
Radionuclide computed tomography (RCT) has an advantage over X-ray CT, as it can display the regional distribution of physiological and biochemical function. On the other hand inferior spatial resolution and poor delineation of body contour and adjacent organs cause difficulty in evaluation of RCT images. To compensate this drawback of RCT, we attempted to display the RCT images superimposed on the contour images obtained from XCT.

RCT was performed using LFOV gamma camera and rotating chair method. Filtered back projection was used for reconstruction of RCT image. The contour image was constructed by Laplacian processing on stepwise isodensity image obtained from XCT image. The two images of same slice level were added after adjustment of size and position and displayed on the display unit of XCT.

We applied this method to RCT of thyroid lung, liver, kidney, blood pool and tumor scintigraphy. The method may prove useful in clinical diagnosis, especially in the complementary evaluation of RCT and XCT.


Measurement of thyroid volume was performed by CT examination and RII study in thyroid phantom and five operated cases of thyroid disease. CT examination was as accurate as RII study in normal-sized phantom, but it was more accurate than RII study in large-sized phantom and operated cases. Although our experienced cases were not enough, we think our method must be clinically very useful.

Automatic measurement of liver radioisotope images.---Extraction of convex and concave structure. K. Homma and E. Takenaka. Mechanical Engineering Laboratory, Ministry of International Trade and Industry, Hbaraki-ken, the University of Tokyo, Tokyo.

This lecture described a image processing procedure for extraction of unusual contour shape in the radioisotope (RI) image which was attributable to the hepatoma in the human liver and the possibility of classification into normal and abnormal liver by using a computer. Convex and concave structure of a contour shape are designated quantitatively by distance \( d_l(1,2,3,\ldots,n) \) on each point \( P_l \). \( d_l \) is given perpendicularly to the straight line that was drawn through the both points of \( P_l \). It is able to correspond to the shape of contour line and contour shapes are extremely extracted. The result of rank test about 6 samples (normal:3, abnormal:3), it was able to classified at 25.38% level of significant.

Some abnormal livers have different intensity distribution from normal cases. Therefore we present the another technique for classification which construct to a contour map of a RI image, and calculate \( d_l \) in each contour line.

CT imaging compared with RII in thyroid nodules. T. Yamada, M. Maki, S. Nara, K. Kusaka, T. Yamasaki. Tokyo Women's Medical College.

Thyroid nodules are classified papillary and follicular type pathologically. Papillary type nodules generally reveal non-homogeneous masses with irregular contrast enhancement on CT imaging. In calcified cases of that type, all calcifications are psammomatous. However, CT scan shows various patterns of internal texture and contrast enhancement about follicular thyroid nodules. In two of the four cases of metastasis to deep cervical lymph nodes recognized pathologically, CT scan could demonstrate metastatic lymph nodes. Compared CT with RII in one of the papillary type nodules CT made the correct diagnosis, though RII missed the diagnosis. In three of the follicular type nodules RII misdiagnosed as malignancy and in four of them CT also misdiagnosed both on RII and CT. Because they can not be obtained by RI scintigraphy, we should perform CT examination in cases which malignancy can not be ruled out.