

## Phantom kidney: A CT correlation

Teruhito MOCHIZUKI, Martin CHARRON, Ajit N. SHAH and W. Newlon TAUXE

*Department of Radiology, Division of Nuclear Medicine, University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine*

The phantom kidney is a "kidney-like" apparition which may be seen in dynamic renal scintigraphy typically in post-nephrectomy patients or in patients with unilateral renal agenesis. We report a case of a phantom kidney demonstrated in the angiographic phase of renal scintigraphy with  $^{99m}\text{Tc}$ -dimercaputosuccinic acid ( $^{99m}\text{Tc}$ -DMSA) in a patient who was nephrectomized 14 years previously. After comparison with the CT images, we conclude that our patient's finding was caused by an increased mesenteric vascularity, possibly post-prandial. Several conditions which may cause the phantom kidney effect, have been reported, but increased mesenteric vascularity seems to be the most common cause.

**Key words:** technetium-99m-DMSA, renal scintigraphy, nephrectomy, phantom kidney