

HCC CARCINOGENESIS



Muşturay Karçaaltıncaba, M.D.

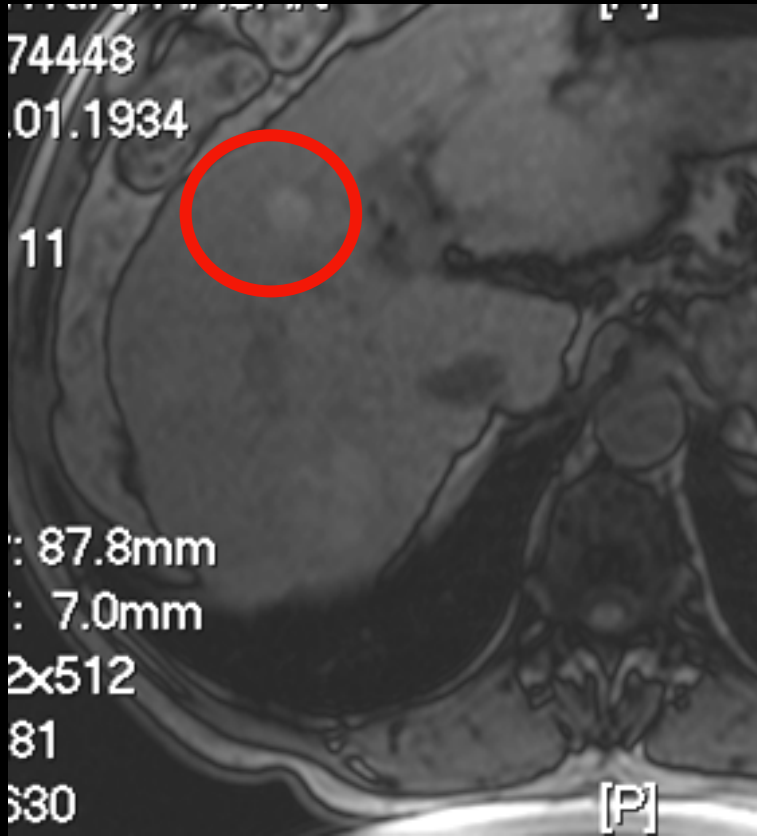
PROFESSOR OF RADIOLOGY

LIVER IMAGING TEAM

HACETTEPE UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

2003

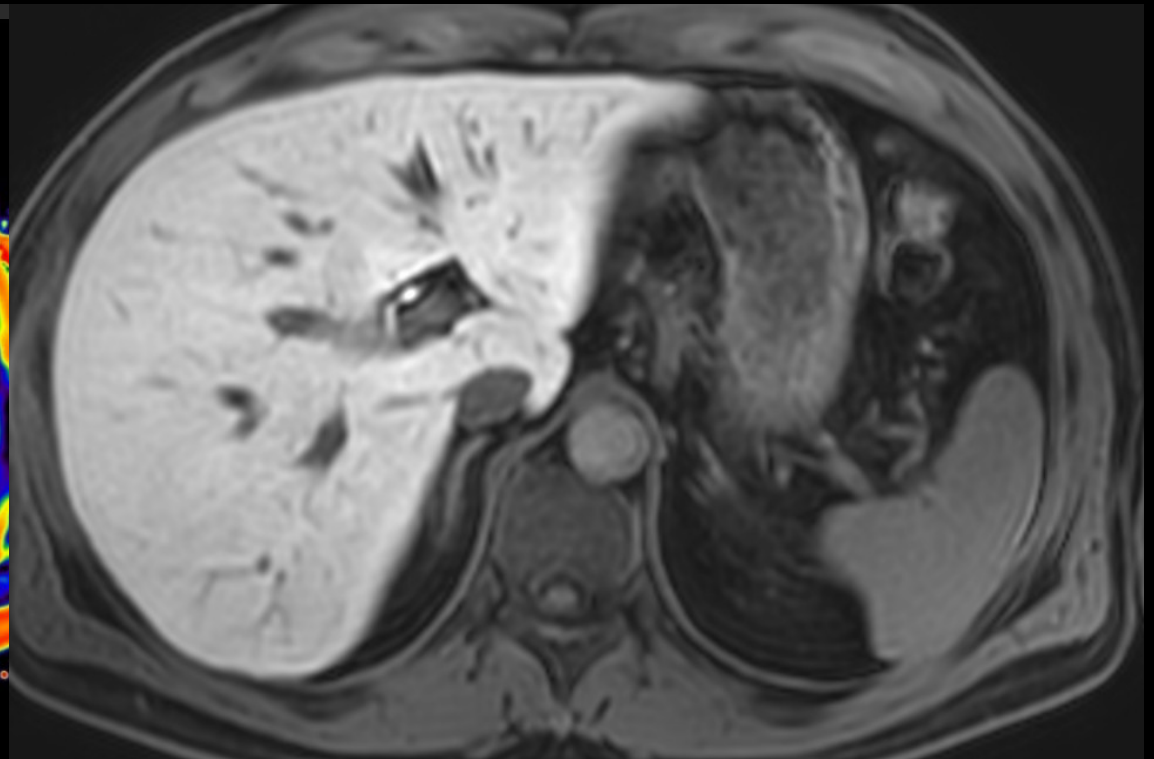
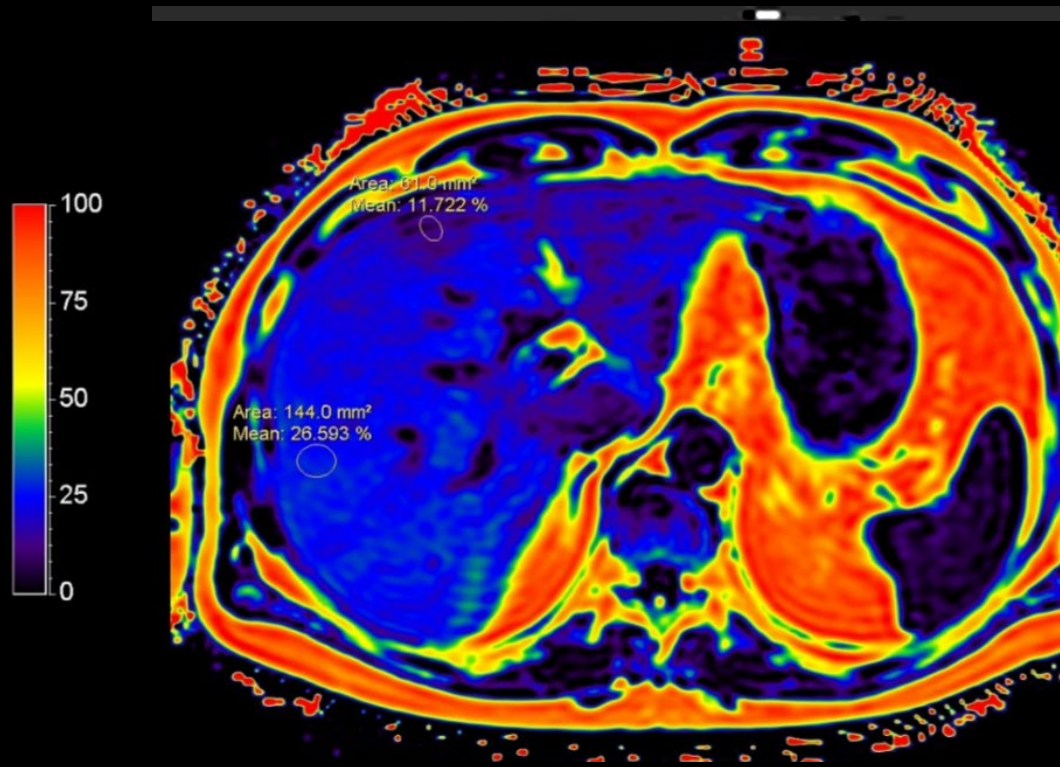
2006



OUR GOALS IN LIVER IMAGING

- WE SHOULD NOT DIAGNOSE A BENIGN LESION AS A HCC
- WE HAVE TO SEE MORE (EARLY HCC)
- WE HAVE TO SEE THE UNSEEN
- WE HAVE TO SOLVE CLINICAL PROBLEMS
- WE HAVE TO PREDICT MORE - PROGNOSIS
- SUMMARY

DIFFERENTIATE LIVER FROM NON-LIVER

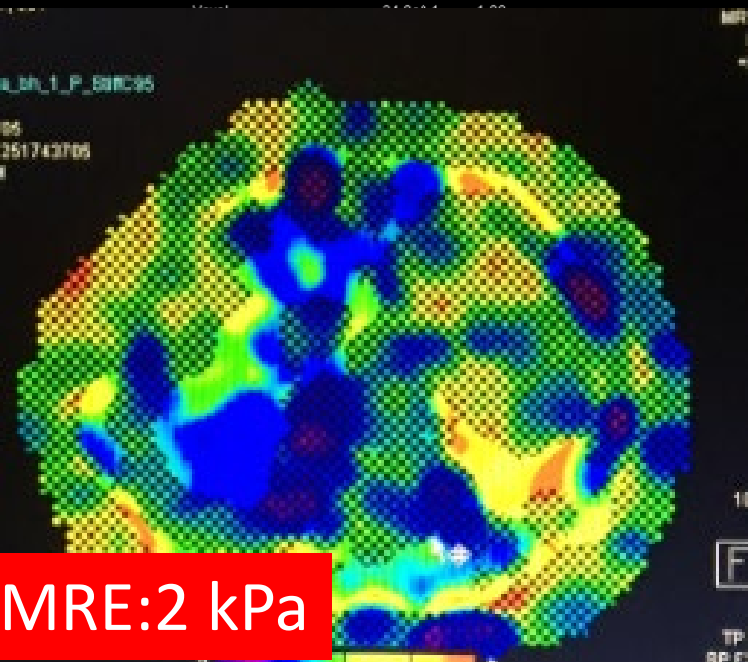
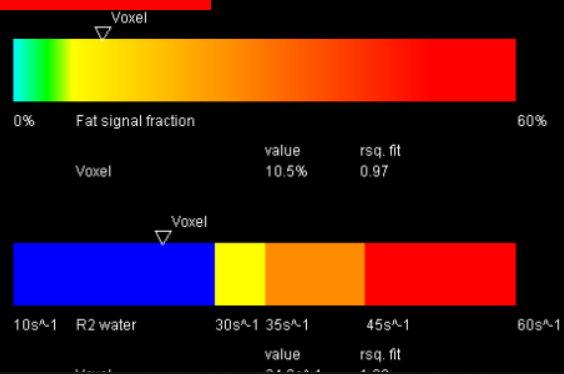


N(M)AFLD

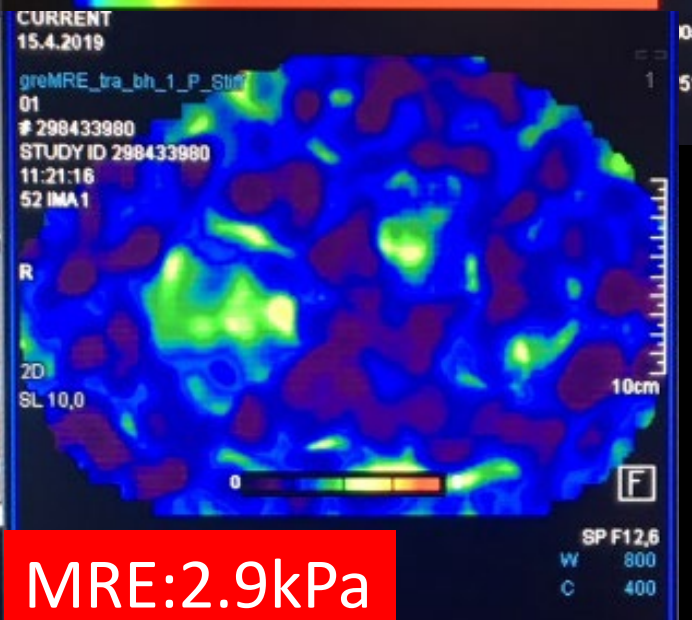
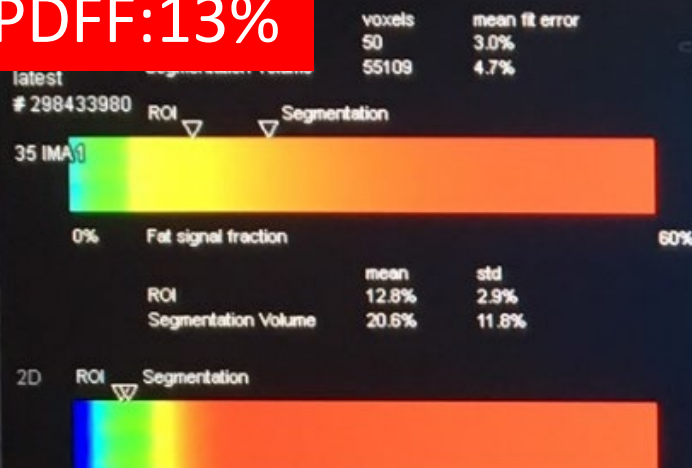
NASH

CIRRHOSIS

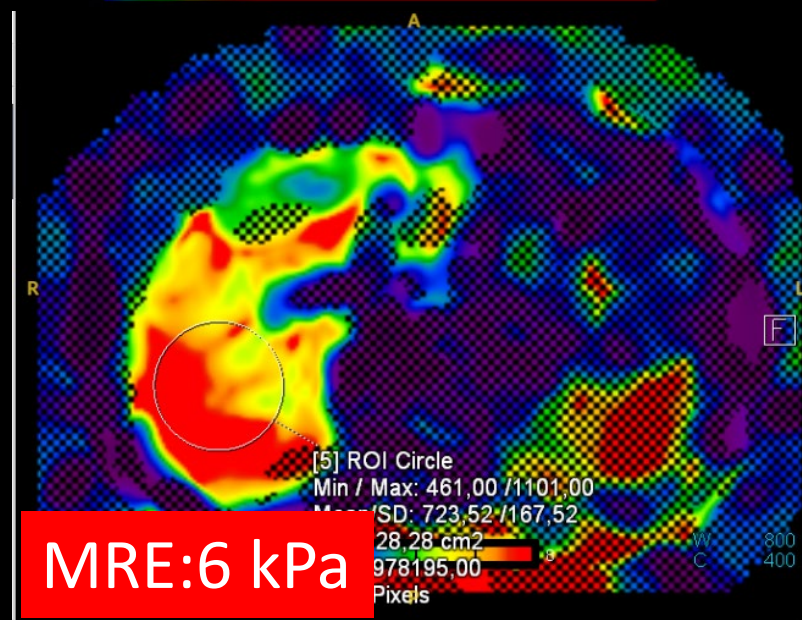
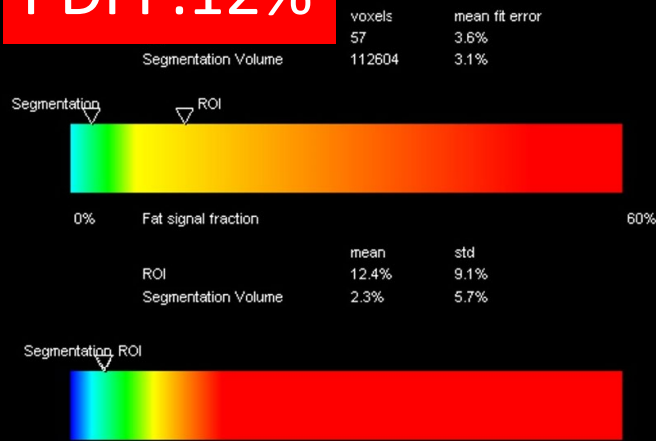
PDFF:11%



PDFF:13%



PDFF:12%



US



US THE BEST TEST?

Abdominal Radiology (2023) 48:263–270
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s00261-022-03702-2>

HEPATOBIILIARY



HCC screening with ultrasound: assessment of quality using ultrasound LI-RADS score

Michael J. King¹ · Karen M. Lee¹ · Sonam Rosberger¹ · Hsin-hui Huang^{2,3} · Gabriela Hernandez Meza⁴ · Sara Lewis^{1,2} · Bachir Taouli^{1,2}

Received: 15 June 2022 / Revised: 4 October 2022 / Accepted: 5 October 2022 / Published online: 15 October 2022
© The Author(s), under exclusive licence to Springer Science+Business Media, LLC, part of Springer Nature 2022

Abstract

Purpose To describe ultrasound (US) quality for hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC) screening/surveillance using the US LI-RADS scoring system, and to assess predictive factors of worse US quality scores.

Methods This retrospective study included adult patients ($n = 470$; M/F 264/206, median age 59y) at risk for HCC that underwent US for HCC screening/surveillance. US examinations were independently reviewed by 2 radiologists that assigned a visualization score (A: no/minimal, B: moderate, C: severe limitation) and US diagnostic category (US LI-RADS 1: negative, US LI-RADS 2: subthreshold, US LI-RADS 3: positive) to each study. A generalized linear mixed model was used to assess the predictive factors of worse visualization score using OR (odds ratio) statistics. Simple Kappa coefficient (K) assessed inter-reader agreement.

Results For readers 1 and 2, 295/320 (62.8%/68.1%) cases were scored A, 153/134 (32.6%/28.5%) were scored B, and 22/16 (4.6%/3.4%) were scored C, respectively. There was moderate inter-reader agreement for US LI-RADS visualization score ($K = 0.478$) and 100% concordance for US diagnostic category ($K = 1$), with 30 (6.4%) cases scored as positive (US LI-RADS 3). Cirrhosis and obesity were significant independent predictors of worse visualization scores (B/C) (cirrhosis: OR 10.4 confidence intervals: [4.25–25.48], $p < 0.001$; obesity: OR 3.61 [2.11–6.20], $p < 0.001$). Of the 30 lesions scored as US LI-RADS 3, 9 were characterized as probable or definite HCC on confirmatory CT/MRI, yielding a PPV of 30% (9/30) and a false-positive rate of 70% (21/30).

Conclusion Moderate to severe limitations in quality of US performed for HCC screening/surveillance was observed in approximately one-third of patients. Patients with cirrhosis and/or elevated BMI have poorer quality US studies and may benefit from other screening modalities such as CT or MRI.

- OPERATOR DEPENDENT

- BODY HABITUS

- NEEDLE IN HAYSTACK

- YOU ARE NOT SEEING EVERY PART OF LIVER, BLIND AREAS

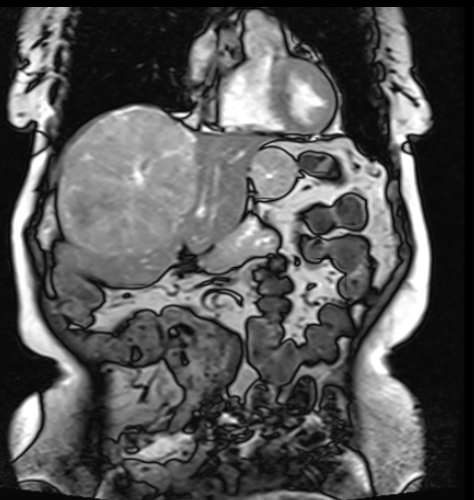
WHAT IS LIVER MRI ?

- **TRIPHASIC CT = POSTCONTRAST T1W**
- +
- **IN OUT OF PHASE T1W** : **FAT-SUSCEPTIBILITY**
- **T2 W SS** : **FREE WATER**
- **FAT SATURATION** : **MACRO FAT**
- **CONTRAST AGENTS** : **SOLID OR NOT**
 - **GD-EOB-DTPA** : **FUNCTION, PROGNOSIS**
- **DWI** : **CELLULARITY**
- **MR ELASTOGRAPHY** : **STIFFNESS**

LIVER MRI FOR GD-EOB-DTPA

- T1W IN/OUT (PDFFF/DIXON)
- PRE – POST DYNAMIC IMAGING T1W
- T2W
- MR ELASTOGRAPHY
- DWI
- T1W HEPATOBILIARY PHASE – 15/20 min

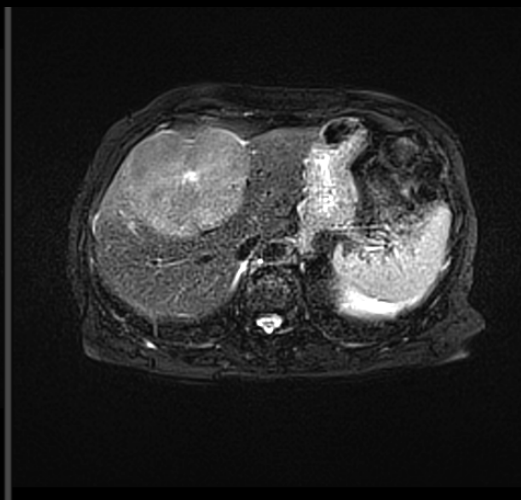
FOCAL NODULAR HYPERPLASIA?



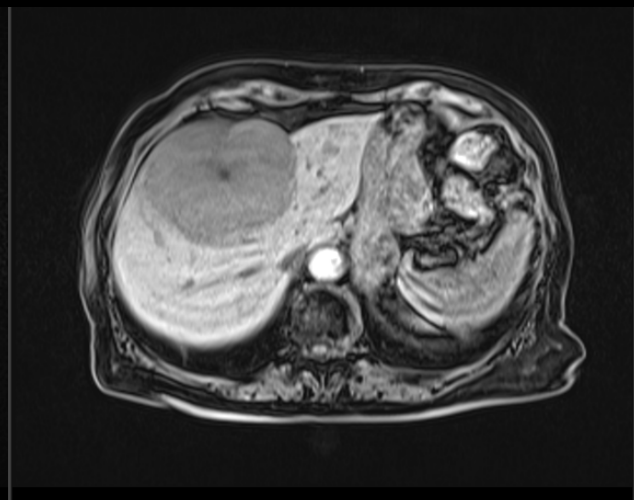
...r.#5 MR 17-11-2013 20:22:56



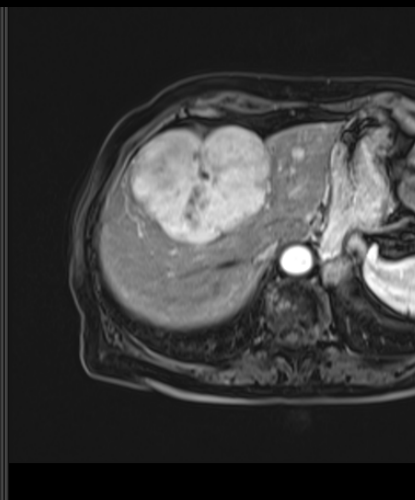
▲ Ser.#18 MR 17-11-2013 20:40:48



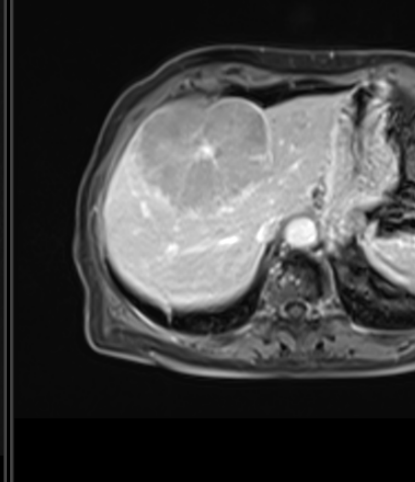
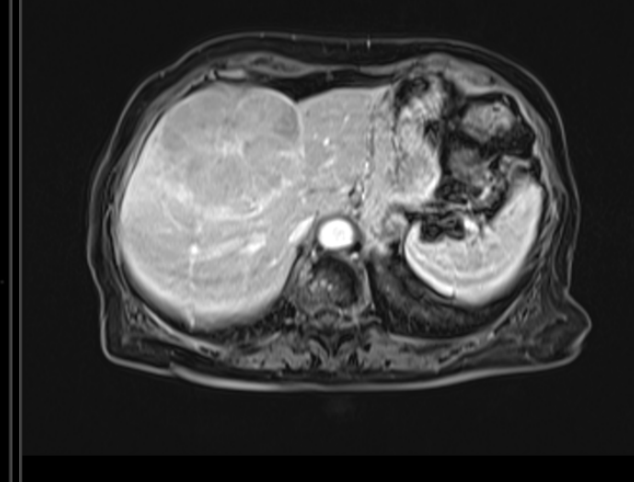
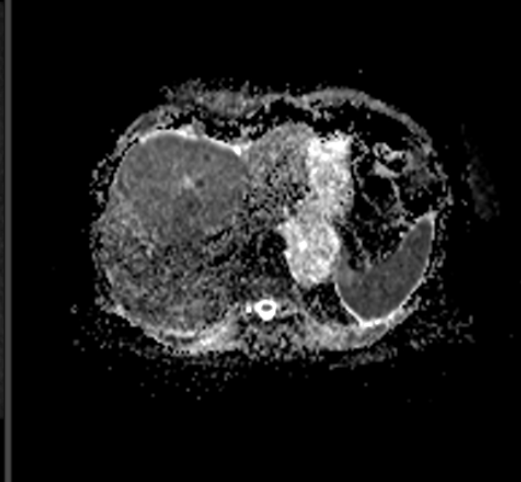
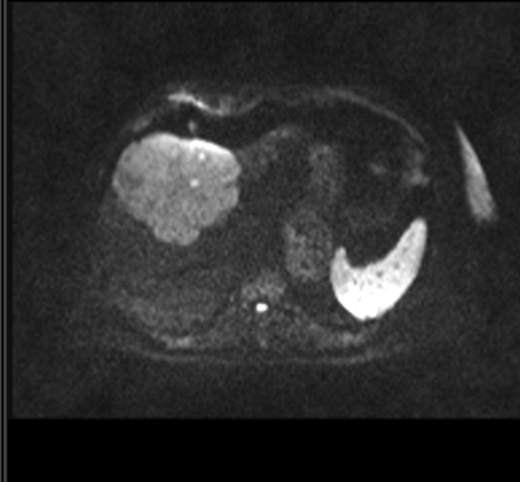
▲ Ser.#19 MR 17-11-2013 20:40:49



▲ Ser.#9 MR 17-11-2013 20:27:44



▲ Ser.#10 MR 17-11-2013 20:35:27



ABBREVIATED MRI (AMRI) – COLON CANCER/HCC

- ARTERIAL PHASE MAY NOT BE VERY CRITICAL
- ABBREVIATED MRI PROTOCOL (AMRI): INITIALLY FOR HCC
 - **DWI + HEPATOBILIARY PHASE AFTER GD-EOB :**
 - Besa et al . Abdominal Radiol 2017
 - Marks RM et al. AJR 2015
- DON'T CARE ABOUT RESPIRATION – NAVIGATOR OR GATED
- **NOW LOOKS PROMISING FOR COLON CANCER SURVEILLANCE**

• [Eur Radiol](#). 2019 Nov;29(11):5852-5860. doi: 10.1007/s00330-019-06113-y. Epub 2019 Mar 19.

