Update on the use of ultrasound in the study of carpal tunnel syndrome

Renato A Sernik
Sírio Libanês Hospital, Brazil

Ultrasoundography has become one of the main complementary tests for the diagnosis of carpal tunnel syndrome, especially in patients with a history of diseases that may be associated with peripheral neuropathy, such as diabetes mellitus, or in cases where the electroneuromyography is doubtful. The method has also been useful in patients with unsatisfactory results after surgical treatment, where fibrosis, adhesions and neuromas can be identified, having the advantage compared to MRI to be dynamic examination and lower cost. However, the method is operator-dependent with a longer learning curve. Between 2006 and 2014 we analyzed about 120 wrists of patients with clinical suspicion of carpal tunnel syndrome, with electroneuromyographic correlation, being part of the results published in the journal Skeletal Radiology (2008). The increase in cross-sectional area associated with the change in echotexture of the median nerve are the main criteria used for the diagnosis of carpal tunnel syndrome.

Biography

Renato A Sernik is a Doctor and obtained his PhD from the University of São Paulo. He is a Radiologist at the Medical School Hospital of the University of SãoPaulo for 16 years. He is the author of some books “Ultrasound of the Musculoskeletal System (1999) and Ultrasound of the Musculoskeletal System-Correlation with MRI (2009)”, translated into Spanish and Italian. He is working as a Radiologist at the Sírio Libanês Hospital from 14 years.

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