Role of magnetic resonance cholangiopancreatography in evaluation of asymptomatic and symptomatic patients with unexplained biliary radicals' dilatation using the ultrasound

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Summary & Conclusion

The common bile duct (CBD) dilatation is a frequent finding during ultrasound and CT examination. A finding that usually warrants further assessment to evaluate its significance.

The purpose of this study was conducted to determine the yield of magnetic resonance cholangiopancreatography (MRCP) in asymptomatic & symptomatic patients with finding of common biliary duct dilatation, more focusing on the asymptomatic category and the group of symptomatic people with no obvious cause detected by US scan.

Fifty patients were obtained from general surgery, tropical as well as from the emergency departments at Fayoum University Hospital. All cases had CBD dilatation on US (>= 7 mm), Some of these cases were complaining of jaundice, epigastric pain or low grade fever, other was not complaining and CBD dilatation was discovered incidentally by US.

All patients were subjected to history taking, clinical examination with revision of previous results from ultrasound or CT scan, labs as (total, direct bilirubin level and alkaline phosphatase level) and finally MRCP assessment.

Results revealed that MRCP could diagnose almost all biliary tract diseases , also it plays a major role in pancreatic diseases.

Finally: we recommend that MRCP is the best tool for diagnosis of biliary diseases, and he has nearly the same efficiency as US with specificity in diagnosis of pancreatic diseases.