

## Liver Scintigram in Patients with Chronic Alcoholic Liver Disease

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Since 1 or 2 years ago, we have noticed that in some patients with chronic alcoholics the hepatic image on the hepatoscintigram with  $^{198}\text{Au}$  colloid scarcely appeared, but the splenic image appeared very markedly. Especially, I have experienced one heavy drinker who received the hepatoscintigraphy 3 times every four months before death under heavy alcohol intake about 250 g per day. His scintigram showed the conspicuous transformation during 8 months, that is, the first one was almost normal and the second one showed the liver and spleen image highly swollen, but on the last scintigram I could hardly indicate the liver image.

With the increase of consumption of alcoholic beverages, we have chance more frequently to

examine a patient with alcoholic liver disease. According to the degree of spleen image whose classification was established using splenic score by us last year, the scintigrams of chronic alcoholics who consulted to us for two years might be considered under 2 general classifications. The one is the group with high splenic (6 or 7) score and the other with low score (0 or 4). In general, the former corresponds to the group with cirrhosis of the liver. On the other hand, the patients with postnecrotic cirrhosis not using alcohol shows middle score, that is, 2 or 5.

At present, we wouldn't be able to explain the causes of the difference.

## The Characteristics of Liver Scintillation Image of Heavy Alcohol Drinkers

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The liver scintiphotos of the patients with liver cirrhosis having the history of heavy drinking were classified into 4 types and the relationships between the type and history of drinking was investigated.

The size of right and left lobe of the liver image was compared. The 4 types are 1) left swollen, 2) left atrophic, 3) both side atrophic, and 4) unclassified.

The alcohol drinkers were divided into 2 groups:

the first group (I) the patients drinking more than 80 gram (3 go as Sake) of alcohol and less than 110 gram (4 go as Sake) for 10 to 20 years, and the second group (II) those drinking more than 110 gram of alcohol for more than 20 years.

### Summary

The left swollen type was 53% in patient with liver cirrhosis as reported by the previous authors. However the left atrophic type was high in per-