

Small hepatocellular carcinoma visualized with Technetium-99m(Sn)-N-pyridoxyl-5-methyltryptophan

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We report a case of small hepatocellular carcinoma depicted by ^{99m}Tc -PMT scintigraphy. On the X-ray computed tomogram there was no visualization of a SOL in the liver. Ultrasonography showed a hyperechoic mass of less than 2 cm in diameter in the left lateral segment of the liver. In the image obtained at 3 hr after ^{99m}Tc -PMT injection there was an area of markedly increased activity. When the surgery, left lateral segmentectomy of the liver, was performed more than 2 months later, the tumor had enlarged to $2.5 \times 2.0 \times 1.5$ cm in size. ^{99m}Tc -PMT may prove to be useful for scintigraphic localization of small hepatocellular carcinoma.

Key words: ^{99m}Tc -PMT, Small hepatocellular carcinoma, Delayed hepatobiliary image