O) Bones and Joints

Clinical Value of Bone Scanning of Spinal Fusion with 85Sr and 87mSr

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We performed bone scanning with \$5Sr-chloride or \$7mSr-citrate in forty-seven patients who had undergone anterior interbody fusion of the lumbar spine, for the purpose of observing whether fusion was successful or not. We gave patients \$5Sr (1 \(mu\text{Ci/Kg}\)) or \$7mSr (1-2 mCi) injection intravenously and scanned 48 hours or 2-3 hours after the injection, with scinticamera.

Results are as follows.

- 1. Both of \$5Sr and \$7mSr accumulated broadly in the grafting area and its surroundings at 5–6 weeks after operation. Roentgenogram also showed active bone formation.
- 2. Strontium accumulated only at the grafting area which was well circumscribed from its

surroundings, at 6-12 months after operation.

- 3. Strontium accumulated there tended to decrease in course of time, over one year after operation.
- 4. But Strontium continued to accumulate more in non-union area than in union area at 1–2 years after operation.
- 5. Scans made with ^{87m}Sr are, in general, indistinguishable from those made with --Sr, except that the ^{85m}Sr scan will also reveal areas of increased blood flow. Because of short physical half-life of ^{87m}Sr, it permits administration of large amounts of radioactivity (on the order of mCi) and recurrent scans.

On Scintiscanning of Osteomyelitis

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In our department, now we would like to report on the diagnostic value and determining its progress of cure of 226 cases in periosteomyelitis by application of scanning, because the disease we encounter most frequently such disease our clinic.

As the kind of radioisotope, we used ⁸⁵Sr at the beginning of 1965, but we have used ^{87m}Sr

since February 1970. When we examine the uptake in the disease and the healthy side after the intravenous injection of ^{87m}Sr and follow it up chronologically, we will notice that the plateau is reached in about 30 minutes after the injection. This would enable us to begin scanning in about one hour after the intravenous injection of ^{87m}Sr.

As a routine, we first conduct profile scanning