Lesion detection performance of an abbreviated gadoxetic acid-enhanced MRI protocol for colorectal liver metastasis surveillance.

[Canellas R](#)¹, [Patel MJ](#)², [Agarwal S](#)^{3,4}, [Sahani DV](#)².

⊕ **Author information**

Abstract

OBJECTIVE: To assess the lesion detection performance of an abbreviated MRI (AMRI-M) protocol consisting of ultrafast SE T2W, DWI, and T1W-HBP at 20 min for colorectal liver metastasis (CRLM) surveillance.

CONCLUSION: Our proposed AMRI-M protocol (ultrafast SE T2W, DWI, and T1W-HBP at 20 min) is fast, low-cost alternative to the standard MRI protocol and has a high lesion detection performance.

HCC CARCINOGENESIS

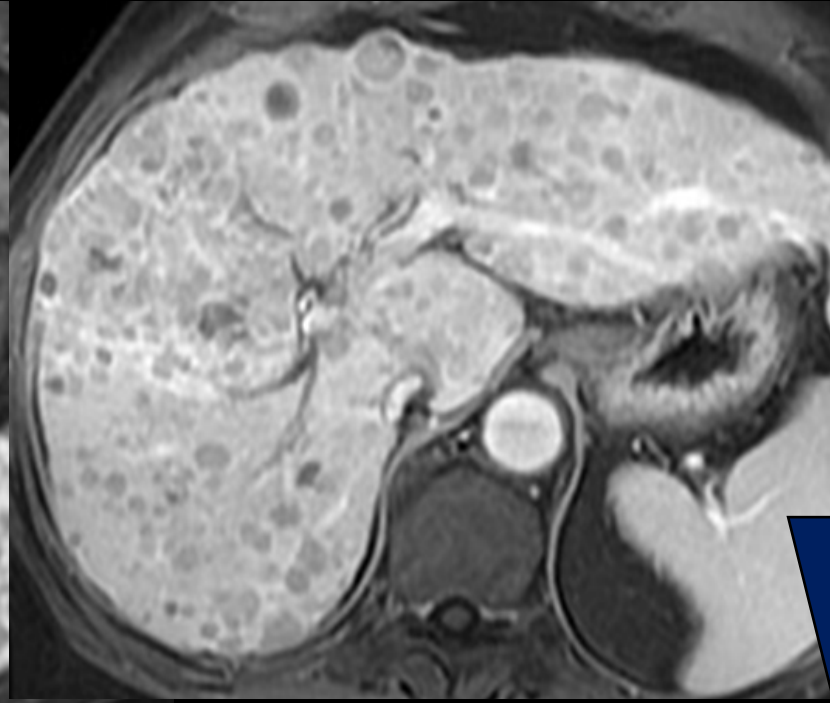
- HCC DEVELOPMENT
- OATP
- GD-EOB-DTPA
- EARLY HCC DIAGNOSIS
- PROGNOSIS
- FUTURE

HEPATOCELLULAR CARCINOMA

ARTERIAL HYPERVASCULAR

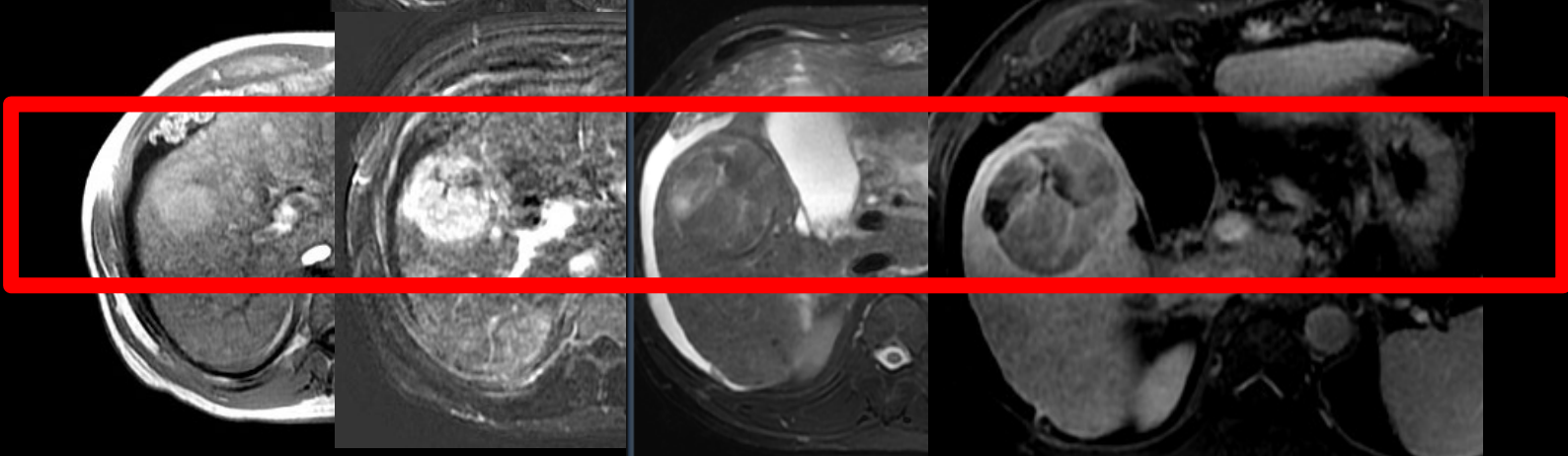
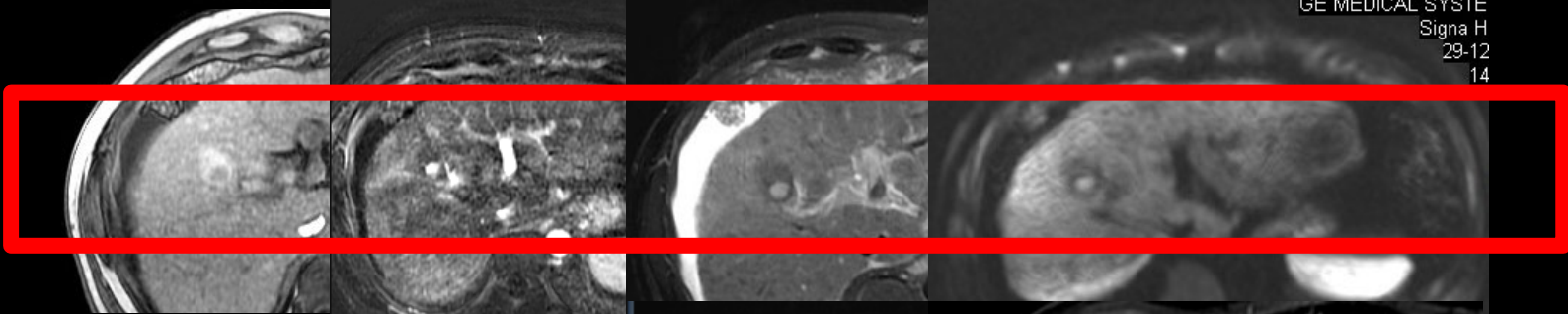
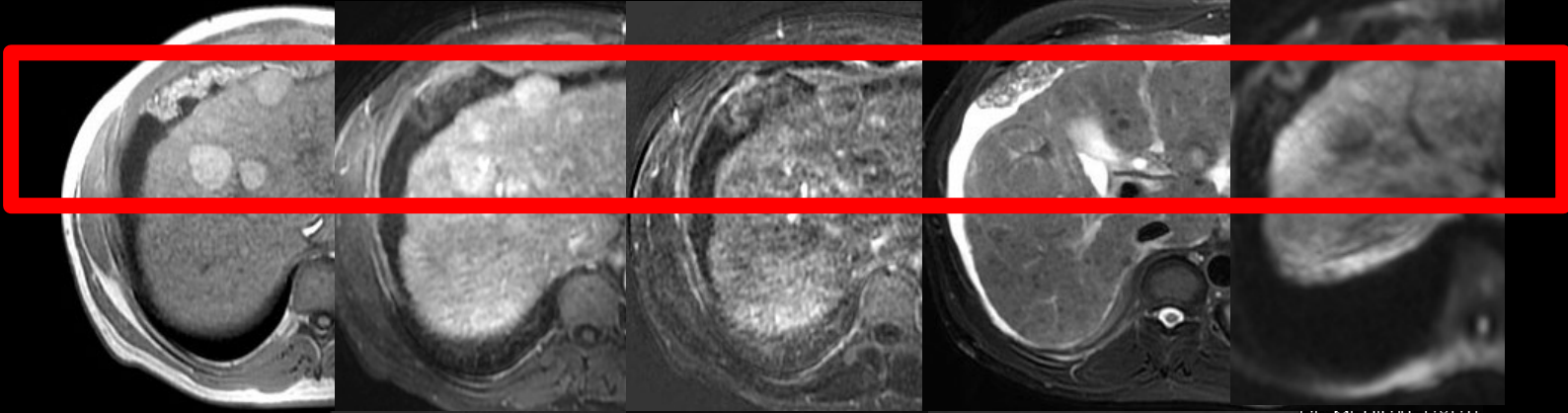
VENOUS WASHOUT

ARTERIAL FEEDING



PORTAL SUPPLY

HCC BIGGER THAN 1CM CAN BE DIAGNOSED BY MRI WO Bx



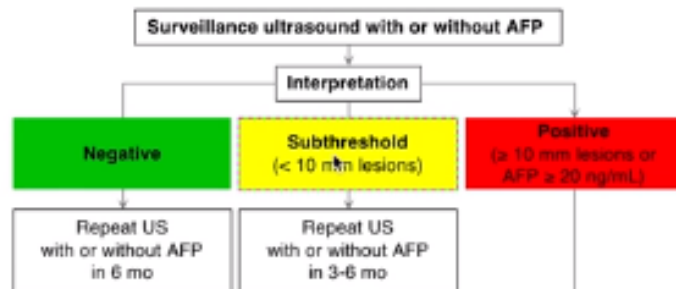
GE MEDICAL SYSTEMS
Signa H
29-12
14

LI-RADS: HI SPECIFICITY



2018 AASLD/LI-RADS Unified Guidance

SURVEILLANCE

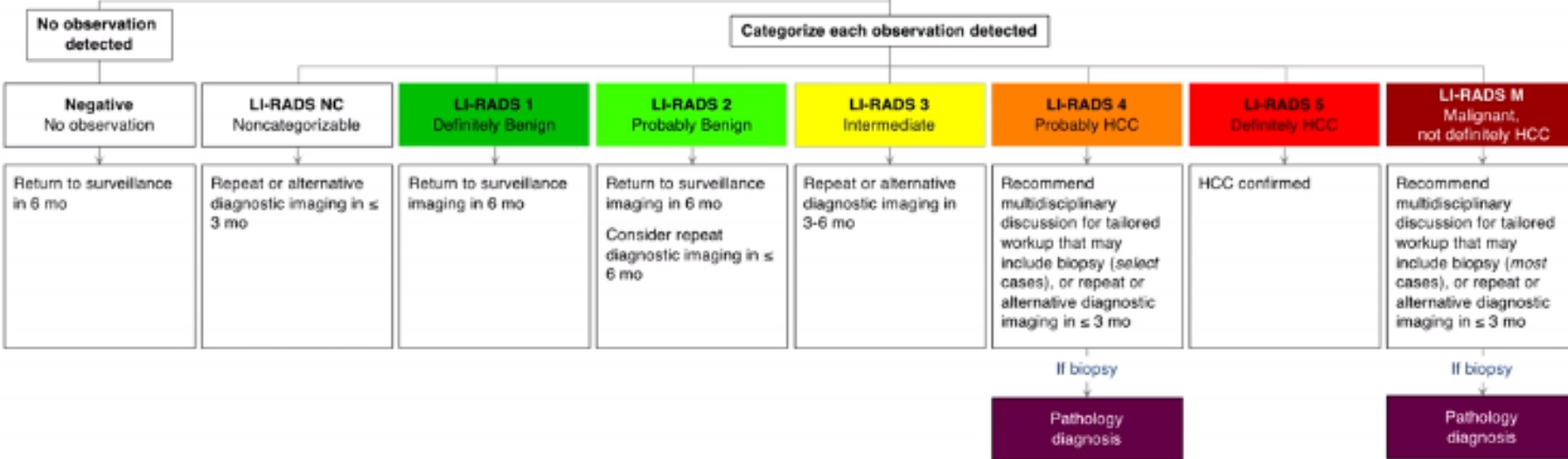


Multiphase CT or MRI in select patients

DIAGNOSIS

Diagnostic imaging for HCC with multiphase CT or MRI

Interpretation



ASIA-PACIFIC : HIGH SENSITIVITY

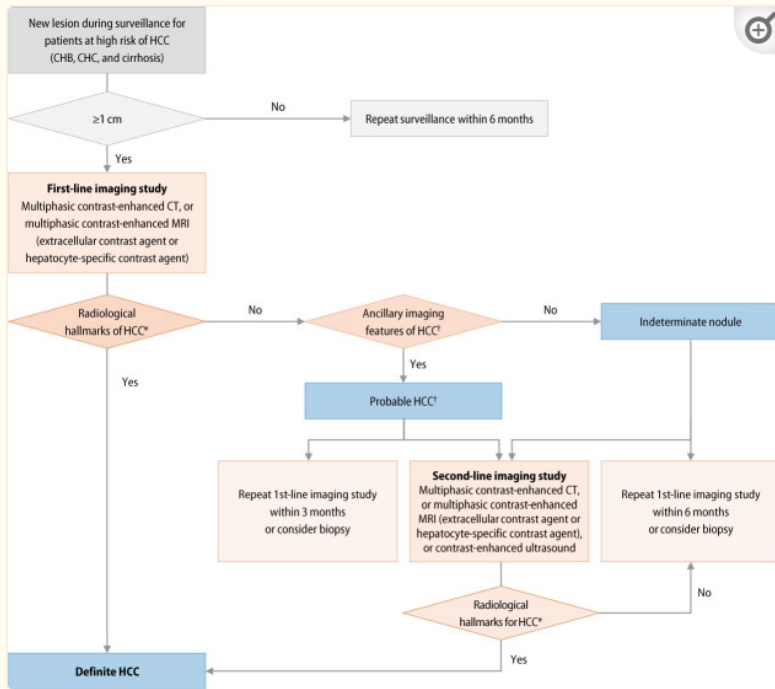
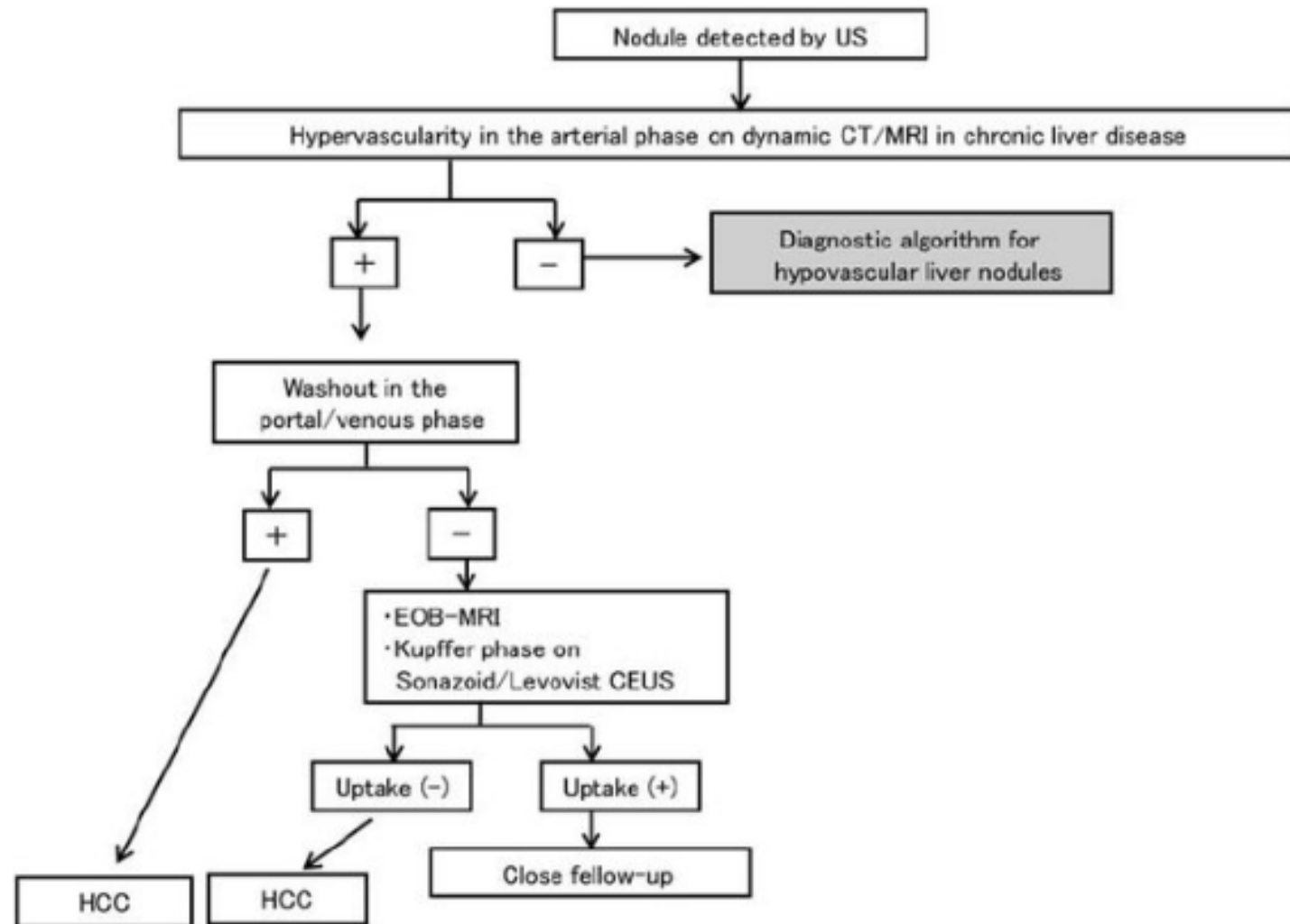
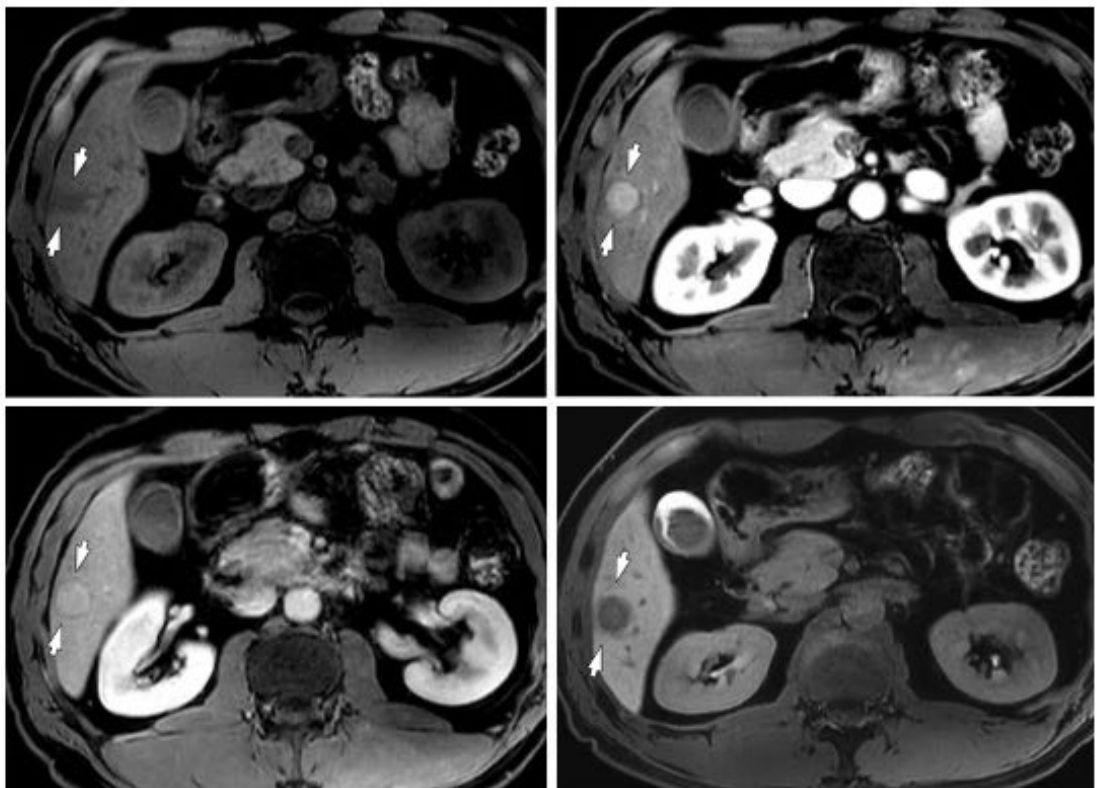


Figure 3.

