Jejunal Radioactivity in Pancreatic Scintiphoto

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In pancreatic scintiphoto with ^{75}Se-selenomethionine, a hot area in the left upper quadrant, jejunal radioactivity, is detectable in most cases. Increased jejunal radioactivity is usally associated with pancreatitis, suggesting that some of pancreatic function can be compensated by the jejunal epithelium. For the jejunal activity to be detectable in pancreatic scintiphoto, we found that it is essential that bile is able to reach the jejunum, except cases which developed obstructive jaundice only several days before the scintiphotography. The common duct and gall bladder are never visualized in pancreatic scintiphoto in cases of incomplete obstruction of the common duct, indicating that ^{75}Se-radioactivity in the bile is not significant.

It is conceivable that most of jejunal radioactivity in pancreatic scintiphoto is due to jejunal epithelial uptake of ^{75}Se-selenomethionine to form protein which is utilized for fat absorption.