

Usefulness of measuring the gastric emptying time in a case of brittle diabetes

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Gastric emptying time measurement by radionuclide study, although quite informative, is rarely remembered in clinical practice. We presented a patient with brittle diabetes who had multiple emergency admissions due to hypoglycemia under routinely prescribed insulin therapy. She had severe gastroparesis, which was determined by scintigraphic gastric emptying study (gastric half-emptying time = 260 min for a mixed meal). She had not presented to the emergency service for two years because of only a slight change the timing of her insulin administration time (after meal instead of before meal) in the light of gastric-emptying study.

Key words: brittle diabetes, gastric emptying, scintigraphy, hypoglycemia