Diagnostic algorithm. HCC, hepatocellular carcinoma; CHB, chronic hepatitis B; CHC, chronic hepatitis C; CT, computed tomography. *The radiological hallmarks for diagnosing “definite” HCC on multiphase contrast-enhance CT or magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) are arterial phase hyperenhancement (APHE) with washout appearance in the portal venous, delayed, or hepatobiliary phases. These criteria should be applied only to a lesion that does not show either marked T2 hyperintensity or targetoid appearances on diffusion-weighted images or contrast-enhanced images. For a second-line imaging modality, the radiologic hallmarks of contrast-enhanced ultrasonography (blood-pool contrast agent or Kupffer cell-specific contrast agent) for a “definite” diagnosis of HCC are APHE with mild and late (≥ 60 seconds) washout. These criteria should be applied only to a lesion that does not show either rim or peripheral globular enhancement in the arterial phase. †For the diagnosis of “probable” HCC, ancillary imaging features are applied as follows: there are two categories of ancillary imaging features, including

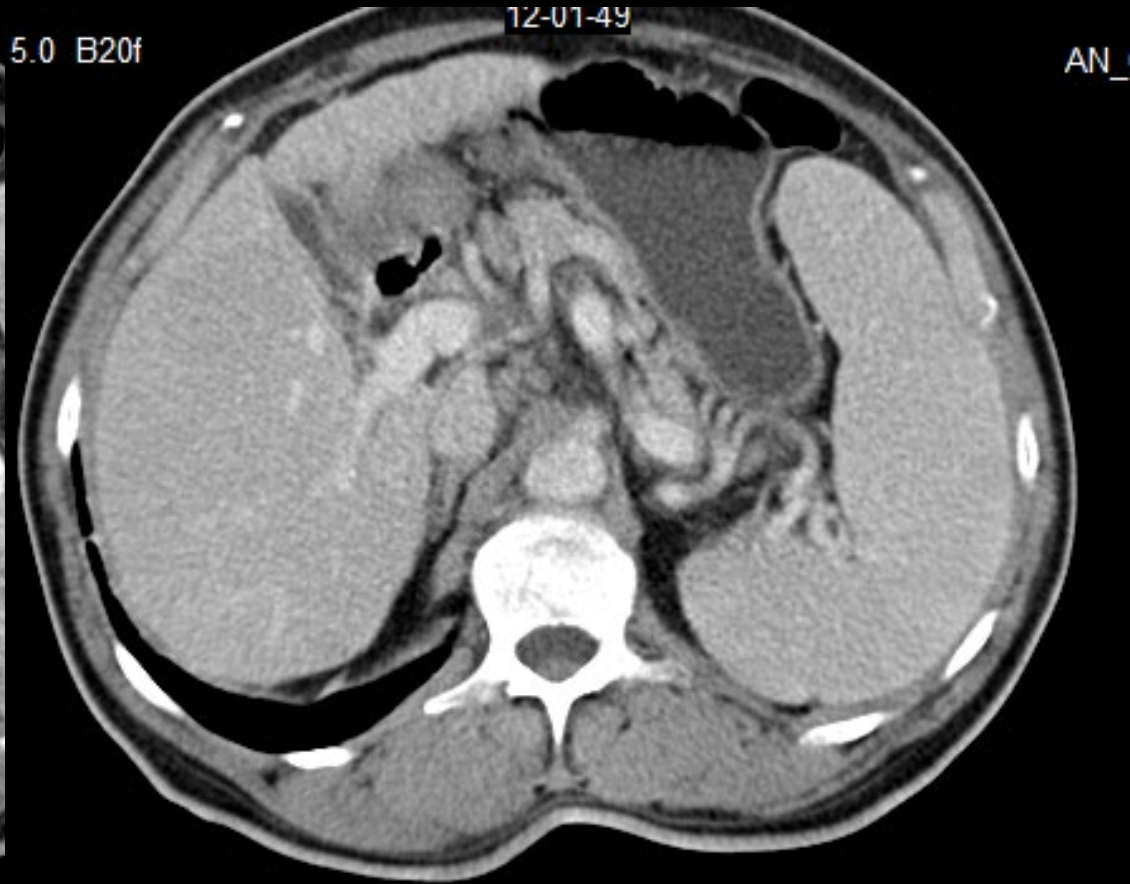
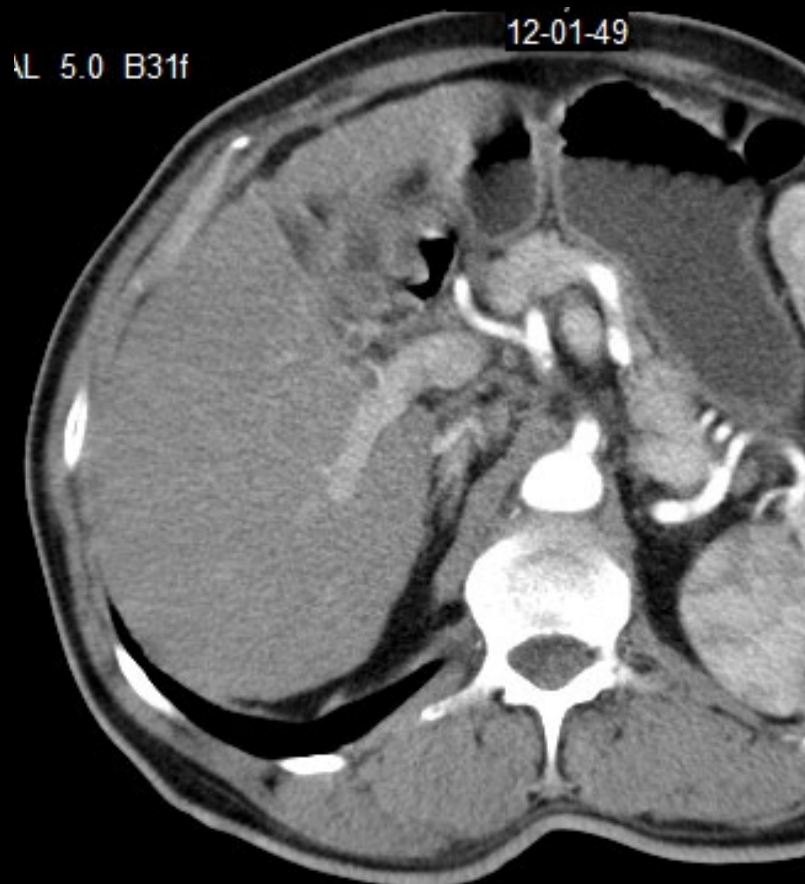


Comparison of HCC Diagnostic Guidelines with Gadoxetic acid–enhanced Liver MRI



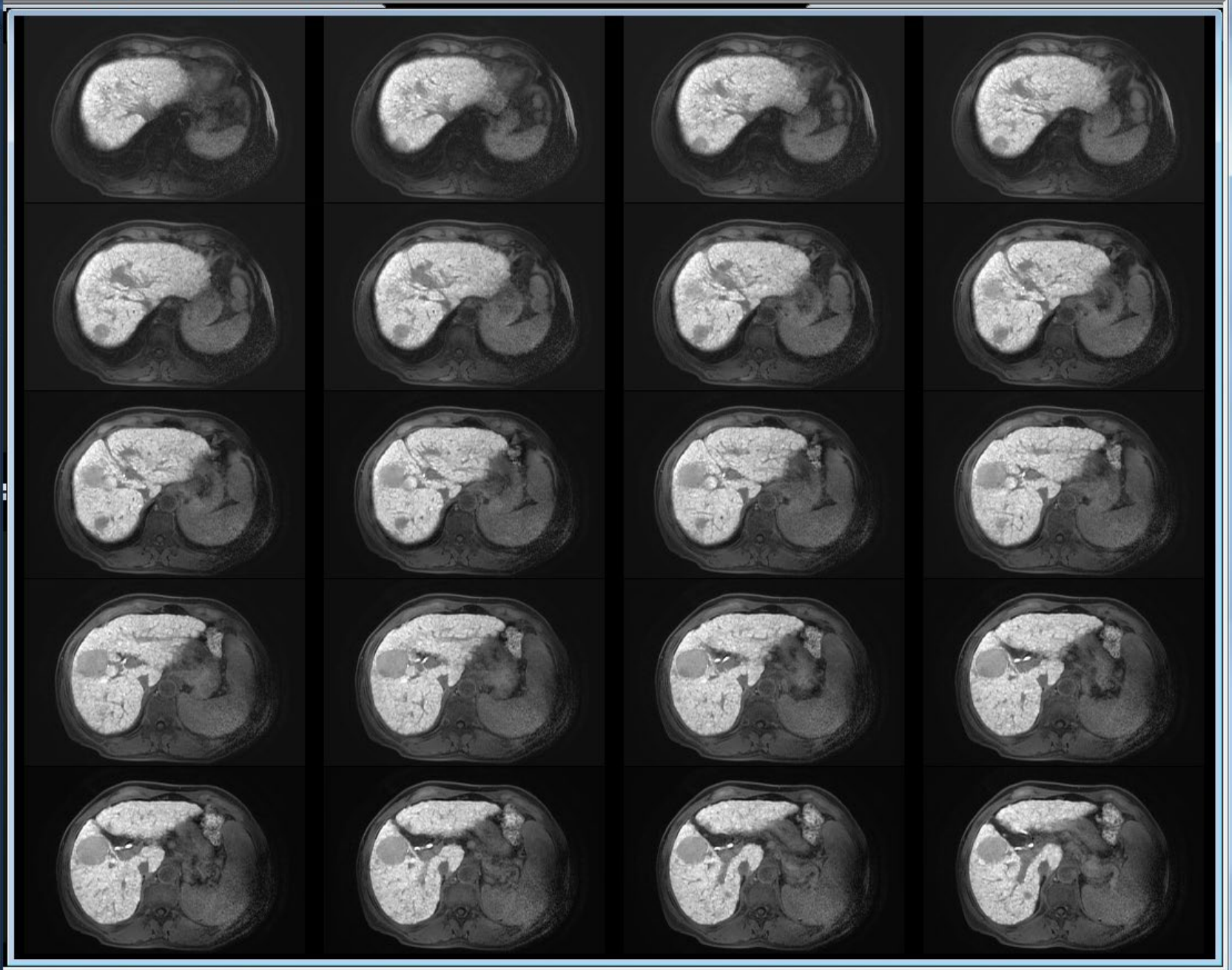
- Retrospective study comparing four HCC diagnostic guidelines in 2237 patients at risk for HCC with 2445 focal liver lesions (1694 were HCC) at gadoxetic acid–enhanced liver MRI.
- Eastern guidelines had higher sensitivity than Western guidelines (78%–89% vs 69%–71%), whereas Western guidelines had higher specificity (88%–90% vs 52%–84%).
- In lesions < 20 mm ($n = 766$), Eastern guidelines showed higher accuracy than Western guidelines (80% vs 73%).

CIRRHOSIS, HIGH AFP, 63Y



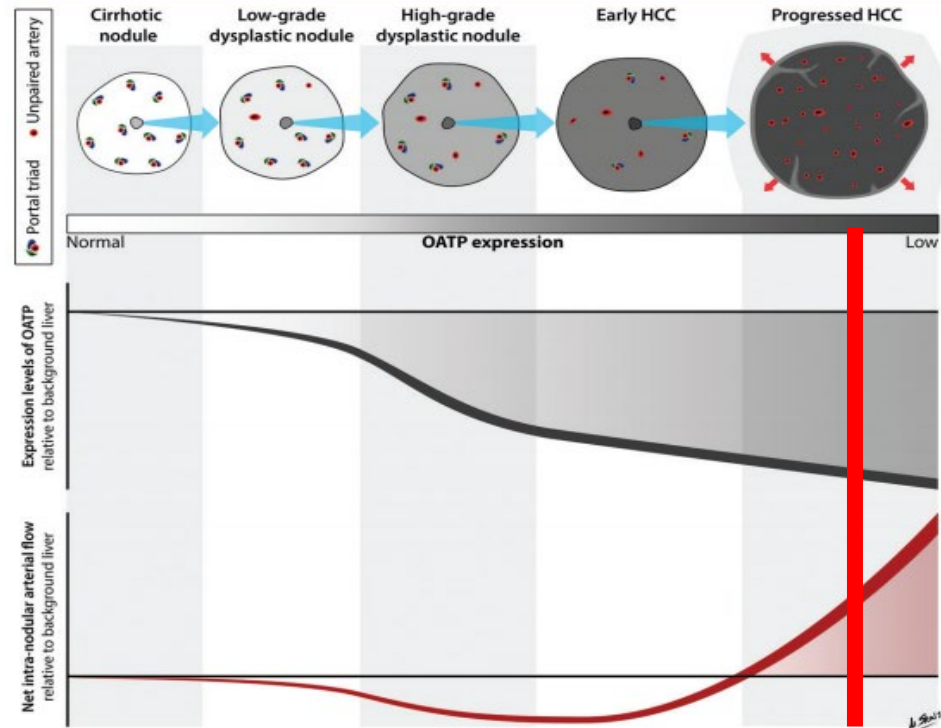
Navigator

- 25/44
Ax DWI b=500 BH
- 3/22
AXT1BHYB+C 20.dk
- 21/92
+C LAVA
- 1/92
+C LAVA Multiphase I
- 15/92
Ph1/+C LAVA Multiph
- 38/92
Ph2/+C LAVA Multiph
- 38/92
Ph3/+C LAVA Multiph
- 19/22



EARLY HCC DIAGNOSIS

Figure 1



NONHYPERVASCULAR HEPATOBILIARY PHASE HYPOINTENSE NODULES

European Radiology (2023) 33:493–500
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s00330-022-09000-1>

GASTROINTESTINAL



Non-hypervascular hepatobiliary phase hypointense lesions detected in patients with hepatocellular carcinoma: a post hoc analysis of SORAMIC trial to identify risk factors for progression

Osman Öcal¹ · Christoph J. Zech² · Matthias P. Fabritius¹ · Christian Loewe³ · Otto van Delden⁴ · Vincent Vandecaveye⁵ · Bernhard Gebauer⁶ · Thomas Berg⁷ · Christian Sengel⁸ · Irene Bargellini⁹ · Roberto Iezzi¹⁰ · Alberto Benito¹¹ · Maciej Pech¹² · Antonio Gasbarrini¹³ · Bruno Sangro¹⁴ · Peter Malfertheiner¹⁵ · Jens Ricke¹ · Max Seidensticker¹

Received: 20 May 2022 / Revised: 20 May 2022 / Accepted: 29 June 2022 / Published online: 26 July 2022
© The Author(s) 2022

Abstract

Objectives To identify clinical and imaging parameters associated with progression of non-hypervascular hepatobiliary phase hypointense lesions during follow-up in patients who received treatment for hepatocellular carcinoma.

Methods A total of 67 patients with 106 lesions were identified after screening 538 patients who underwent gadoxetic acid-enhanced MRI within the SORAMIC trial. All patients were allocated to the trial treatment according to the trial scheme, and 61 of 67 patients received systemic treatment with sorafenib (either alone or combined with locoregional therapies) during the trial.

494

European Radiology (2023) 33:493–500

Conclusions Non-hypervascular hepatobiliary phase hypointense lesions are associated with subsequent progression after treatment in patients with HCC. T2 hyperintensity, diffusion restriction, cirrhosis, and higher ECOG-PS could identify lesions with increased risk. These factors should be considered for further diagnostic evaluation or treatment of such lesions.

Key Points

- Non-hypervascular hepatobiliary phase hypointense lesions have considerable risk of progression in patients with hepatocellular carcinoma receiving treatment.
- T2 hyperintensity, cirrhosis, ECOG-PS, and hyperintensity at DWI are associated with increased risk of progression.
- Non-hypervascular hepatobiliary phase hypointense lesions should be considered in the decision-making process of locoregional therapies, especially in the presence of these risk factors.

Keywords Magnetic resonance imaging · Gadoxetic acid · Hepatobiliary phase · Hepatocellular carcinoma · Hypovascular hypointense lesions

HCC CARCINOGENESIS

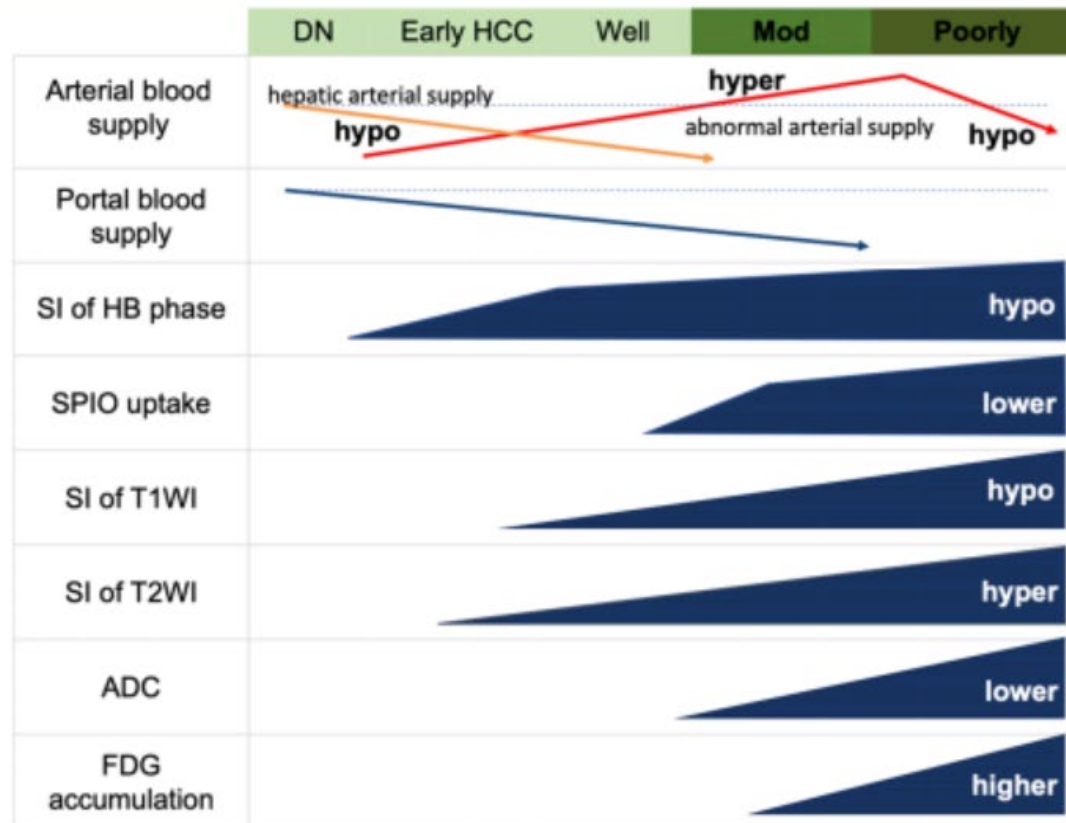
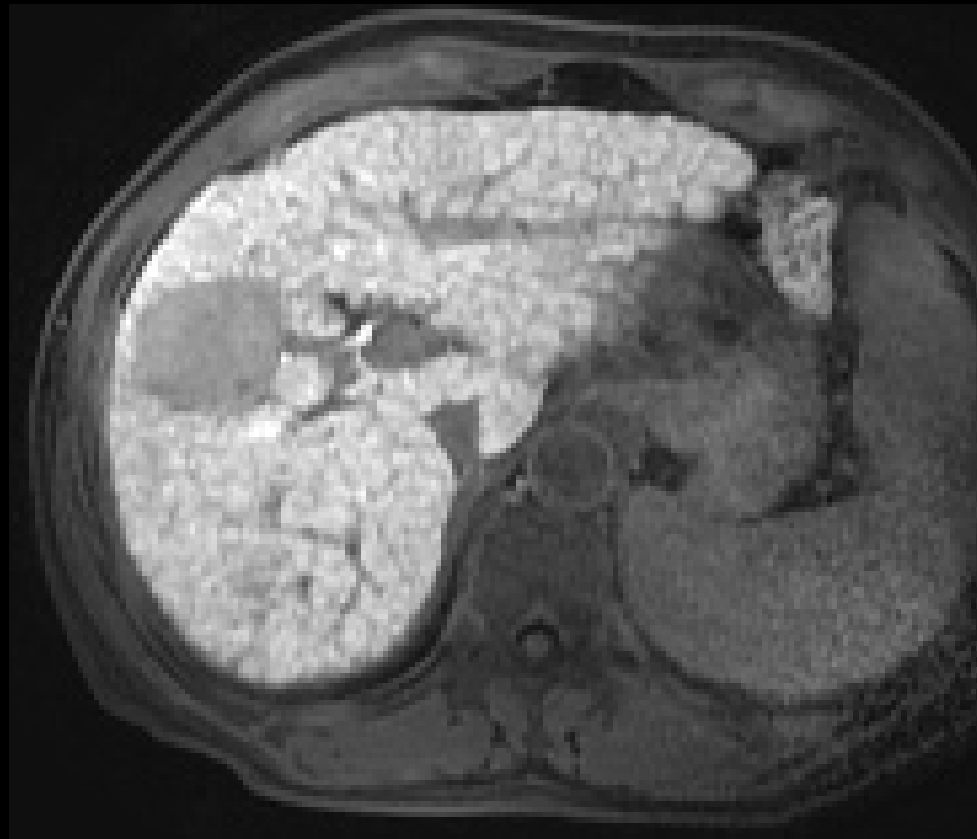


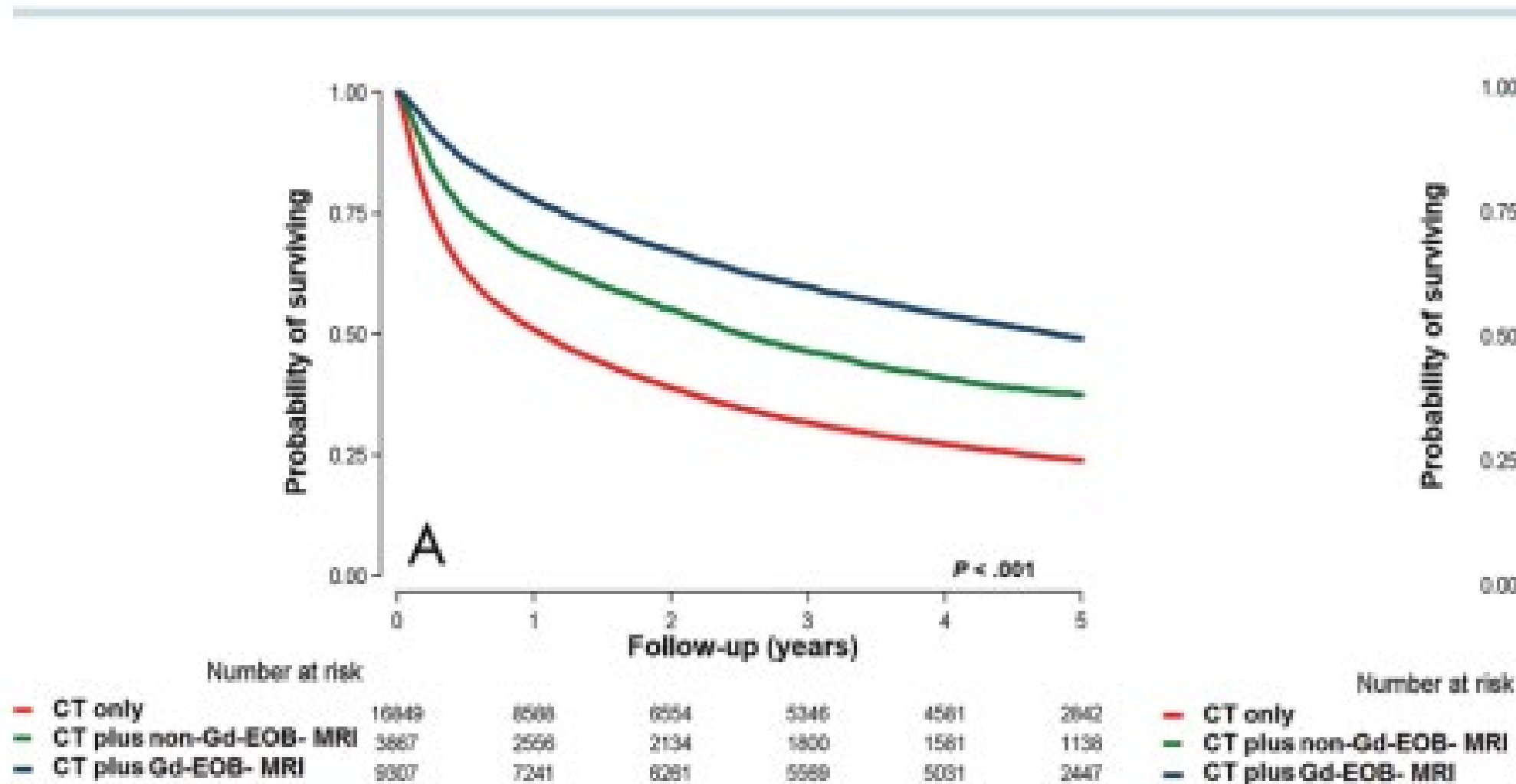
Fig. 6 Summary of the imaging biomarkers predicting the grade of differentiation in HCC. During hepatocarcinogenesis, the frequency of neovascularized arteries increases from dysplastic nodule (DN) to moderately differentiated HCC (Mod). However, arterial vascularity decreases again in poorly differentiated HCC (Por). In parallel with increasing grade of malignancy, the signal intensity of the hepato-

biliary phase (HB phase) of gadolinic acid-enhanced MR image and T1-weighted image and SPIO uptake are decreased, while the signal intensity of T2WI is increased. And lower value of apparent diffusion coefficient (ADC) on diffusion-weighted image (DWI) and higher accumulation of FDG are observed in the worse histological grades of HCC.

