *J Urol* 2016; **195**: 907-912 [PMID: 26598424 DOI: 10.1016/j.juro.2015.11.025]
- 10 Brown AM, Lindenberg ML, Sankineni S, Shih JH, Johnson LM, Pruthy S, Kurdziel KA, Merino MJ, Wood BJ, Pinto PA, Choyke PL, Turkbey B. Does focal incidental 18F-FDG PET/CT uptake in the prostate have significance? *Abdom Imaging* 2015; **40**: 3222-3229 [PMID: 26239399 DOI: 10.1007/s00261-015-0520-y]
- 11 Hwang I, Chong A, Jung SI, Hwang EC, Kim SO, Kang TW, Kwon DD, Park K, Ryu SB. Is further evaluation needed for incidental focal uptake in the prostate in 18-fluoro-2-deoxyglucose positron emission tomography-computed tomography images? *Ann Nucl Med* 2013; **27**: 140-145 [PMID: 23076866 DOI: 10.1007/s12149-012-0663-7]
- 12 Yang Z, Hu S, Cheng J, Xu J, Shi W, Zhu B, Zhang Y, Yao Z, Pan H, Zhang Y. Prevalence and risk of cancer of incidental uptake in prostate identified by fluorine-18 fluorodeoxyglucose positron emission tomography/computed tomography. *Clin Imaging* 2014; **38**: 470-474 [PMID: 24629790 DOI: 10.1016/j.clinimag.2014.01.019]
- 13 Han EJ, H O J, Choi WH, Yoo IR, Chung SK. Significance of incidental focal uptake in prostate on 18-fluoro-2-deoxyglucose positron emission tomography CT images. *Br J Radiol* 2010; **83**: 915-920 [PMID: 20965901 DOI: 10.1259/bjr/19887771]
- 14 Gerety EL, Lawrence EM, Wason J, Yan H, Hilborne S, Buscombe J, Cheow HK, Shaw AS, Bird N, Fife K, Heard S, Lomas DJ, Matakidou A, Soloviev D, Eisen T, Gallagher FA. Prospective study evaluating the relative sensitivity of 18F-NaF PET/CT for detecting skeletal metastases from renal cell carcinoma in comparison to multidetector CT and 99mTc-MDP bone scintigraphy, using an adaptive trial design. *Ann Oncol* 2015; **26**: 2113-2118 [PMID: 26202597 DOI: 10.1093/annonc/mdv289]
- 15 Siegel R, Ma J, Zou Z, Jemal A. Cancer statistics, 2014. *CA Cancer J Clin* 2014; **64**: 9-29 [PMID: 24399786 DOI: 10.3322/caac.21208]
- 16 Chang JH, Lim Joon D, Lee ST, Hiew CY, Esler S, Gong SJ, Wada M, Clouston D, O'Sullivan R, Goh YP, Tochon-Danguy H, Chan JG, Bolton D, Scott AM, Khoo V, Davis ID. Diffusion-weighted MRI, 11C-choline PET and 18F-fluorodeoxyglucose PET for predicting the Gleason score in prostate carcinoma. *Eur Radiol* 2014; **24**: 715-722 [PMID: 24192979 DOI: 10.1007/s00330-013-3045-1]
- 17 Lin KH, Chen YS, Hu G, Tsay DG, Peng NJ. Chronic bacterial prostatitis detected by FDG PET/CT in a patient presented with fever of unknown origin. *Clin Nucl Med* 2010; **35**: 894-895 [PMID: 20940554 DOI: 10.1097/RLU.0b013e3181f49e57]
- 18 Draisma G, Etzioni R, Tsodikov A, Mariotto A, Wever E, Gulati

R, Feuer E, de Koning H. Lead time and overdiagnosis in prostate-specific antigen screening: importance of methods and context.

J Natl Cancer Inst 2009; **101**: 374-383 [PMID: 19276453 DOI: 10.1093/jnci/djp001]

P- Reviewer: Kucherlapati MH, Lim SM **S- Editor:** Kong JX
L- Editor: A **E- Editor:** Zhao LM





Published by **Baishideng Publishing Group Inc**
7901 Stoneridge Drive, Suite 501, Pleasanton, CA 94588, USA
Telephone: +1-925-223-8242
Fax: +1-925-223-8243
E-mail: bpgoffice@wjgnet.com
Help Desk: <http://www.f6publishing.com/helpdesk>
<http://www.wjgnet.com>

