

A case of malignant pheochromocytoma with early intense uptake and immediate rapid washout of ^{99m}Tc -tetrofosmin characterizing the overexpression of anti-apoptotic Bcl-2

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Defective apoptotic program due to the overexpression of the anti-apoptotic Bcl-2 protein of the outer mitochondrial membrane may be a cause of the poor response of malignant pheochromocytoma to ^{131}I -MIBG therapy. We report a case of malignant pheochromocytoma which showed early intense uptake and immediate rapid washout of ^{99m}Tc -tetrofosmin characterizing the overexpression of anti-apoptotic Bcl-2 and which was refractory to ^{131}I -MIBG therapy.

Key words: malignant pheochromocytoma, overexpression of anti-apoptotic Bcl-2 protein, ^{99m}Tc -tetrofosmin, ^{131}I -MIBG therapy