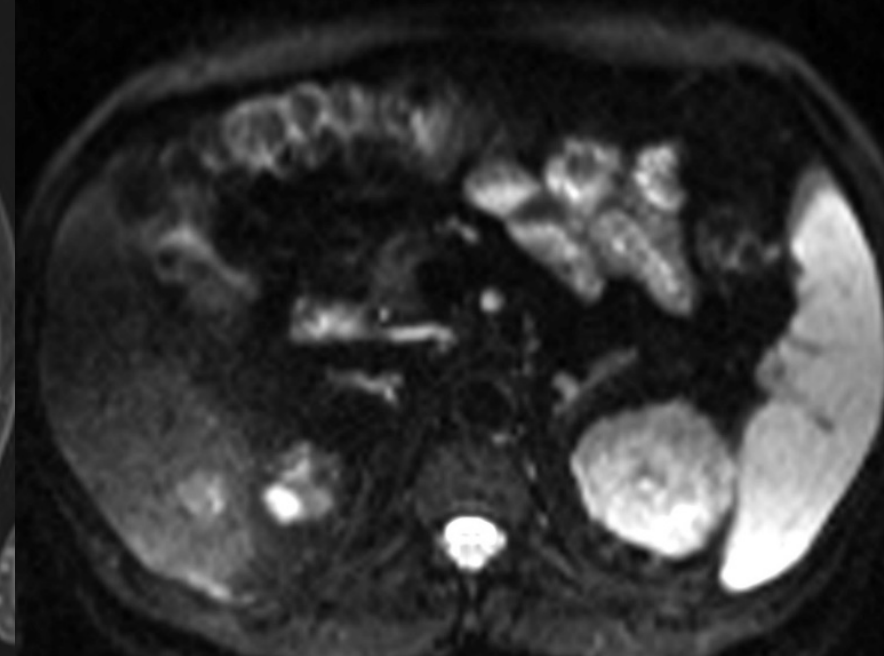
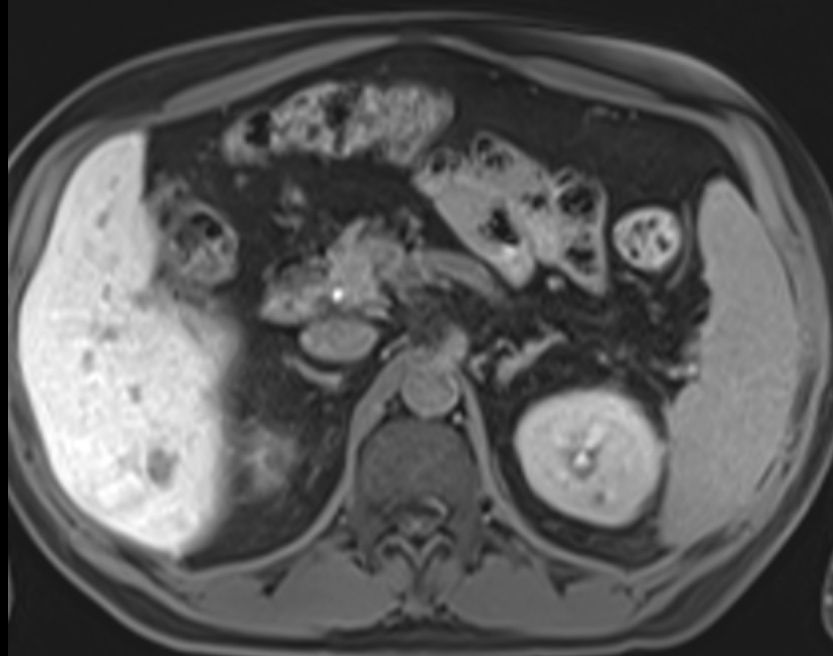
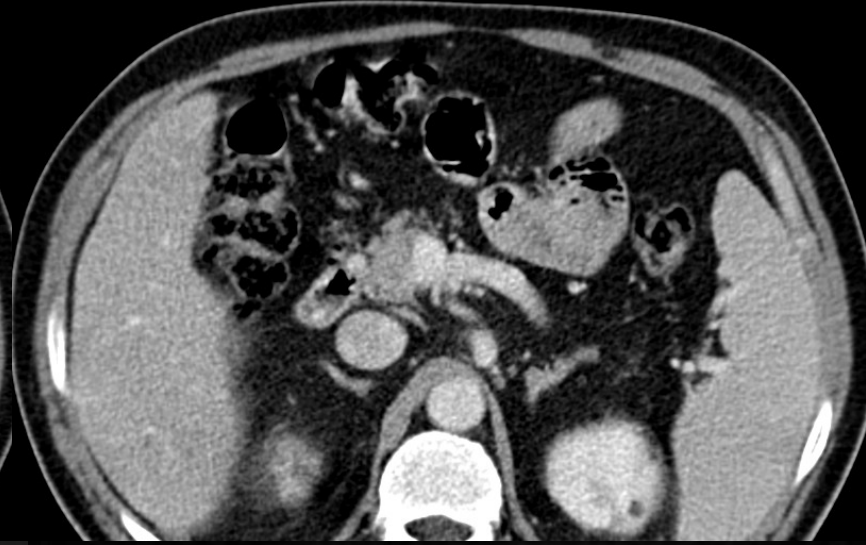
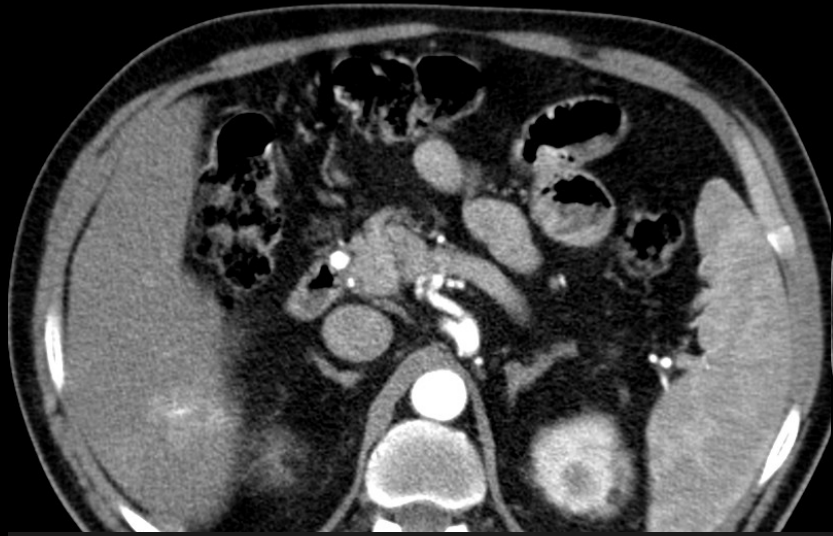
HYPOINTENSE HEPATOBILIARY PHASE



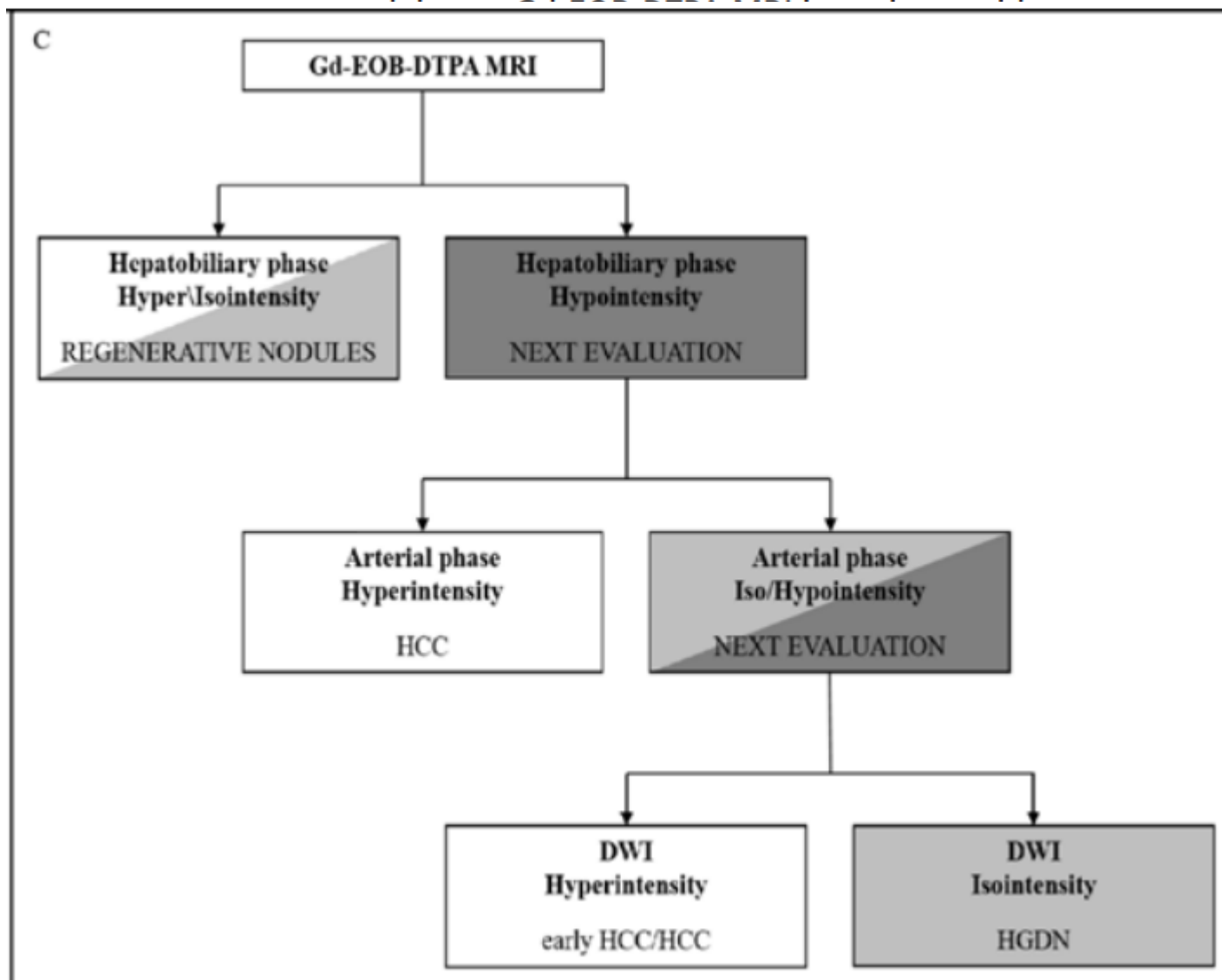
HCC GD-EOB MORTALITY



HYPERVASCULAR, NO WASHOUT



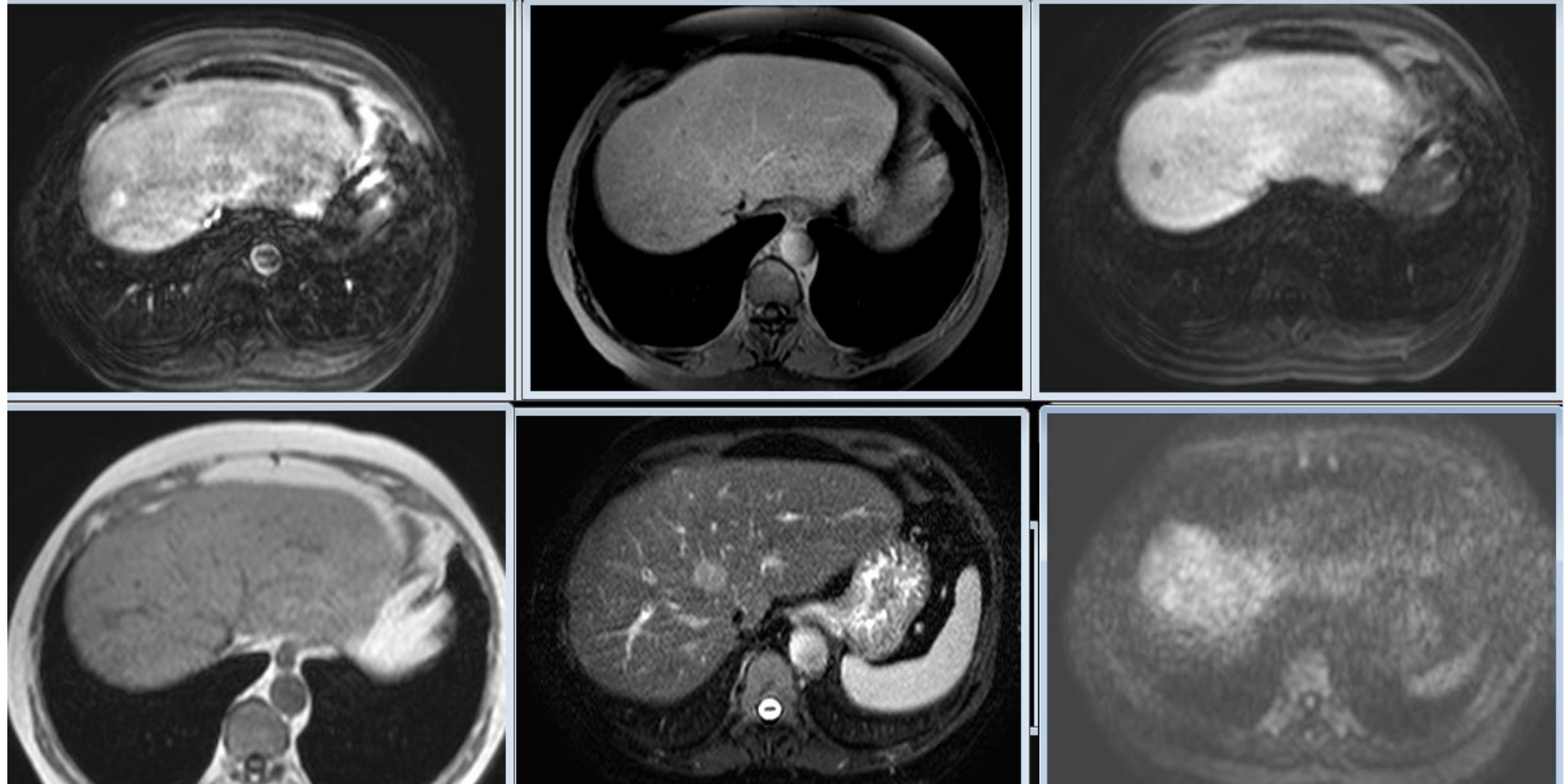
New hallmark of hepatocellular carcinoma, early hepatocellular carcinoma and high-grade dysplastic



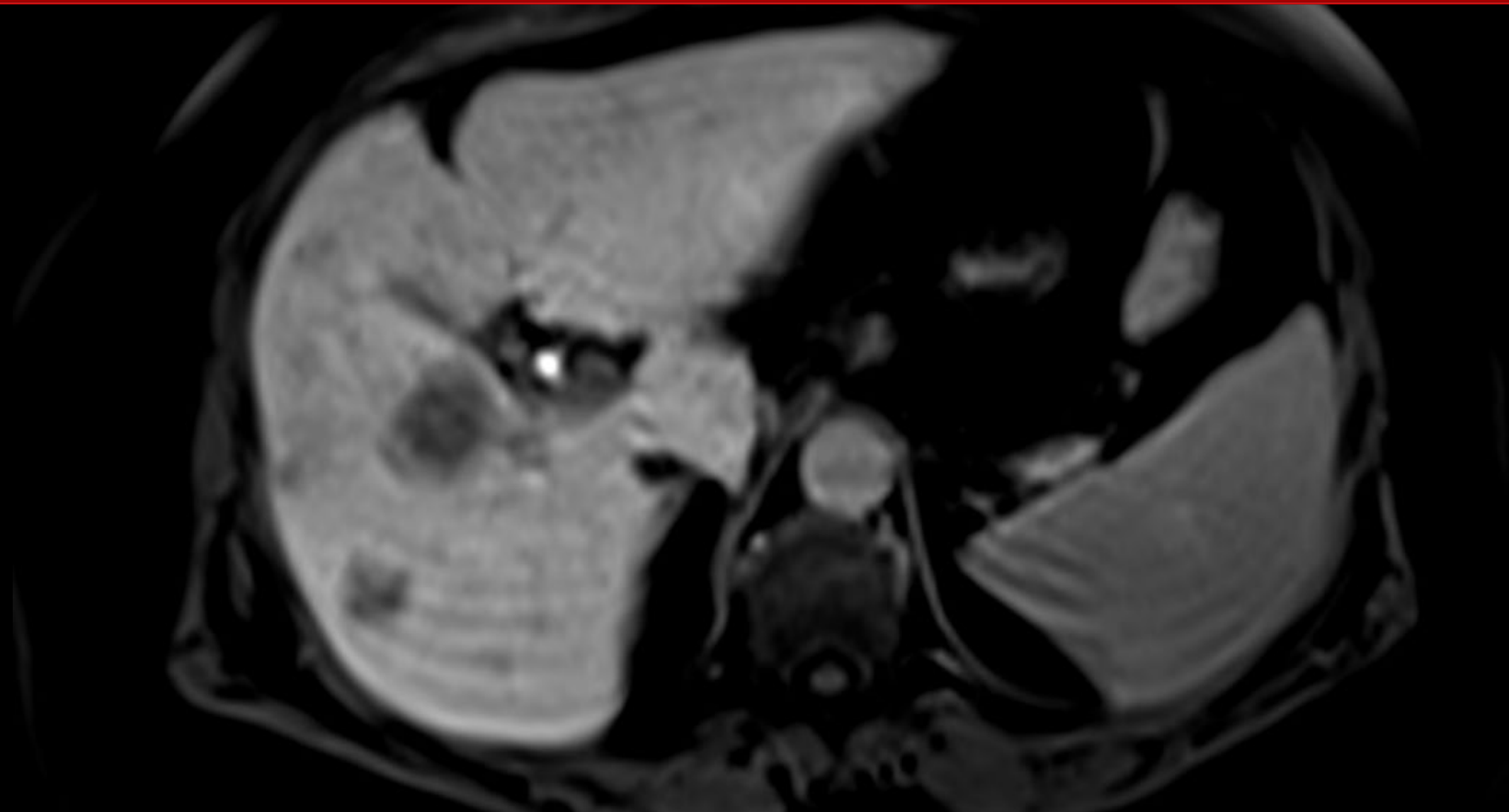
demonstrated significantly higher sensitivity and comparable specificity than those of the AASLD imaging criteria for HCC in patients with cirrhosis evaluated using

the liver imaging reporting and data system (LI-RADS) did not demonstrate high-diagnostic efficacy in our series. However, according to our results, when considering hypointensity in

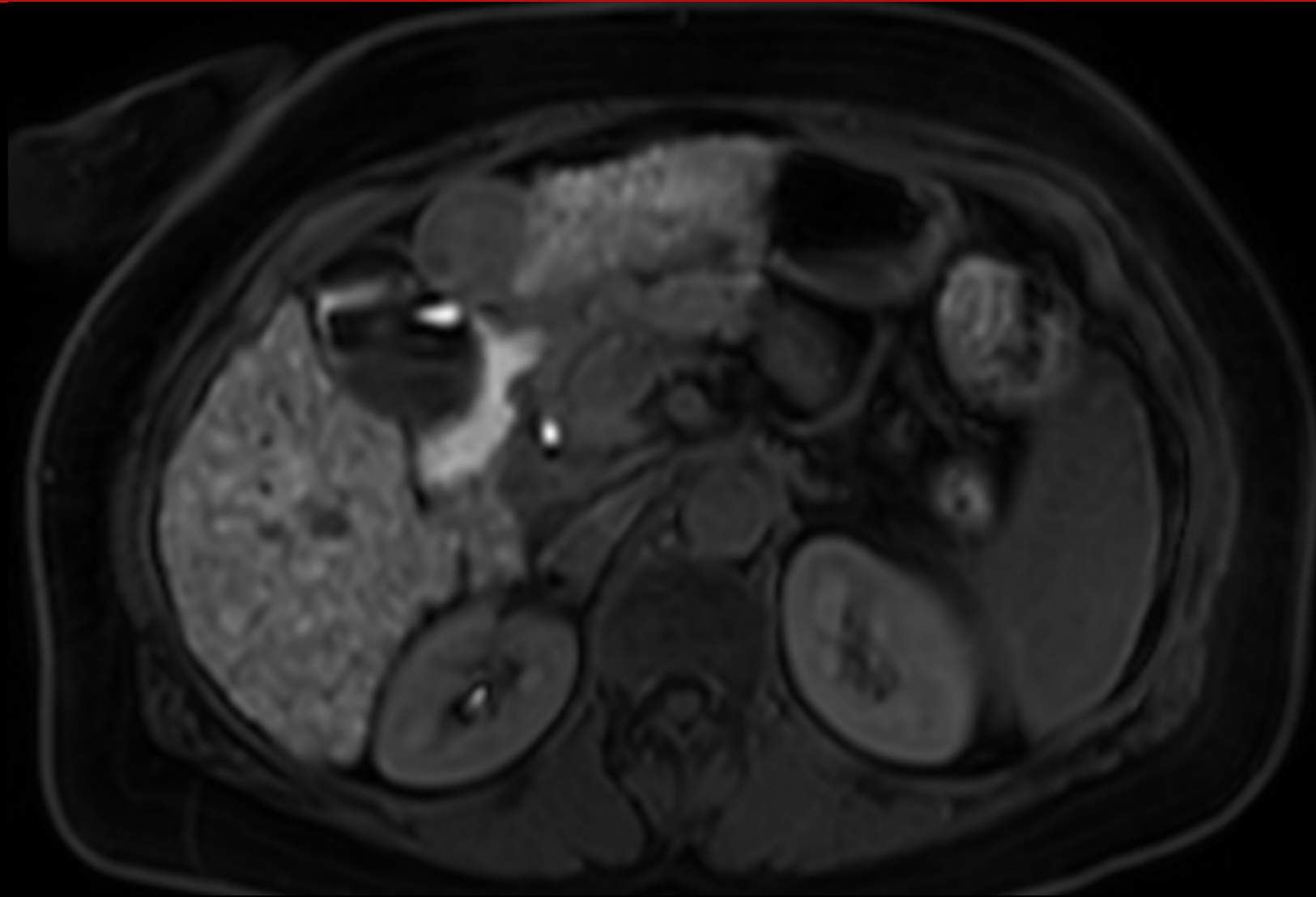
HCC CARCINOGENESIS



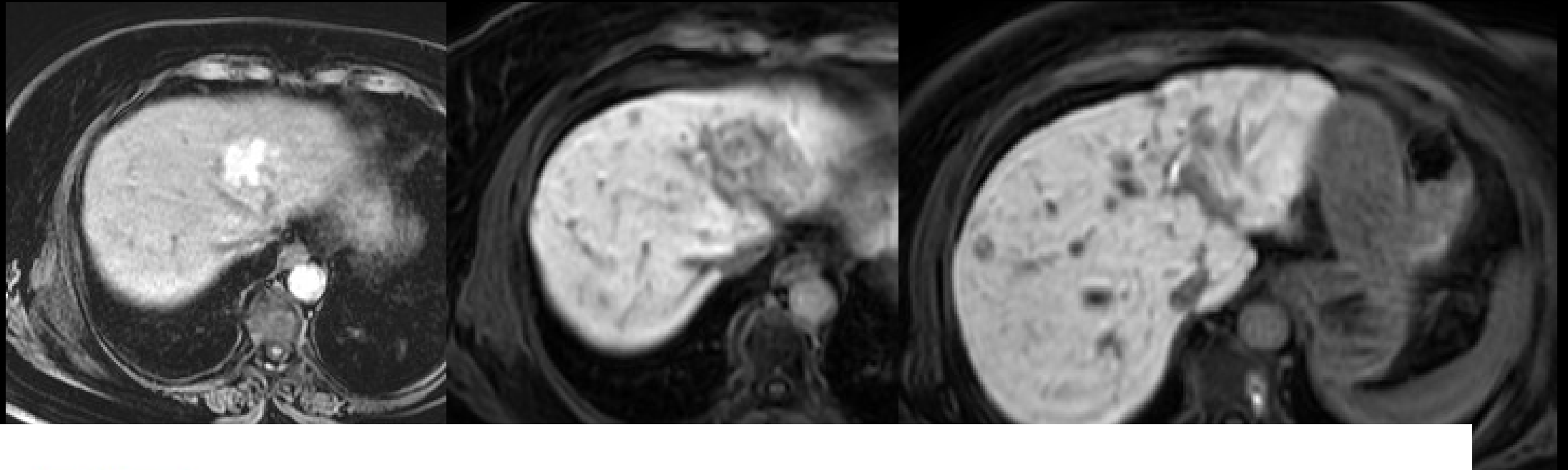
HCC MAPPING



HCC CARCINOGENESIS / AFP



HCC – SIZE?



