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Imaging of ischemic stroke

Stroke is the third leading cause of death and a leading cause of acquired disability. It is divided into ischemic and haemorrhagic. Ischaemic strokes are divided according to territory affected or the causing mechanism. Knowledge of the pathophysiologic mechanisms of neuronal injury in stroke is essential to target treatment. The goals of an imaging evaluation for acute stroke are to establish a diagnosis as early as possible and to obtain accurate information about the intracranial vasculature and brain perfusion for guidance in selecting the appropriate therapy. A comprehensive overview including the current radiological investigations and their implications will be discussed. For example: CT angiography can depict intravascular thrombi; Diffusion-weighted MR imaging helps in detection of hyperacute ischemia; Gradient-echo MR sequences is helpful in detecting a hemorrhage; The status of neck and intracranial vessels can be evaluated with MR angiography, and a mismatch between findings on diffusion and perfusion MR images may be used to predict the presence of a penumbra. The objective of this talk is to describe basic principles of CT and MR used to evaluate acute stroke and determine the appropriate imaging protocol and to recognize the significance of a penumbra for therapy planning and prognosis after acute stroke.

Biography

Rola Aatif Mahmood graduated from Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland during 2006-2011. She completed an internship in Salmaniya Medical Complex, Bahrain. She completed Bahrain Licensure Exam and Saudi Licensure Exam in June 2012. She previously worked as an Ultrasound Specialist and Patient Support Consultant in Abbott Laboratories from September 2012 to August 2013. She is currently working in Radiology department at Salmaniya Medical Complex.

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