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NMR-CT IMAGING OF THE ANIMAL (REPORT 1)  
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This study of animal was examined to obtain  
NMR image for a normal rabbit. The male rabbit  
was imaged using a low grade static  
field (0.1 tesla, 4.5 MHz) NMR-CT scanner,  
which is developed by Asahi Chemical Co., Ltd.

The imaging methods were inversion-recovery  
and calculated T<sub>1</sub> (T<sub>d</sub> 300, T<sub>r</sub> 1000  
msec and T<sub>d</sub> 350, T<sub>r</sub> 1000 msec).

The rabbit was marked on xiphoid process  
and then was scanned in the head coil for  
human's. The each slice was 5mm or 10mm  
thick. This examination demonstrated high  
object contrast, especially heart, kidney, muscle  
and fat have fine contrast.

The result, this animal NMR-CT imaging  
study indicates usefully as a normal NMR-CT  
imaging model.

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SEPARATION OF LIPID PROTON BY T<sub>1</sub>-SPECTROSCOPY.  
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Non-invasive evaluation of in vivo  
tissue lipid content may be relevant from  
the point of view of the aging study, fatty  
bone marrow associated with the radiation  
therapy etc.

For this purpose, the chemical shift  
separation of the lipid proton from water  
proton may be useful. The way of lipid-  
water proton separation would be the 2-exponential  
curve fitting of the saturation  
recovery kinetics data of the in vivo tissue.  
This T<sub>1</sub>-spectroscopy was applied to separated  
salad dressing, soft margarine as well  
as to the fatty bone marrow, spine and  
spinal metastatic tumor. Our preliminary  
results were encouraging to some extent.

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THE CLINICAL EVALUATION OF NMR-CT (REPORT 3)  
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In this study, a low static magnetic  
field (0.1 Tesla) NMR-CT scanner is used.  
The main purpose of this clinical study is  
to determine the clinical efficacy of the  
extent to which the spatial and contrast  
resolution of this type scanners can be  
improved.

Our main imaging methods are the inversion-recovery  
or IR, saturation-recovery, or SR, and calculated T<sub>1</sub>.  
Difference, or D image, constructed by subtracting the data  
of the IR signal from that of the SR signal,  
have also been obtained in some cases.

Hybrid images were constructed from two  
or more images to obtain clear definition  
of areas of interest. By using the hybrid  
image, several tissues of different relaxation  
times can be shown in the same image.

Application in our study of the newly  
developed hybrid image indicates its importance  
in the detection and diagnosis of  
lesion, especially the detection of the  
differentiation of an edematous lesion from  
a tumor, the grade of an edema and also  
abnormal fluid collection such as the  
pleural effusion or ascites.

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THE CLINICAL EVALUATION OF NMR-CT (REPORT 4)  
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In our institute the main method of the  
clinical evaluation of NMR-CT has been the  
comparison of the diagnostic ability of  
NMR-CT and X-ray-CT.

Then the NMR-CT is developing rapidly in  
these years. So the accuracy of lesion  
detectability will be able to become better.  
This time we checked the clinical evaluation  
of NMR-CT compared with X-ray-CT for lesion  
detectability.

In our NMR imaging machine also some  
improvements were done, and the spatial  
resolution is becoming better with the effort  
for the S/N ratio or software improvement.  
But the hardware of the NMR machine is not  
changed yet.

Conclusively the detectability of the  
lesion becomes better stepwise.