DIR

Diagn Interv Radiol DOI 10.5152/dir.2015.15125

© Turkish Society of Radiology 2015

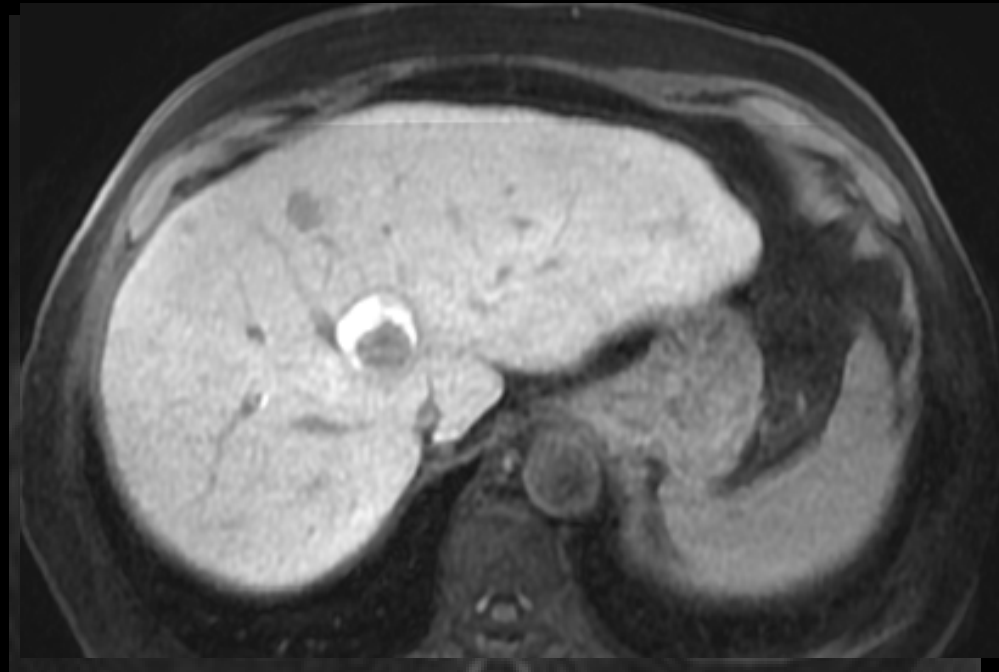
ABDOMINAL IMAGING

REVIEW

Microvascular invasion in hepatocellular carcinoma

GD-EOB-DTPA – HCC – OATP8
HYPERINTENSE (%10)

CTNNB1 – MUTATED BETA CATENIN



Kitao&Matsui. Radiology 2010. Suh JY et al. AJR 2011, Choi JW, Lee JM et al. Radiology 2014

HCC CARCINOGENESIS

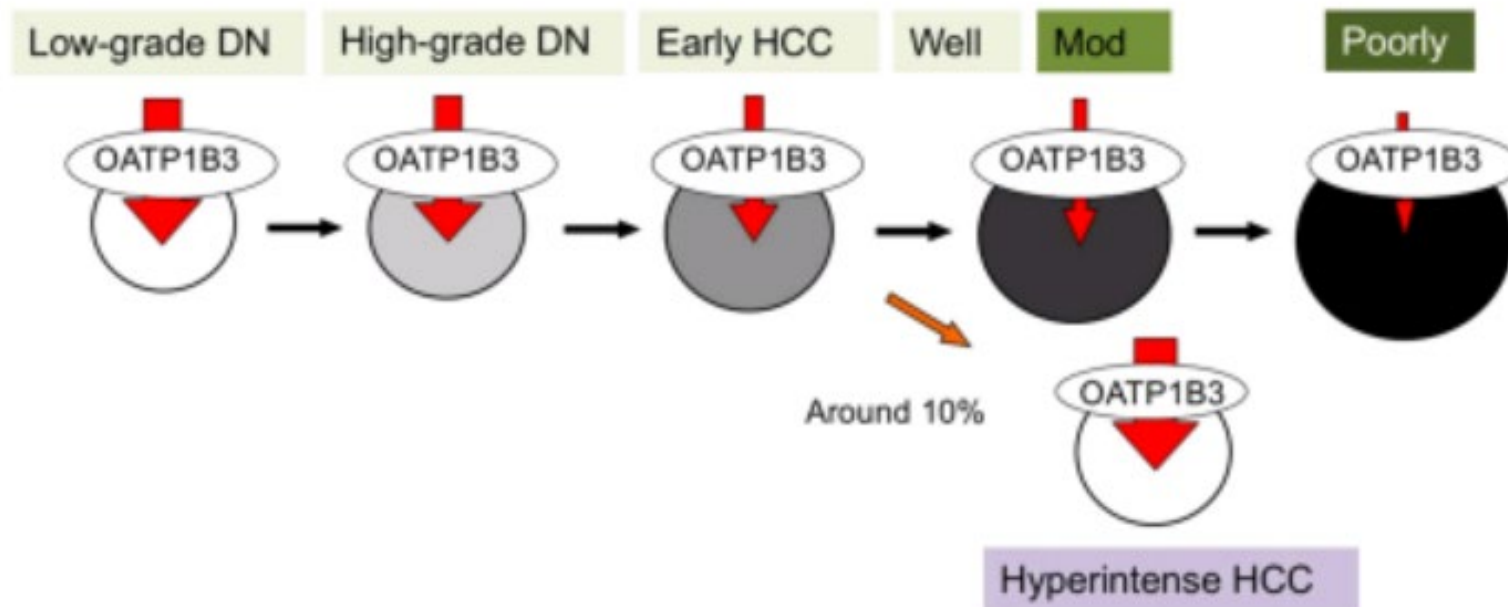


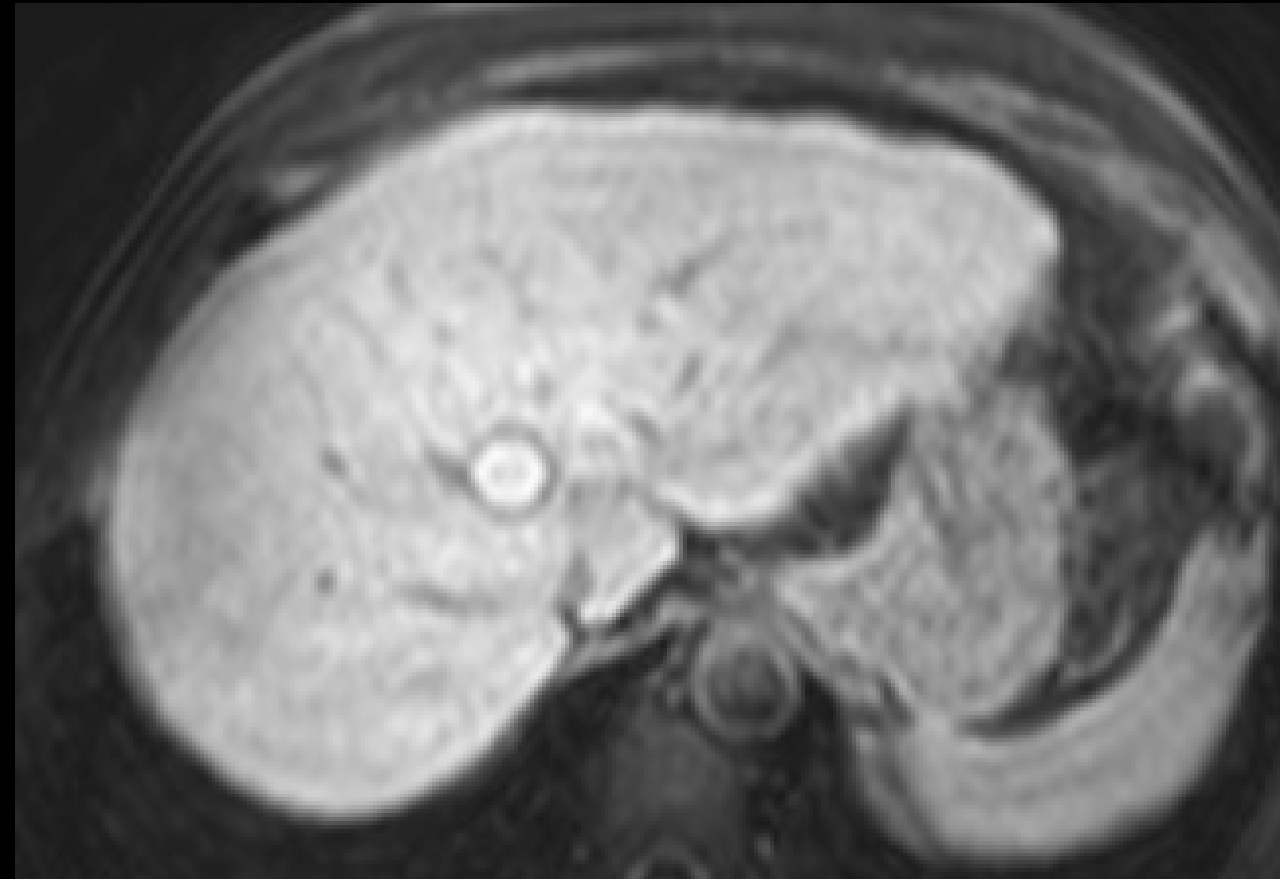
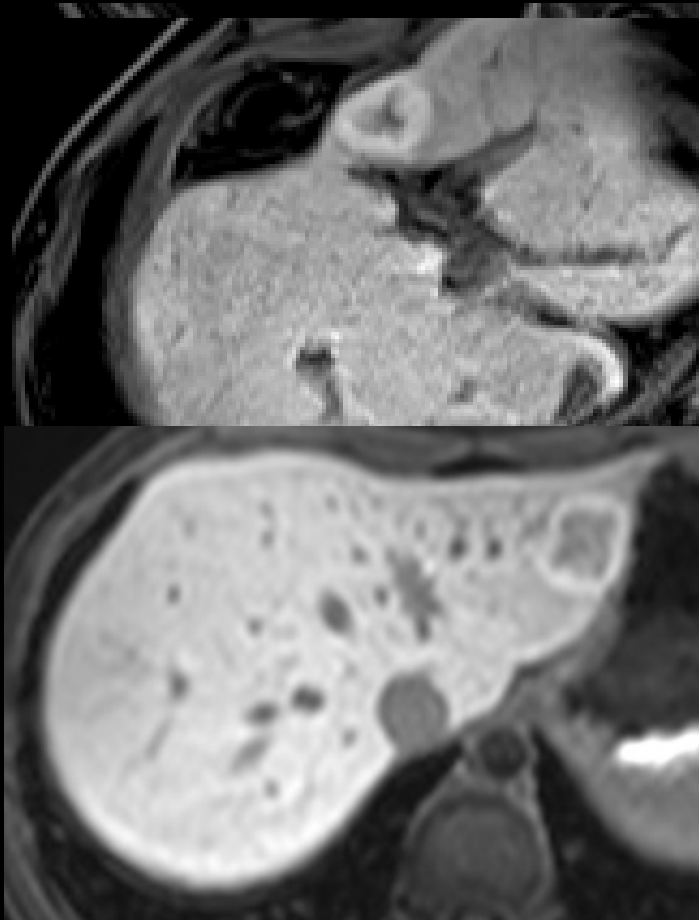
Fig.5 Grade of gadoxetic acid uptake in HB phase is useful for predicting the grade of differentiation of HCC. The expression of OATP1B3 (main uptake transporter of gadoxetic acid in HCC) is significantly decreased in parallel with increasing grade of malignancy of the nodules. Around 80% of early HCCs already demonstrate decreased but not absent OATP1B3 expression relative to the surrounding liver parenchyma. All of the poorly differentiated HCCs

show absent or markedly decreased expression. Well and moderately differentiated HCCs demonstrate an intermediate grade of OATP1B3 expression between early HCC and poorly differentiated HCCs. Around 10% of them show equivalent or increased expression relative to the surrounding liver. Signal intensity of HB phase is useful for predicting the grade of differentiation of HCC. Modified from reference [38]

GD-EOB-DTPA – OATP+

FNH

HCC (%10)



Gd-EOB-DTPA-MRI Could Predict WNT/ β -Catenin Mutatic Resistance to Immune Checkpoint Inhibitor Therapy in Hepatocarcinoma

Masatoshi Kudo*

[Author information](#) [Article notes](#) [Copyright and License information](#) [Disclaimer](#)

Introduction



	PROLIFERATION CLASS		NON-PROLIFERATION CLASS
Molecular Class	Hoshida S1	Hoshida S2	Hoshida S3
	Boyault G2-G3	Boyault G1	Boyault G5-G6
Molecular Pathways	TGF- β \uparrow WNT \uparrow	Myc \uparrow Akt \uparrow	Retained Hepatocyte-like
	E2F1	p53	
Genetic / Biological Alteration	Late TGF- β \uparrow	EpCAM (+) \uparrow	CTNNB1 mutation
Clinical Phenotype	Moderately/poorly differentiated		Well-differentiated
		AFP \uparrow	
	Poor survival		Good survival

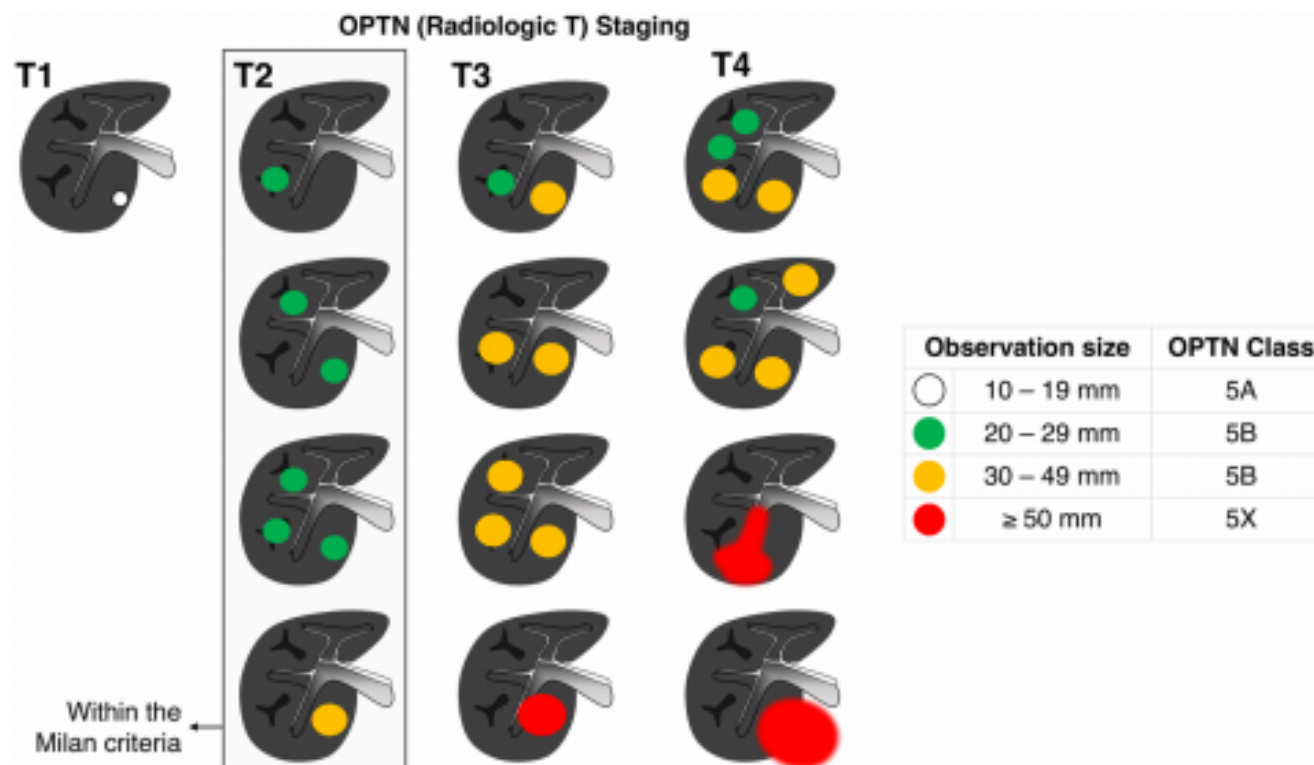
[Fig. 1](#)

Molecular classification of HCC. The figure is based on previous studies [2, 3, 4, 5, 6].

The development of immune checkpoint inhibitor (ICI) therapies led to the classification of HCC into immune subclasses according to the tumor microenvironment (TME), which should affect the outcome of ICI therapy [7, 8, 9, 10]. For example, Llovet et al. [10] proposed 3 immune-specific subtypes, i.e., an immune class, an immune intermediate class, and an immune exclusion class; 20–30% of HCC belong to the immune exclusion class with WNT/ β -catenin mutations [11] (Fig. 2). Kurebayashi et al. [8] proposed three subclasses (immune high, immune-mid, and immune-low subtypes) and showed that infiltration of B cells and plasma cells, as well as of CD4⁺ and CD8⁺ T cells, is responsible for the high antitumor immune response of the immune-high subtype [12]. In any classification system, the subclasses carrying active

OPTN T STAGING

Fig. 1 HCC staging and Milan criteria: OPTN T2 stage criteria to qualify for MELD exception points corresponds to Milan criteria, as follows: Candidates with HCC are eligible for a standardized MELD exception if they have: One lesion greater than or equal to 2 cm and less than or equal to 5 cm in size; *or* two or three lesions each greater than or equal to 1 cm and less than or equal to 3 cm in size. Additionally, alpha-fetoprotein (AFP) level must be less than or equal to 1000 ng/mL. If patients have more or less disease than T2 stage, they do not qualify through the automatic exception point process



BARCELONA CLINICAL STAGING

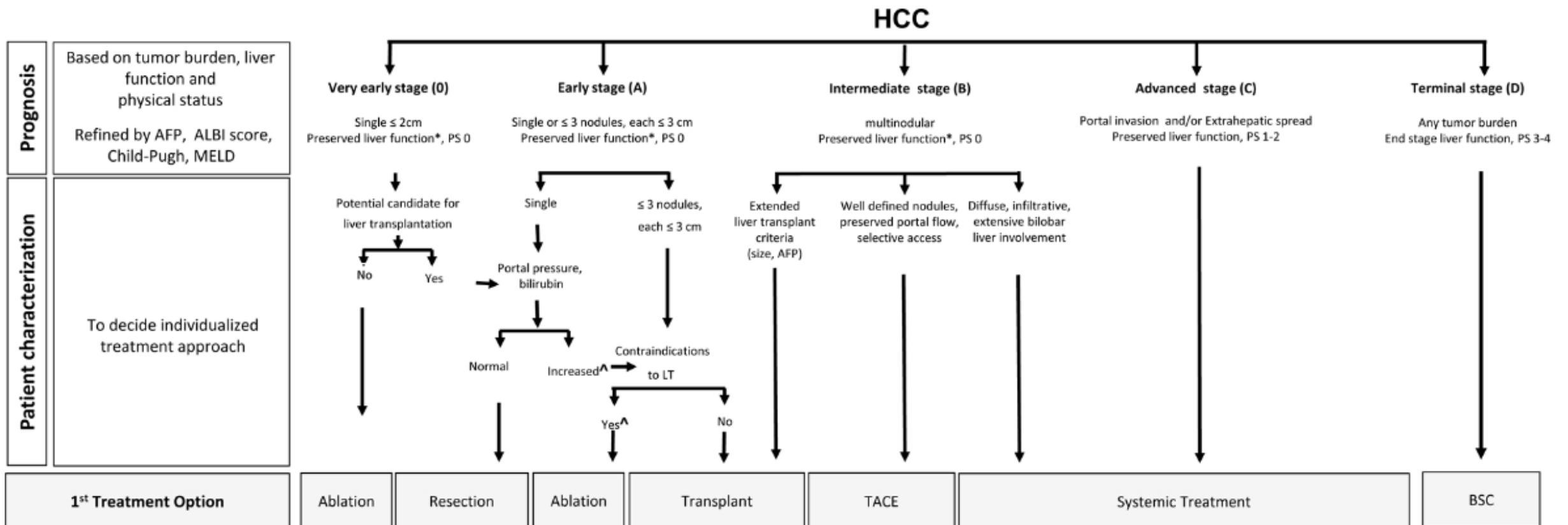
J Hepatol. 2022 Mar; 76(3): 681–693.

Published online 2021 Nov 19. doi: [10.1016/j.jhep.2021.11.018](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jhep.2021.11.018)

► Copyright/License [Request permission to reuse](#)

<< Prev Fig. 1. Next >>

Fig. 1.



