Scintigraphic findings of MALT lymphoma of the thyroid

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Mucosa-associated lymphoid tissue (MALT) lymphoma has been established as a distinct entity among non-Hodgkin's lymphomas, and the most common primary site is the stomach. We describe scintigraphic findings in a patient with MALT lymphoma of the thyroid. A 71-year-old woman with Hashimoto's thyroiditis suffered from rapid cervical swelling, and ultrasonography and CT revealed a thyroid nodule. The nodule showed accumulation of ^{99m}Tc pertechnetate comparable to the surrounding thyroid tissue, mimicking a benign nodule. Both ⁶⁷Ga and ²⁰¹Tl imaging visualized the lesion as an increased uptake area. After radiotherapy, abnormally increased uptake disappeared on ⁶⁷Ga images, which predicted a favorable outcome. MALT lymphoma of the thyroid may be visualized as a warm nodule on ^{99m}Tc pertechnetate scintigraphy.

Key words: MALT lymphoma, thyroid, ²⁰¹Tl, ⁶⁷Ga, ^{99m}Tc