

Colloid liver SPECT of hepatic alveolar echinococcosis

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Seventy-one-year-old man had a liver mass. He lived in Hokkaido, where there is an epidemic of hydatid disease. Abdominal US image showed an echogenic mass. CT revealed a low density mass with an unclear margin. A ^{99m}Tc -Sulfur colloid liver SPECT study was performed to detect the liver mass. The SPECT scan was done after intravenous administration of 5 mCi of ^{99m}Tc -sulfur colloid, and it revealed a lack of uptake in the liver mass. The liver SPECT findings were correlated with subsequent CT and US imaging. Echo-guided biopsy showed a PAS-positive cuticle layer of echinococcosis in the necrotic tissue. This is the first report of a case of detection of hepatic alveolar echinococcosis by means of a colloid liver SPECT imaging procedure.

Key words: colloid liver SPECT, hepatic alveolar echinococcosis