HCC- PROGNOSIS

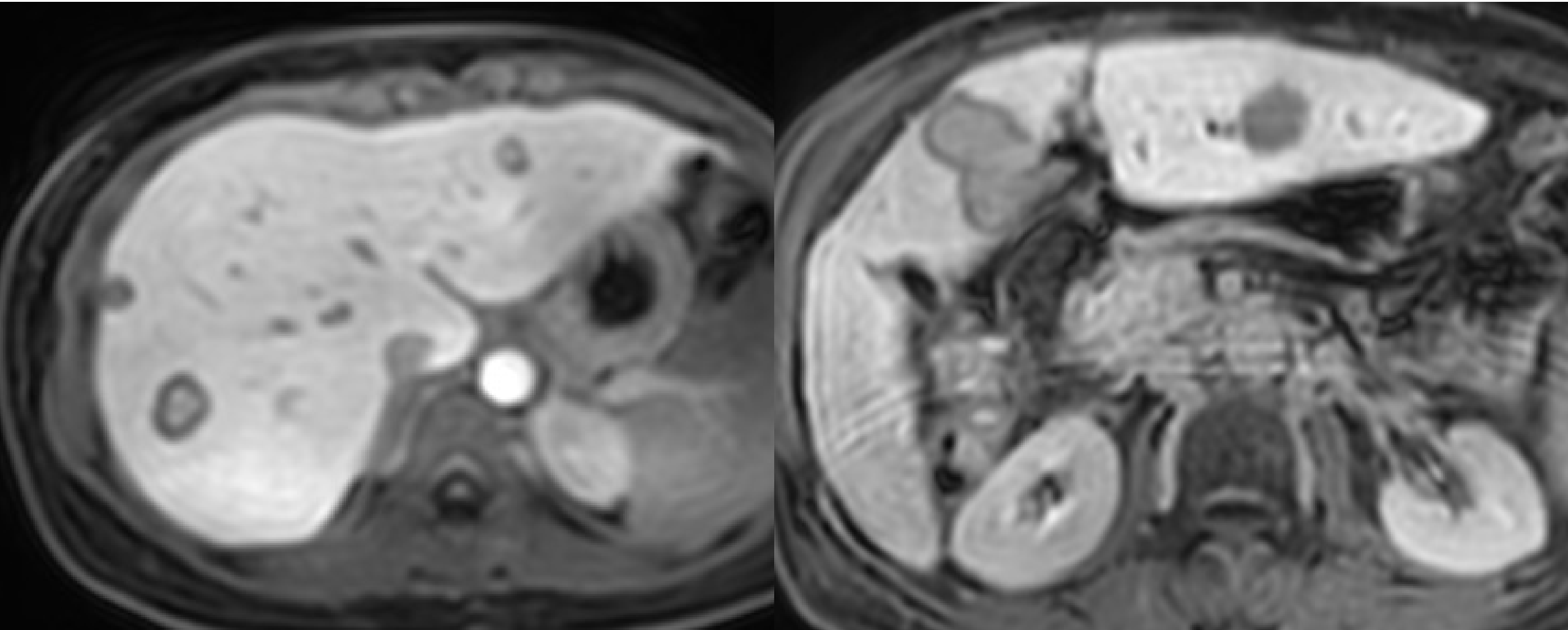
GOOD PROGNOSIS

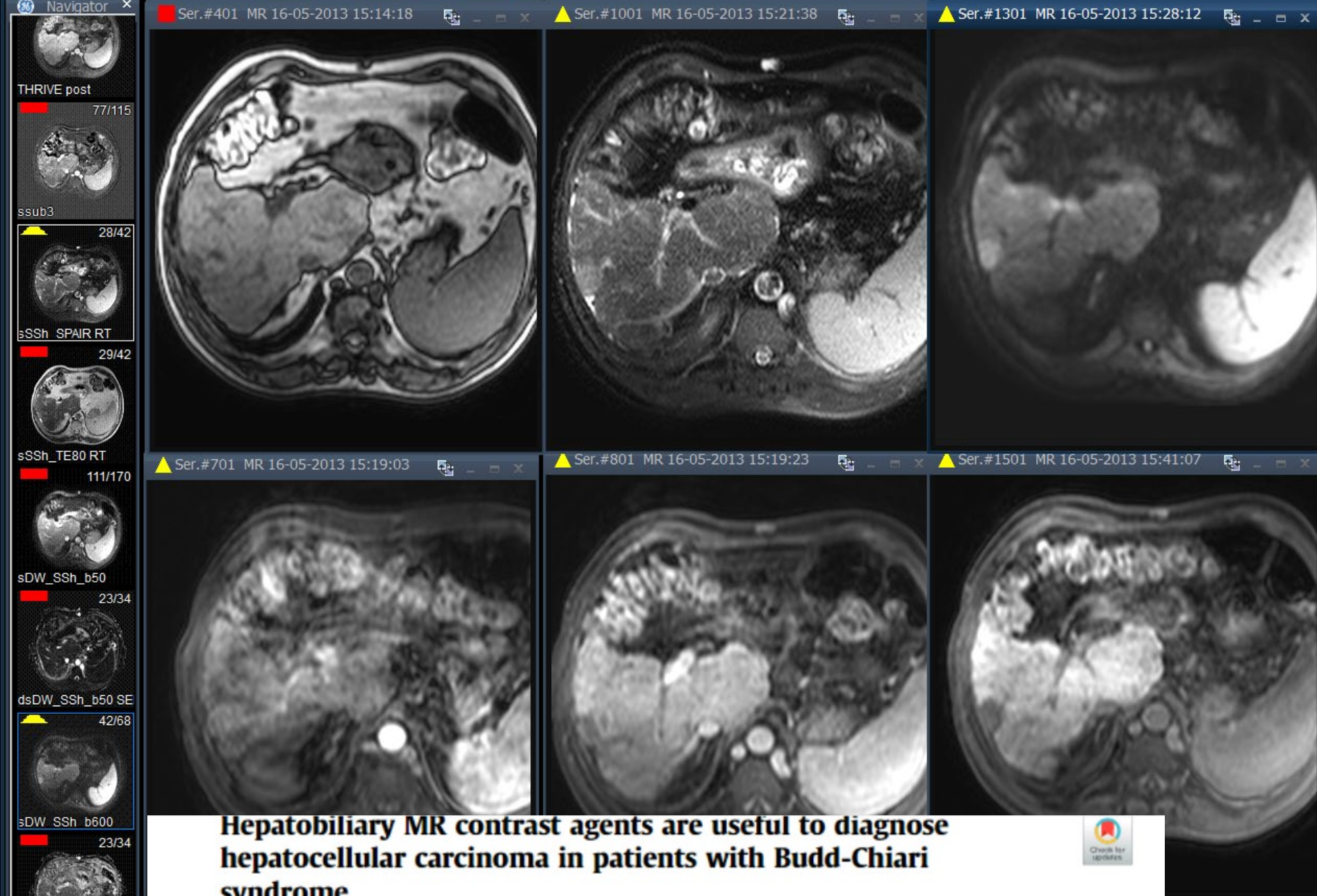
- SMALL LESION
- SOLITARY
- SN-IM / SN-DMC
CAPSULE
- CTNNB-1 MUTATION
OATP+ (B-CATENIN)
- FAT
- HIGH ADC

BAD PROGNOSIS

- LARGE LESION
- MULTIFOCAL
- SN-EG/CMN/ INFIITRATIVE
- CK19, EpCAM, MTM
MUTATIONS
- MACRO/MICROVASCULAR
- LOW ADC, FDG+
- BILIARY INVASION

**“REVERSE TARGET” SIGN
HEPATOBILIARY PHASE = LIRADS-M**



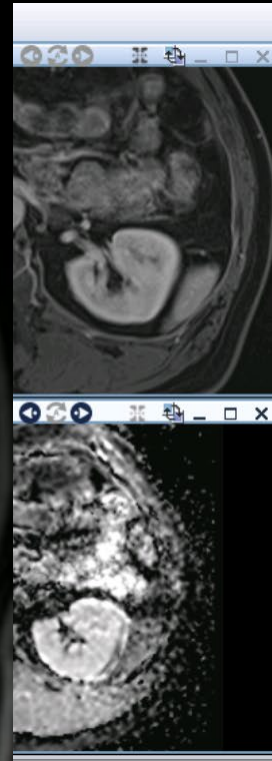
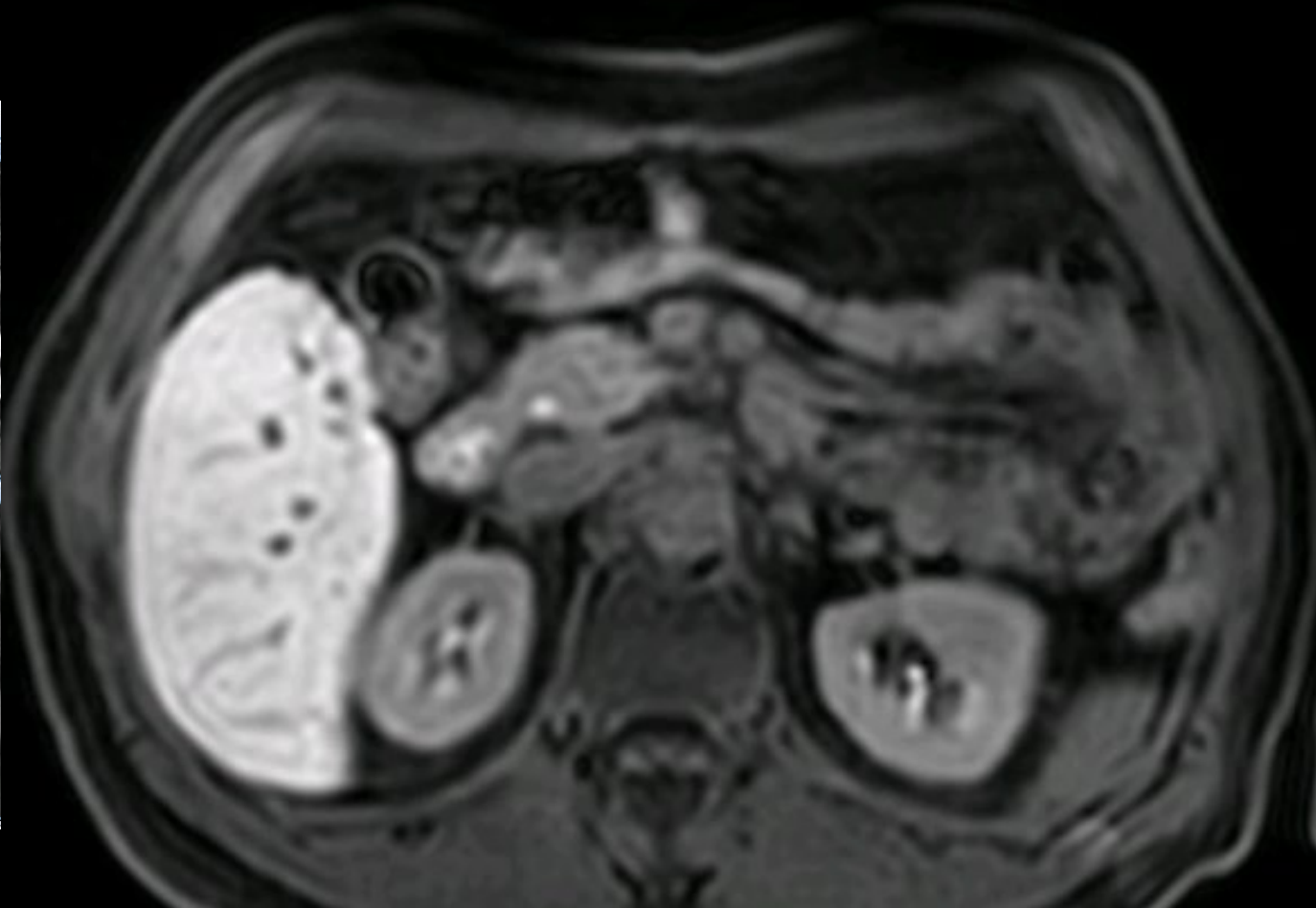
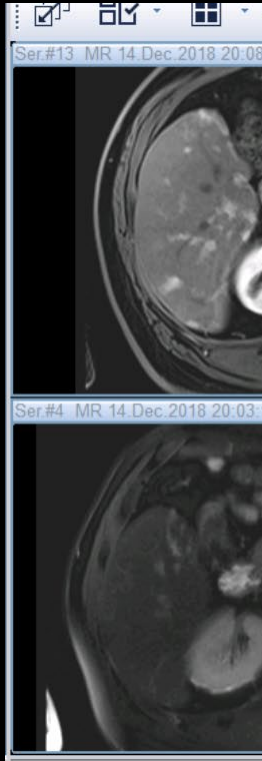


Hepatobiliary MR contrast agents are useful to diagnose hepatocellular carcinoma in patients with Budd-Chiari syndrome

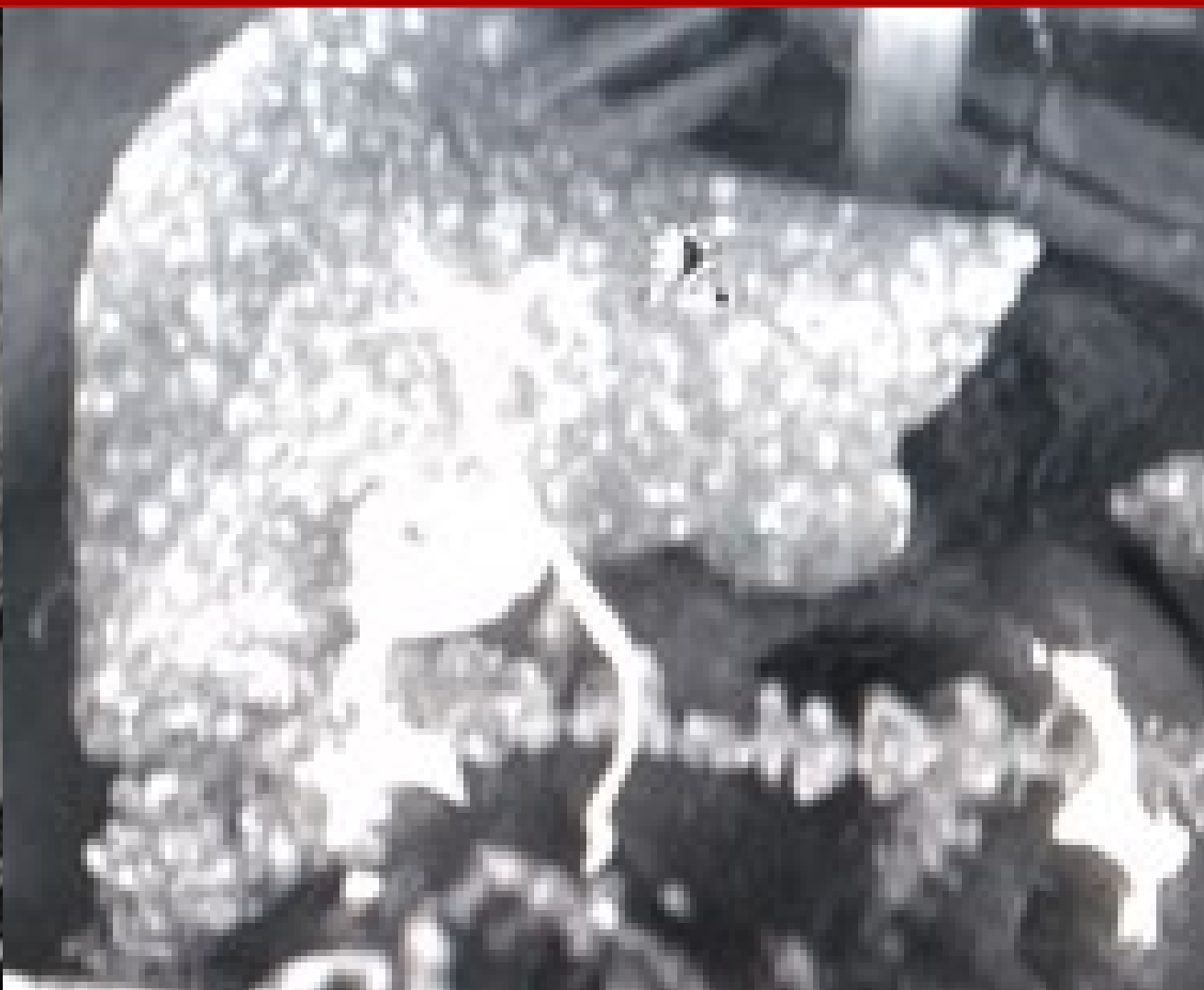
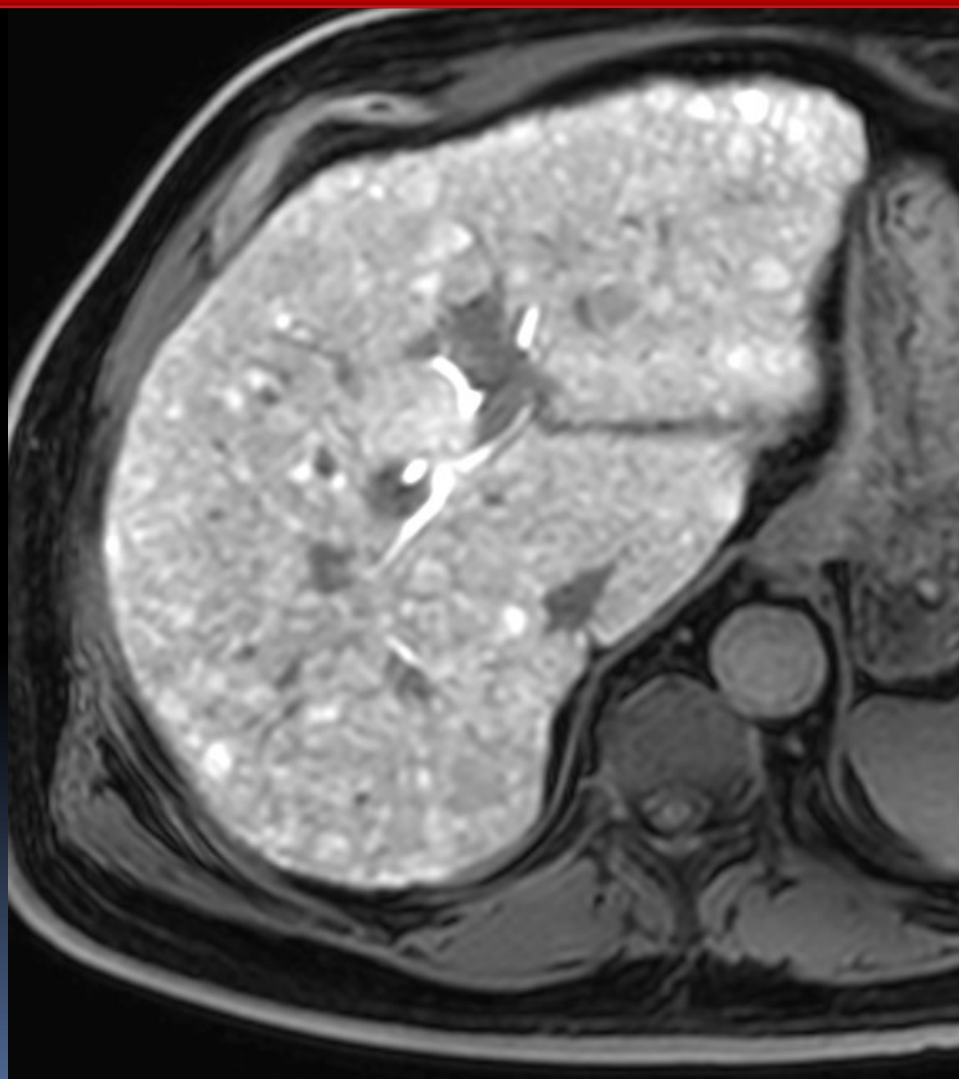
Morgane Van Wettere,¹ Luisa Paulatto,¹ Lucas Raynaud,¹ Onorina Bruno,¹ Audrey Payancé,^{2,3} Aurélie Plessier,^{2,3} Pierre-Emmanuel Rautou,^{2,3,4,5} Valérie Paradis,^{3,6} Dominique Cazals-Hatem,⁶ Dominique Valla,^{2,3,5} Valérie Vilgrain,^{1,3,7} Maxime Ronot^{1,3,7*}



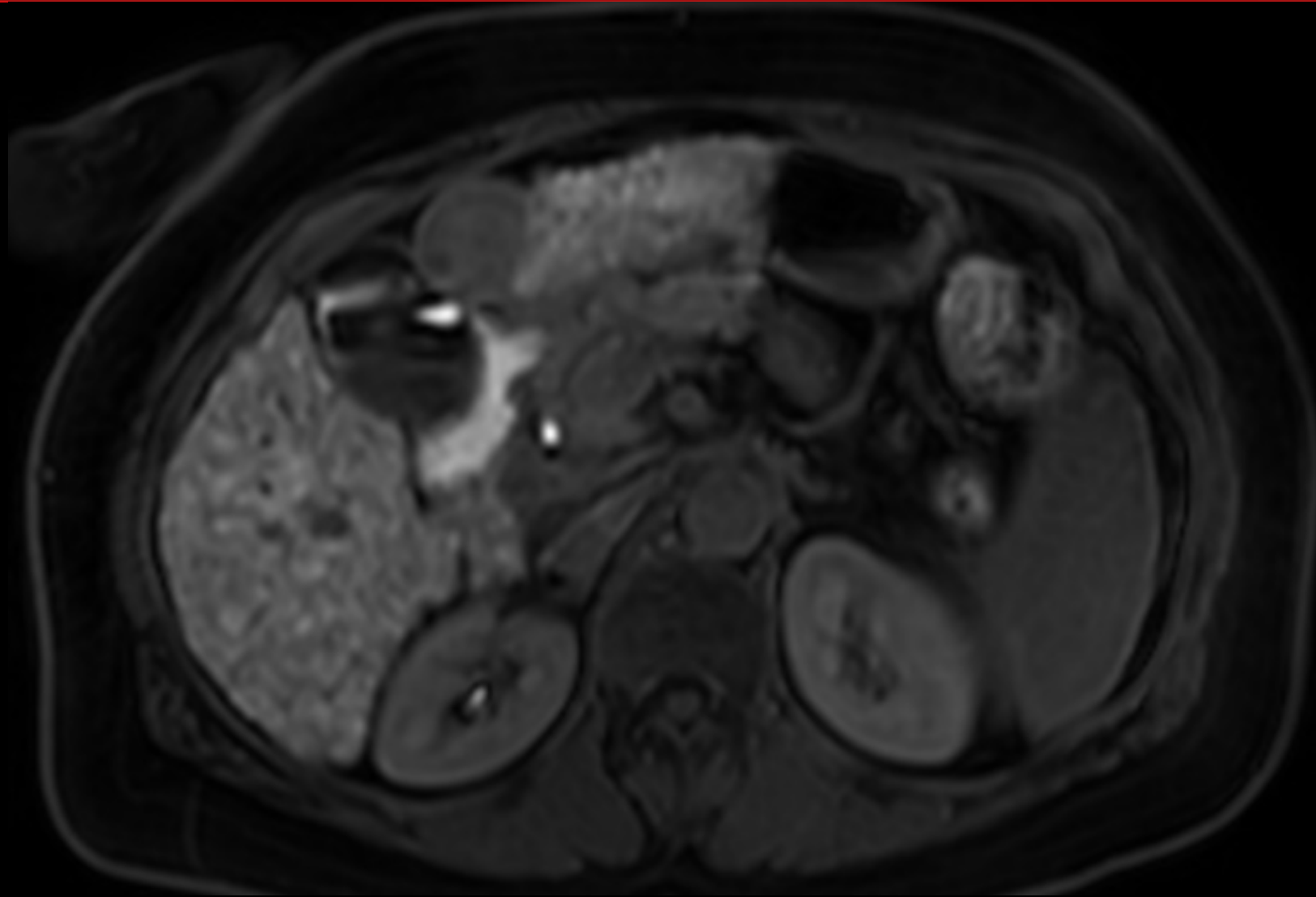
CIRRHOSIS – HYPERVASCULAR LESIONS

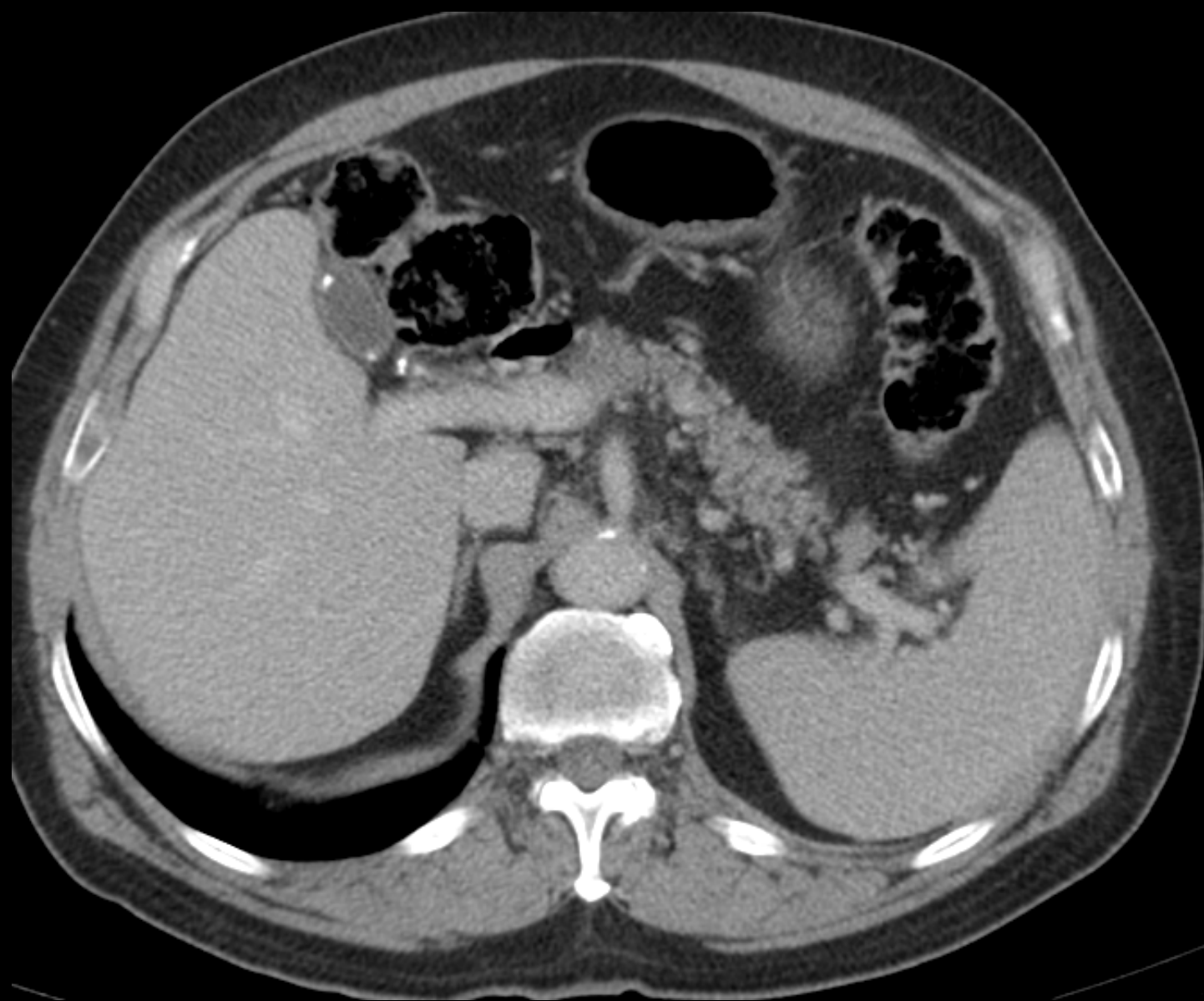


REGENERATIVE NODULES MULTIFOCAL

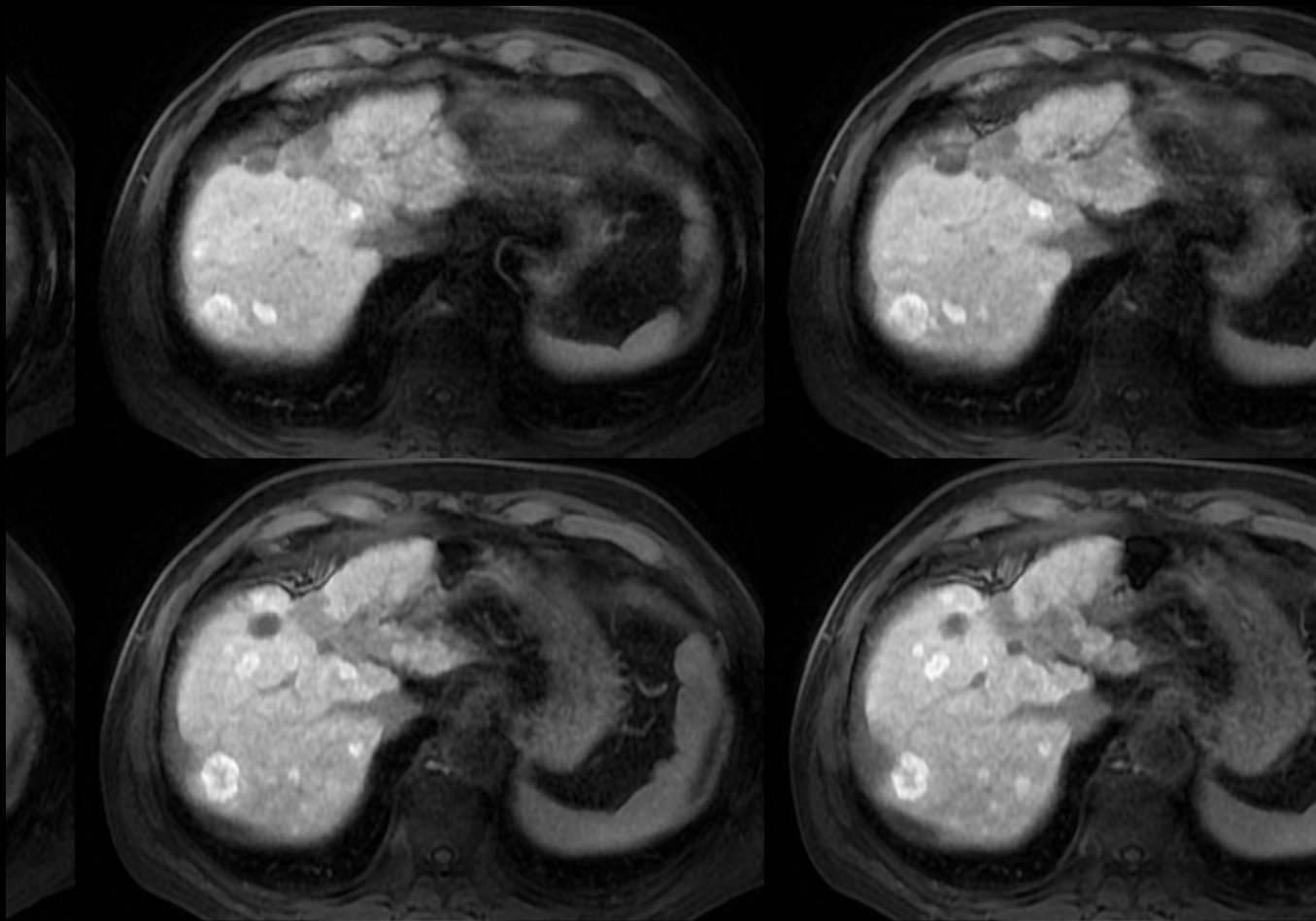


HCC CARCINOGENESIS / AFP INVISIBLE GORILLA CONCEPT





CIRRHOSIS OATP1(+) MULTIPLE NODULES SERUM AMYLOID A + NODULES/MULTIACINAR CIRRHOTIC NODULES



European Radiology (2019) 29:6489–6498
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s00330-019-06329-y>

GASTROINTESTINAL



Doughnut-like hyperintense nodules on hepatobiliary phase without arterial-phase hyperenhancement in cirrhotic liver: imaging and clinicopathological features

Kazuto Kozaka¹ · Satoshi Kobayashi² · Norihide Yoneda¹ · Azusa Kitao¹ · Kotaro Yoshida¹ · Dai Inoue¹ · Takahiro Ogi¹ · Wataru Koda¹ · Yasunori Sato³ · Toshifumi Gabata¹ · Osamu Matsui¹

Received: 10 April 2019 / Revised: 4 June 2019 / Accepted: 13 June 2019 / Published online: 5 July 2019
© European Society of Radiology 2019

Abstract

Objectives To determine the imaging and clinicopathological features of MRI doughnut-like nodules (HBP-doughnut nodules), hyperintense at the hepatobiliary phase (HBP) after injection of gadoxetic acid (EOB) and without arterial-phase hyperenhancement (APHE) in cirrhotic liver.

Methods The Institutional Review Board approved this retrospective study and informed consent was waived. We enrolled 309 consecutive patients with liver cirrhosis who were examined by EOB-MRI, dynamic CT, and angiography-assisted CT between 2008 and 2012 and searched for HBP-doughnut nodules. We evaluated imaging characteristics including haemodynamics and signal intensity of MRI, pathological findings, and frequency of malignant transformation.

Results One hundred and one HBP-doughnut nodules without APHE were identified in 18 patients (6%), including seven of 59 (12%) patients with hepatitis-B-virus-related, nine of 230 (3.9%) with hepatitis-C-virus-related, and two of 33 (6.1%) with alcoholic cirrhosis. All nodules showed enhancement peaks in the portal phase, the same or increased intranodular portal supply on CT during arterial portography, and the same or decreased intranodular arterial supply on CT during hepatic arteriography. On T2-weighted and diffusion-weighted images, 37 (36%) and 24 (24%) nodules, respectively, showed hyperintensity predominantly in the central area. Three nodules were diagnosed by fine needle biopsy as non-neoplastic hepatic nodules. Ninety-three of 101 (92%) nodules in 16 patients were followed up during an observation period of 1163 ± 902 days (range 57–2920 days), and none showed malignant transformation.

Conclusion HBP-doughnut nodules without APHE in cirrhotic liver were not infrequent. None became malignant. We propose calling them 'multiacinar cirrhotic nodules' based on the classification by an International Working Party.

Key Points

• HBP-doughnut nodules without APHE were seen in 6% of patients with liver cirrhosis.

GD-EOB / LIVER FUNCTION & DYSFUNCTION

GOOD

FLIS 6

MODERATE

FLIS 4

POOR

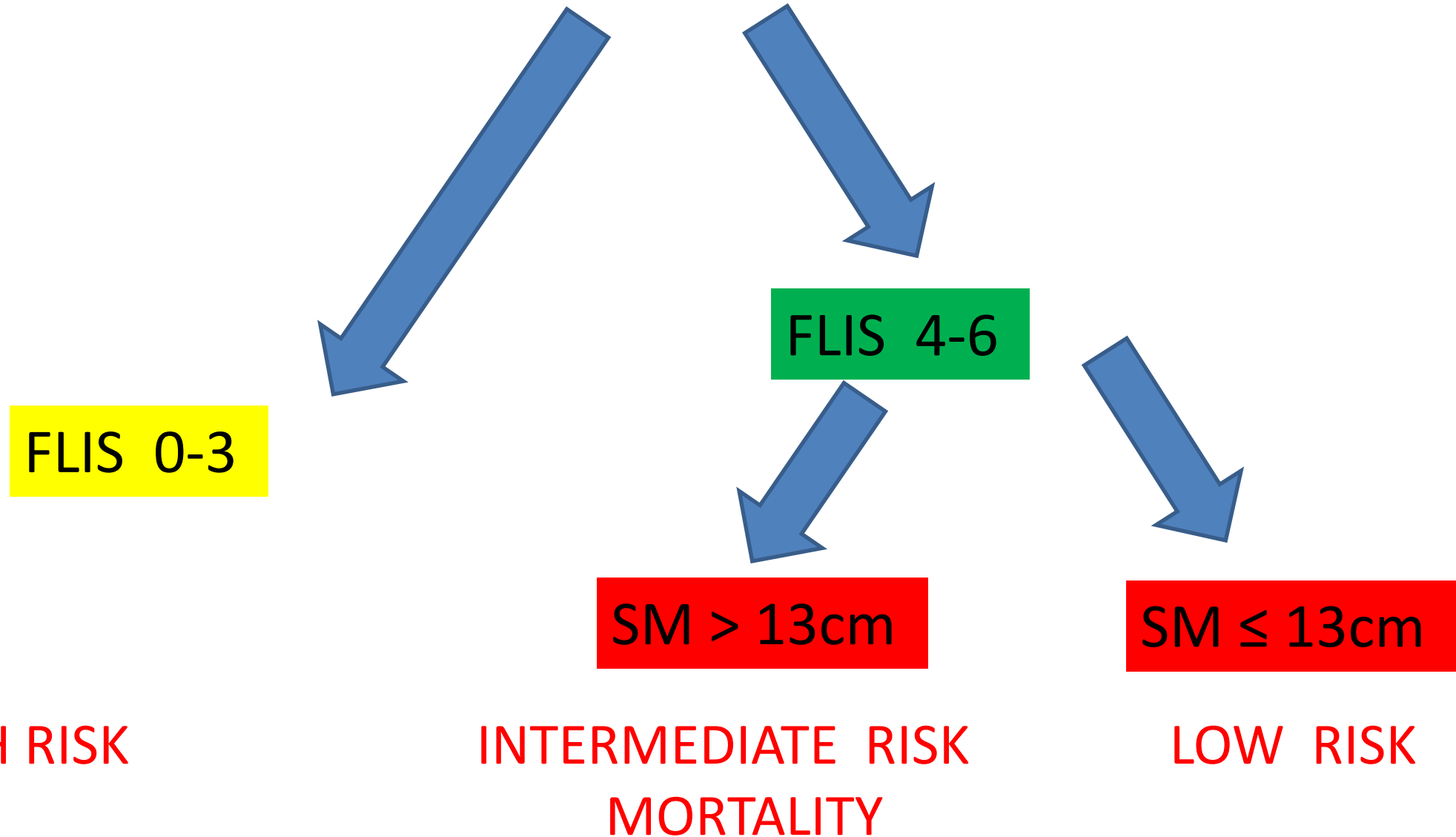
FLIS ≤ 3



Unal E et al. Liver Function Assessment by MRI. Semin. US, CT, MRI 2016

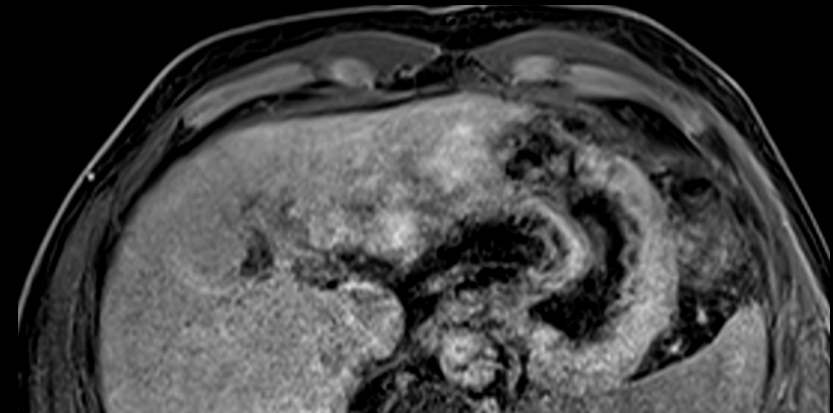
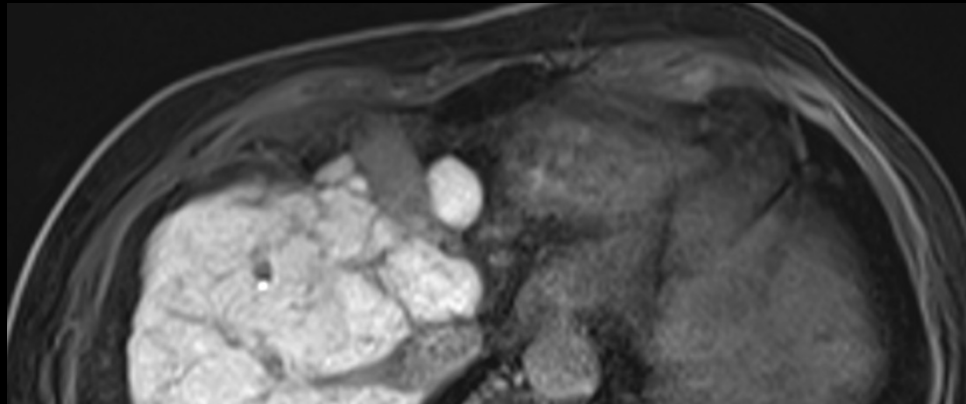
Ba ssalamah A et al. JMRI 2017

BA-SSALAMAH / FLIS 7 CHRONIC LD

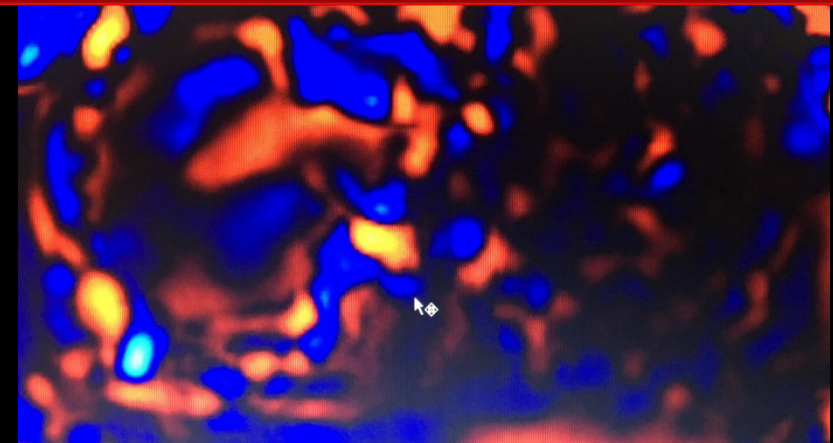
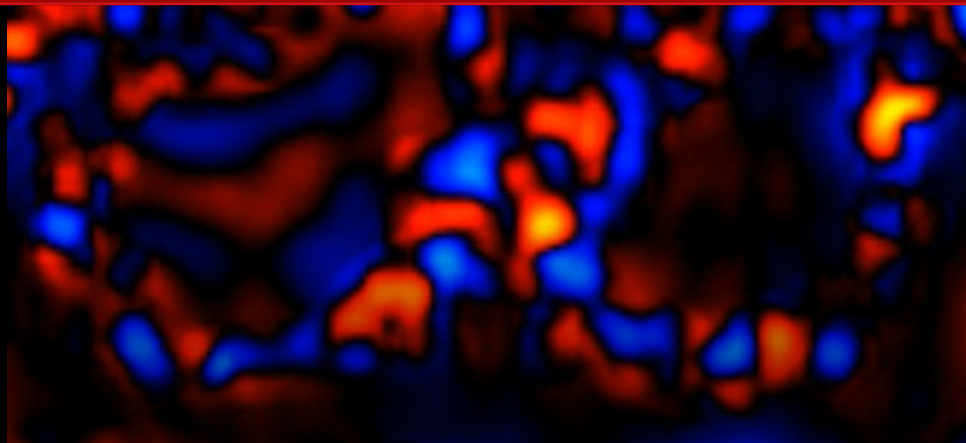


T1_RR : 60%
STIFFNESS : 5.4kPa

T1_RR : 40%
STIFFNESS : 5.6kPa



FIBROSIS AND EXCRETION NOT ALWAYS CORRELATE



GD-EOB-DTPA/ SORAMIC STUDY

Research article



JHEP|Reports

Gadoxetic acid-based hepatobiliary MRI in hepatocellular carcinoma



Jens Ricke,^{1,*} Ingo G. Steffen,¹ Irene Bargellini,² Thomas Berg,³ José Ignacio Bilbao Jaureguizar,⁴ Bernhard Gebauer,⁵ Roberto Iezzi,⁶ Christian Loewe,⁷ Musturay Karçaaltincaba,⁸ Maciej Pech,⁹ Christian Sengel,¹⁰ Otto van Delden,¹¹ Vincent Vandecaveye,¹² Christoph J. Zech,¹³ Max Seidensticker¹

¹Department of Radiology, Ludwig-Maximilians-University Munich, Munich, Germany; ²Department of Interventional Radiology, Pisa University Hospital, Pisa, Italy; ³Klinik und Poliklinik für Gastroenterologie, Sektion Hepatologie, Universitätsklinikum Leipzig AöR, Leipzig, Germany; ⁴Department of Radiology, Clínica Universidad de Navarra, Pamplona, Spain; ⁵Department of Radiology, Charité-Universitätsmedizin Berlin, Berlin, Germany; ⁶Dipartimento di Diagnostica per Immagini, Radioterapia Oncologica ed Ematologia, Fondazione Policlinico Universitario A. Gemelli IRCCS, UOC di Radiologia, Rome, Italy; ⁷Section of Cardiovascular and Interventional Radiology, Department of Bioimaging and Image-Guided Therapy, Medical University of Vienna, Vienna, Austria; ⁸Department of Radiology, Hacettepe University School of Medicine, Ankara, Turkey; ⁹Department of Radiology and Nuclear Medicine, University of Magdeburg, Magdeburg, Germany; ¹⁰Radiologie interventionnelle vasculaire et percutanée, CHU de Grenoble, Grenoble, France; ¹¹Department of Radiology and Nuclear Medicine, Academic Medical Center, University of Amsterdam, Amsterdam, The Netherlands; ¹²Department of Radiology, University Hospitals Leuven, Leuven, Belgium; ¹³Radiology and Nuclear Medicine, University Hospital Basel, University of Basel, Basel, Switzerland

JHEP Reports 2020. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jhepr.2020.100173>

Background & Aims: SORAMIC is a prospective phase II randomised controlled trial in hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC). It consists of 3 parts: a diagnostic study and 2 therapeutic studies with either curative ablation or palliative Yttrium-90 radioembolisation combined with sorafenib. We report the diagnostic cohort study aimed to determine the accuracy of gadoxetic acid-enhanced magnetic resonance imaging (MRI), including hepatobiliary phase (HBP) imaging features compared with contrast-enhanced computed tomography (CT). The primary objective was the accuracy of treatment decisions stratifying patients for curative or palliative (non-ablation) treatment.

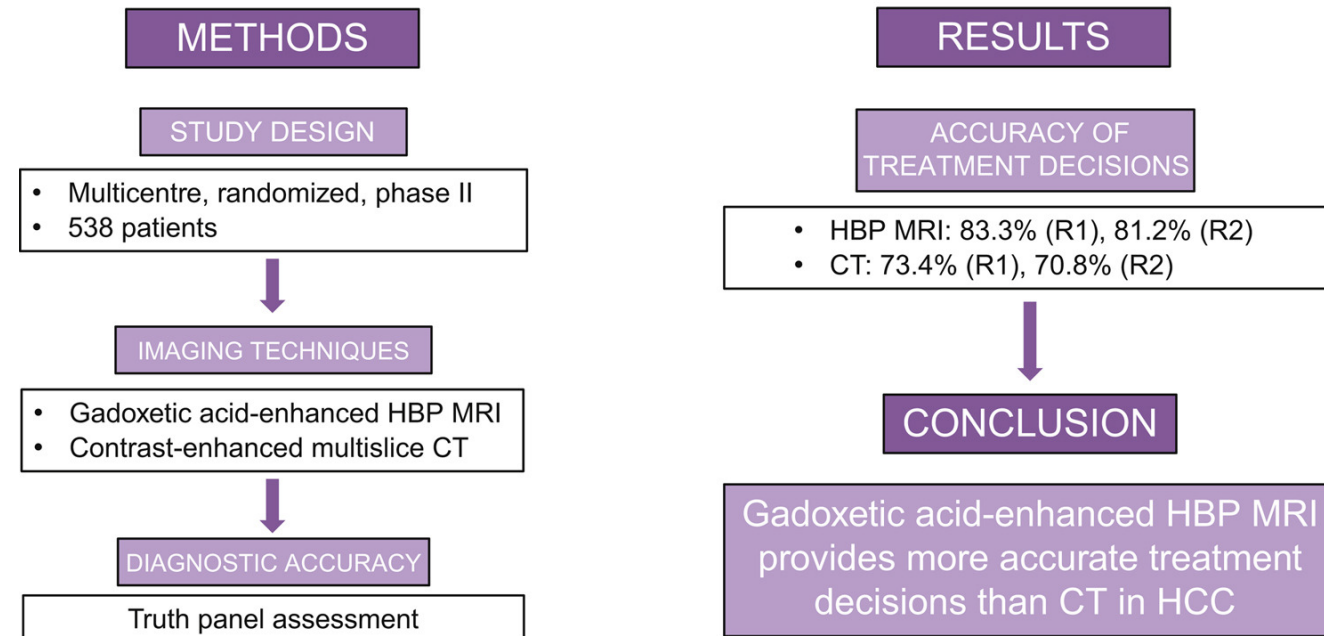
Methods: Patients with clinically suspected HCC underwent gadoxetic acid-enhanced MRI (HBP MRI, including dynamic MRI) and contrast-enhanced CT. Blinded read of the image data was performed by 2 reader groups (radiologists, R1 and R2). A truth panel with access to all clinical data and follow-up imaging served as reference. Imaging criteria for curative ablation were defined as up to 4 lesions <5 cm and absence of macrovascular invasion. The primary endpoint was non-inferiority of HBP MRI vs. CT in a first step and superiority in a second step.

Results: The intent-to-treat population comprised 538 patients. Treatment decisions matched the truth panel assessment in 83.3% and 81.2% for HBP MRI (R1 and R2), and 73.4% and 70.8% for CT. Non-inferiority and superiority (second step) of HBP MRI vs. CT were demonstrated (odds ratio 1.14 [1.09–1.19]). HBP MRI identified patients with >4 lesions significantly more frequently than CT.

Conclusions: In HCC, HBP MRI provided a more accurate decision than CT for a curative vs. palliative treatment strategy.

© 2020 The Author(s). Published by Elsevier B.V. on behalf of European Association for the Study of the Liver (EASL). This is an open access article under the CC BY-NC-ND license (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/4.0/>).

SORAMIC DIAGNOSTIC TRIAL: HBP MRI VERSUS CT IN HCC



CT, computed tomography; HBP, hepatobiliary phase; HCC, hepatocellular carcinoma; MRI, magnetic resonance imaging; R, reader group

HCC- PROGNOSIS

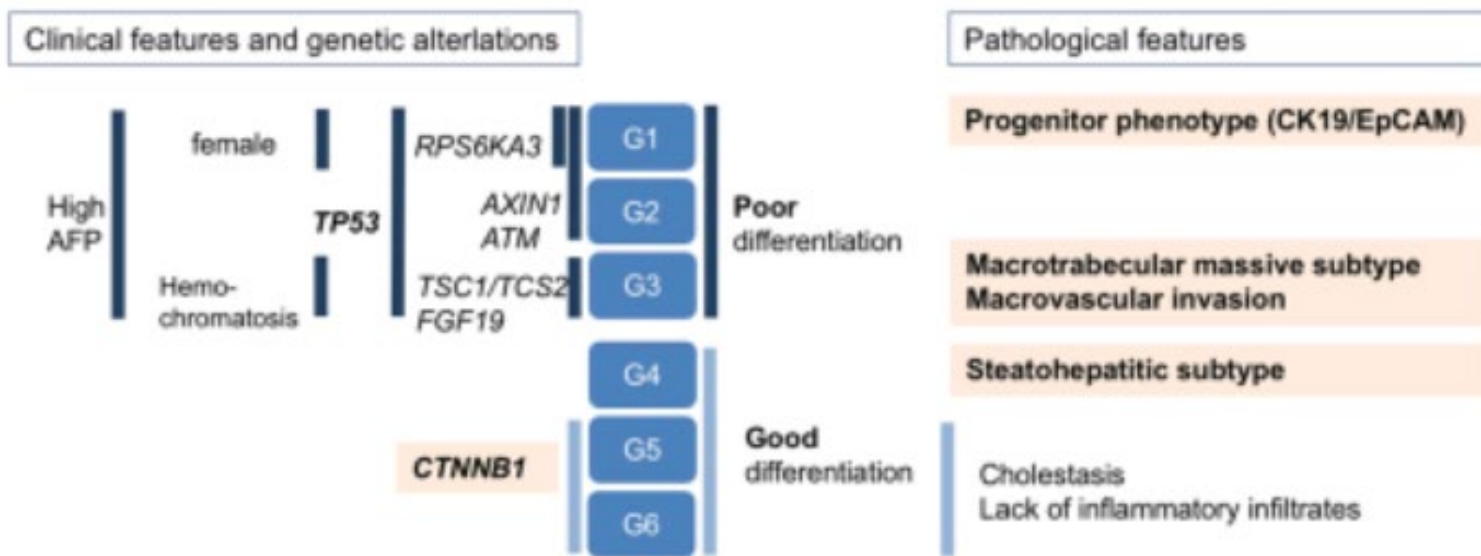
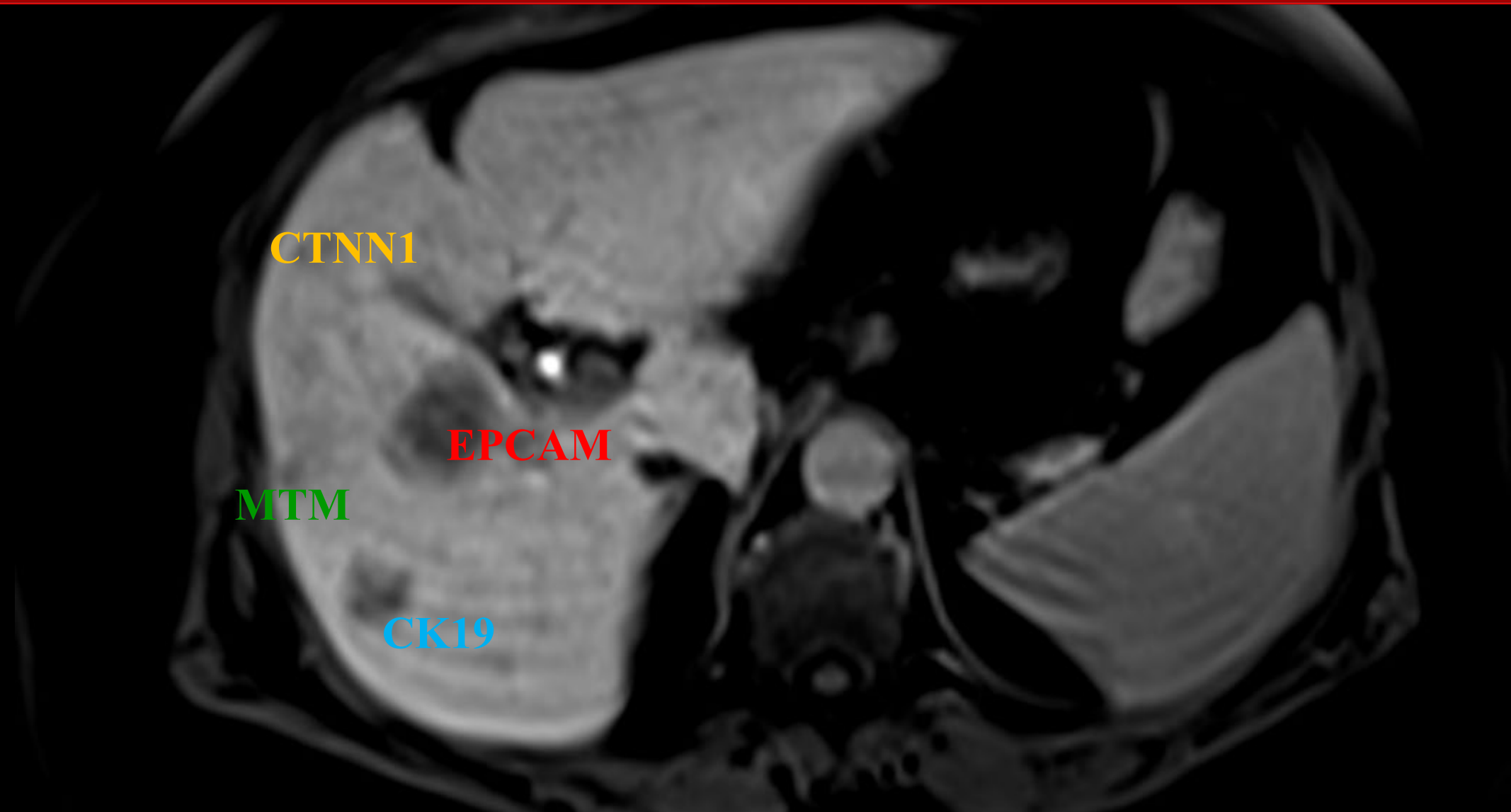


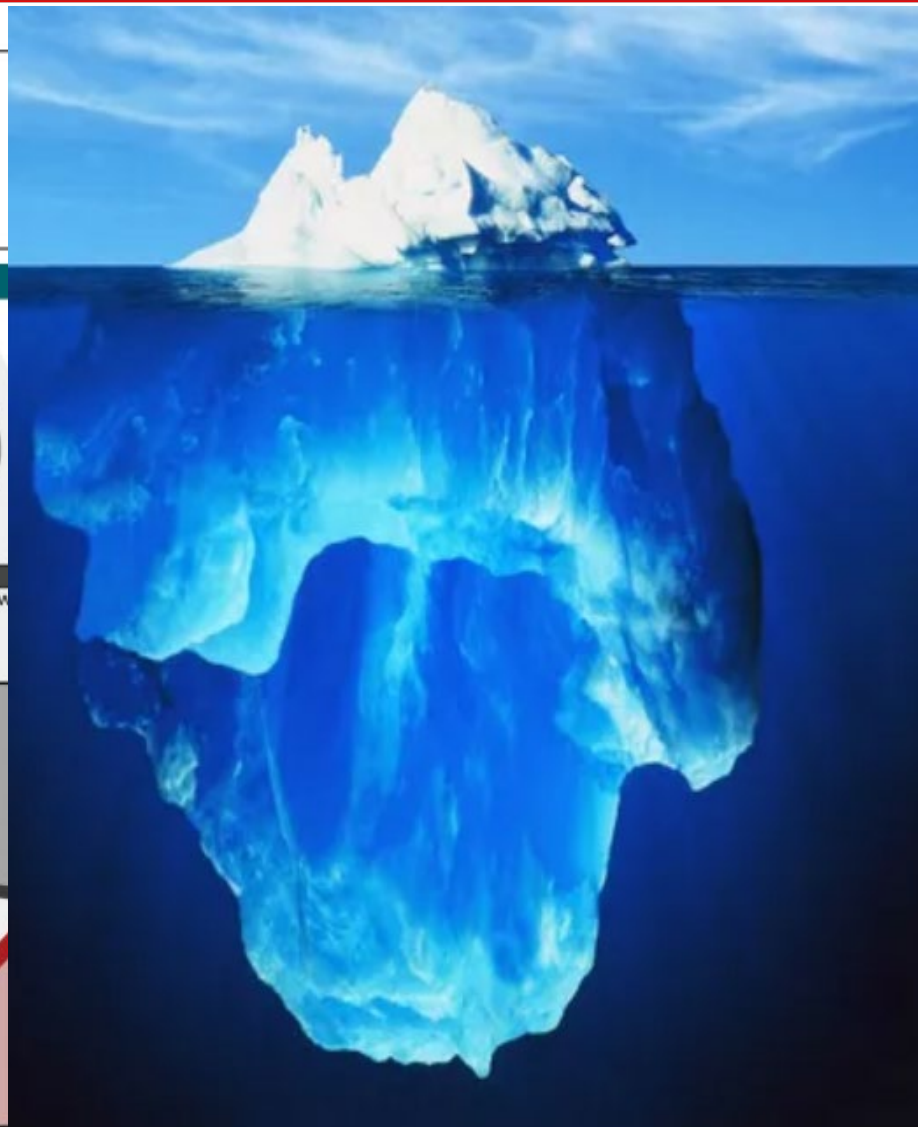
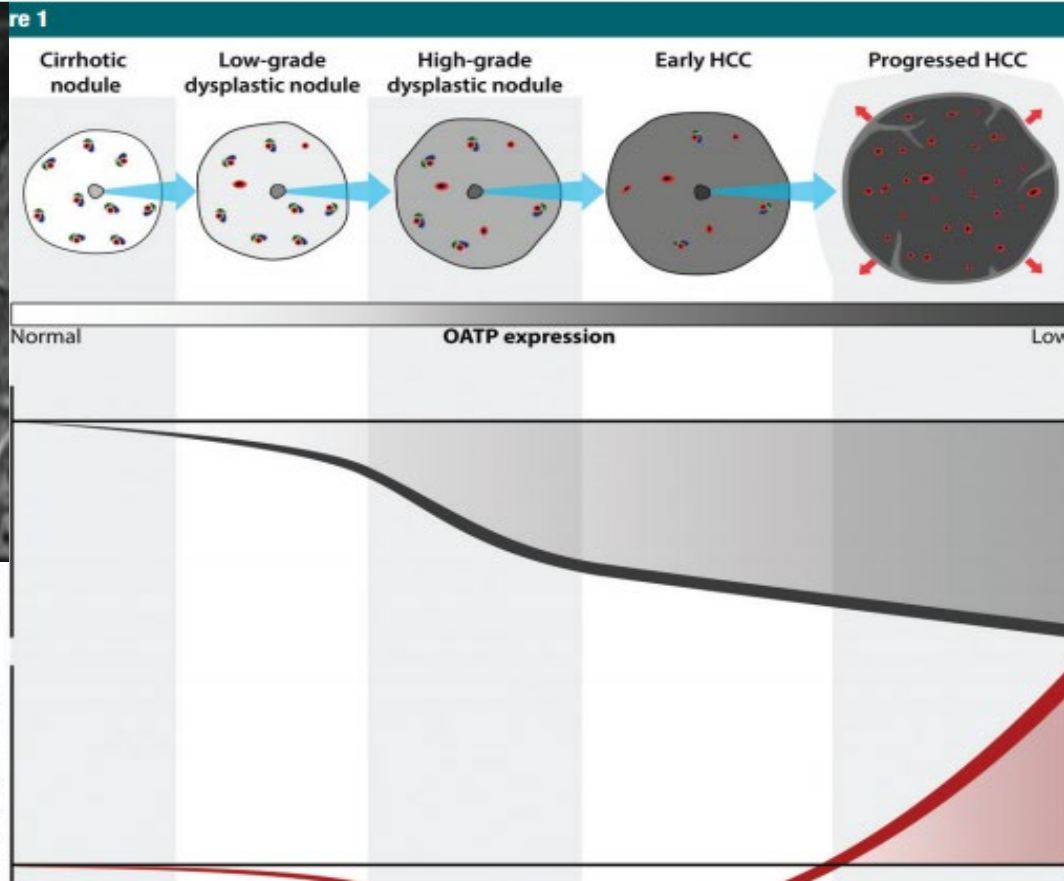
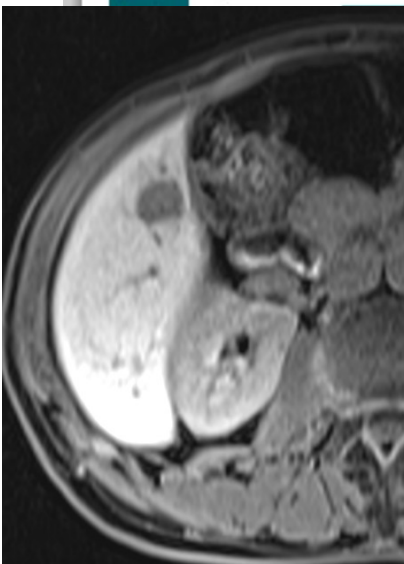
Fig. 9 Genome-based molecular classification of HCC. Recent study proposed six subclasses (G1–G6) of HCC molecular based classification associated with the clinical and histological features. Modified from reference [16]

HCC FUTURE / AI

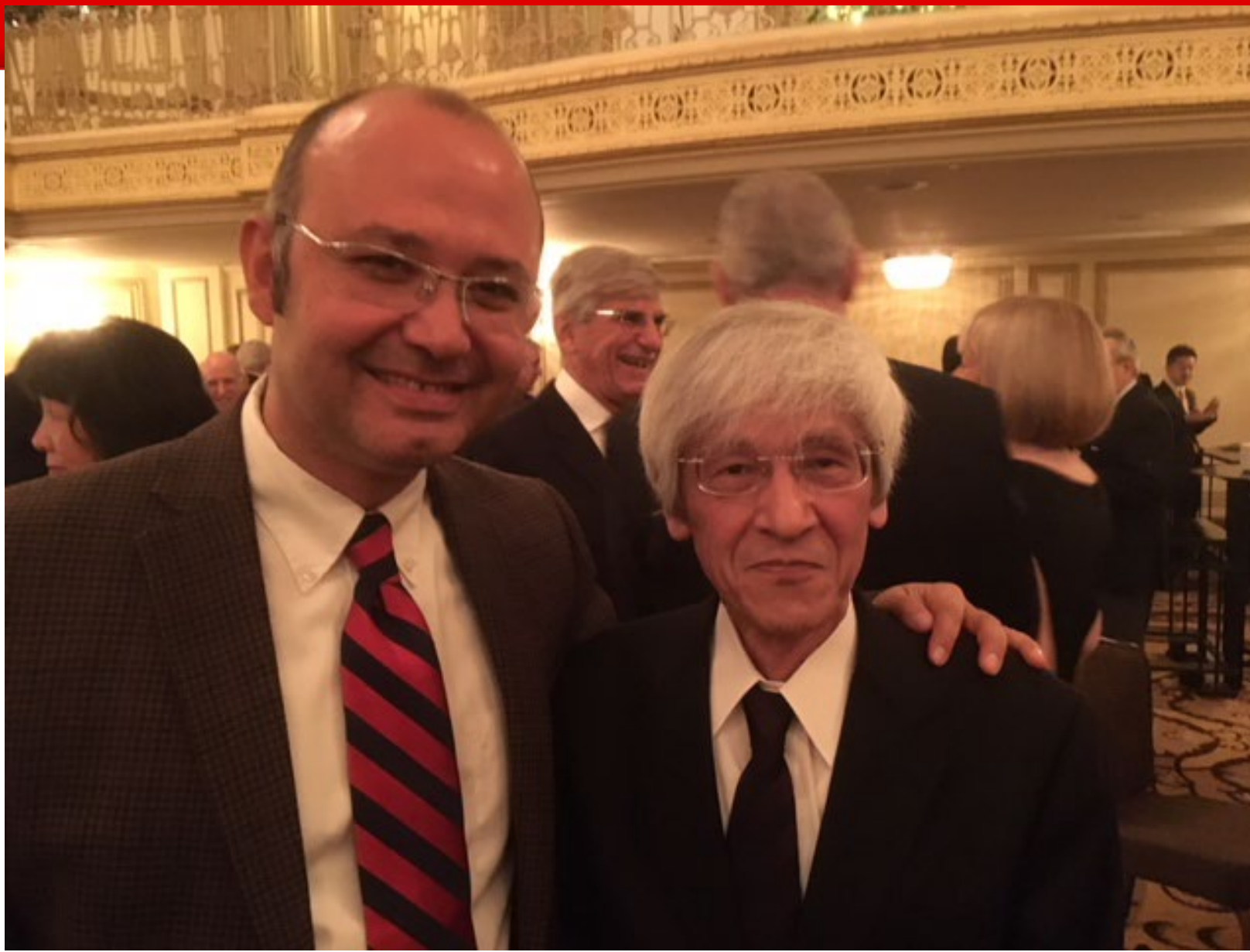


EARLY HCC / GD-EOB / BIOMARKER

STATE OF THE ART: CT and MR Diagnosis and Staging of HCC



HCC GD-EOB BIOMARKER



HCC SUMMARY

<https://doi.org/10.1007/s00330-019-06458-4>

HEPATOBIILIARY-PANCREAS

Hepatocellular carcinoma detection performance of contrast-enhanced dynamic MRI with hepatobiliary contrast vs. gadoxetic acid

Sahar Semaan^{1,2} · Naik Vietti Violi^{2,3} · Sara I. James S. Babb⁵ · M. Isabel Fiel⁶ · Myron Sch

Received: 14 June 2019 / Revised: 7 August 2019 / Accepted: 14 August 2019 / © European Society of Radiology 2019

Abstract

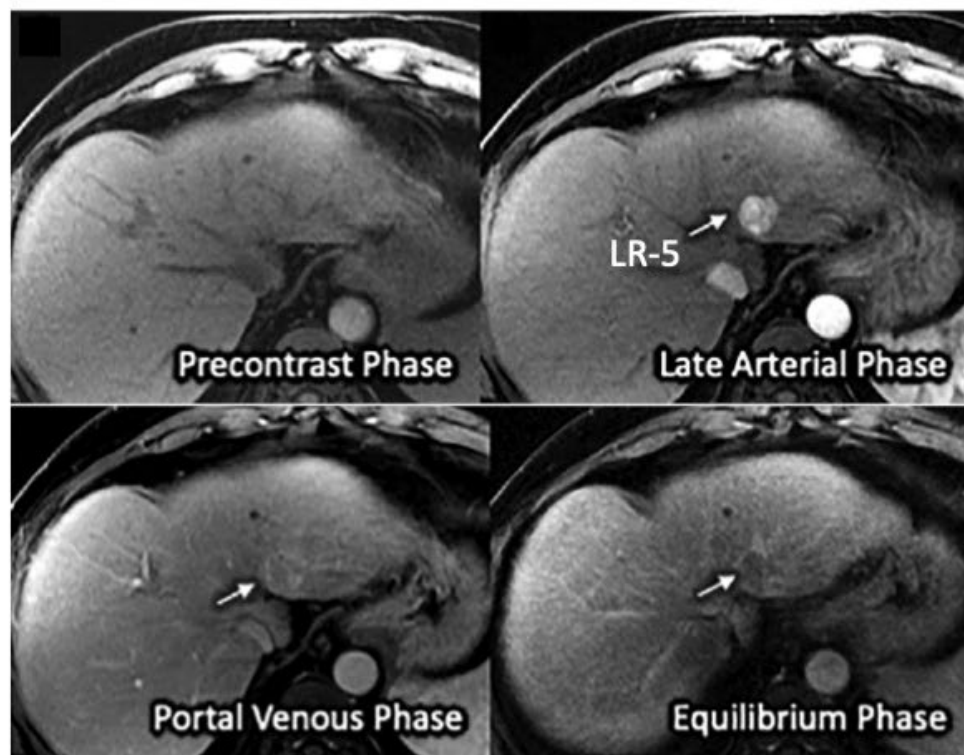
Objectives To evaluate the diagnostic performance of dynamic MRI with hepatobiliary contrast (HBP-MRI) vs. MRI with gadoxetic acid (EOB-MRI) as a reference.

Methods Two-hundred seventy-seven consecutive patients with cirrhosis underwent HBP-MRI and EOB-MRI (n = 100), the latter subdivided into dynamic and full EOB-MRI. Radiologists retrospectively categorized lesions, which were re-evaluated with the addition of HBP.

Results Pathology demonstrated 265 HCCs (86.3% for CT, 89.5% for EC-MRI, 92.8% for HBP-MRI, and 94.4% for full EOB-MRI), with a significant difference between dynamic and full EOB-MRI ($p = 0.047$). Per-lesion sensitivities were 59.5%, 78.5%, 69.7% and 76.8%, respectively (p -range: 0.001–0.04), and no difference was found between dynamic and full EOB-MRI. For lesions 1–1.9 cm, sensitivities were 34.4%, 64.6%, 64.6% and 64.6%, respectively ($p \leq 0.01$), and full EOB-MRI was superior to CT ($p \leq 0.01$) and full EOB-MRI was superior to EC-MRI ($p \leq 0.01$). MRI methods outperformed CT and EC-MRI in per-lesion sensitivity.

Conclusions EOB-MRI outperforms CT and EC-MRI in per-lesion sensitivity. MRI methods outperform

Multicenter Validation of Abbreviated MRI for Detecting Early-Stage Hepatocellular Carcinoma



Pathologic examination confirmed poorly differentiated HCC.

- Multicenter retrospective cross-sectional study of 161 patients with cirrhosis who underwent liver MRI followed by liver resection or transplant with early-stage hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC) and 138 patients without HCC.
- Dynamic abbreviated MRI had patient-level sensitivity of 88% and specificity of 89% for detection of early-stage HCC.
- Patient-level sensitivity was lower in Child-Pugh class B or C cirrhosis than in class A (64% vs 94%; $P < .001$).

Yokoo T et al. Published Online: January 24, 2023
<https://doi.org/10.1148/radiol.220917>

Radiology

SANDWICH PROTOCOL

- BEFORE YOU START SCREENING
- MAKE SURE LIVER IS TOTALLY NORMAL
- PRIMOVIST-MRI IS THE BEST AVAILABLE TOOL
- CAN REPEAT IN 2-3 YEARS

OUR GOALS IN LIVER IMAGING

- WE SHOULD NOT DIAGNOSE A BENIGN LESION AS A HCC
- WE HAVE TO SEE MORE (EARLY HCC)
- WE HAVE TO SEE THE UNSEEN
- WE HAVE TO SOLVE CLINICAL PROBLEMS
- WE HAVE TO PREDICT MORE - PROGNOSIS
- SUMMARY

MULTIPARAMETRIC LIVER MRI

LIVER MRI LAB VALUES



Multiparametric or practical quantitative liver MRI:
towards millisecond, fat fraction, kilopascal and
function era

Emre Unal, Ilkay Sedakat Idilman & Muşturay Karçaaltıncaba

IN SUMMARY: BLACK & WHITE

- **NORMAL PATIENTS**

- FNH (WHITE) vs ADENOMA (BLACK)
- NORMAL LIVER

- **CIRRHOTIC PATIENTS**

- EARLY – TYPICAL HCC, MVI, DEAD LIVER (BLACK)
- MULTIPLE BENIGN NODULES (WHITE)

- **HEPATOBILIARY PHASE**