FDG-PET/CT IMAGING OF INFECTIOUS AND INFLAMMATORY DISORDERS

Aims & Scope:
The first decade of FDG-PET/CT has focused mostly on malignancies, and rightfully so – the benefits to cancer patients have been revolutionary. However, hypermetabolism is also a hallmark of inflammation, considered by some to be “the mother of all diseases”. Imaging inflammation may be the most important area of molecular imaging in coming decades and FDG should play a key role. Data is already mounting for a multitude of systemic diseases with inflammatory components, and the whole-body distribution of FDG is often different than expected. Herein lays an enormous potential for changing our understanding of infectious and inflammatory diseases, and by applying novel state-of-the-art PET quantification techniques disease extent may even be expressed as a single number for global disease burden. This will allow more accurate staging and response evaluation, and much earlier than today, i.e. before the diseases become chronic and incurable – the ultimate goal of every diagnostic procedure.

Reference:

TENTATIVE TABLE OF CONTENTS/CONTRIBUTORS

PART I: INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Radionuclide imaging of infection and inflammation: A short introduction
- S. Hess
  Department of Nuclear Medicine, Odense University Hospital, Odense, Denmark

Fever of unknown origin
- H. Balink
  Department of Nuclear Medicine, Medical Center Leeuwarden, the Netherlands

The immunocompromised patient
- W. Oyen
  Department of Nuclear Medicine, Radboud University Nijmegen Medical Centre, Nijmegen
  Nijmegen Institute for Infection, Inflammation and Immunity (N4I), Nijmegen, The Netherlands
- C.P. Bleeker-Rovers
  Department of Infectious Diseases, Radboud University Nijmegen Medical Centre, Nijmegen
  Department of Nuclear Medicine, Radboud University Nijmegen Medical Centre, Nijmegen
  The Netherlands
Infections in bone and prosthetic joints
- T.C. Kwee
  Department of Radiology and Nuclear Medicine, University Medical Center Utrecht, The Netherlands
- S. Basu
  Radiation Medicine Center (BARC), Tata Memorial Hospital Annex, Mumbai, India

Tuberculosis
- M.M. Sathekge
  Department of Nuclear Medicine, Steve Biko Academic Hospital, Pretoria, South Africa

The infected heart
- P. Erba
  Regional Center of Nuclear Medicine, Department of Translational Research and Advanced Technologies in Medicine, University of Pisa Medical School, Pisa, Italy

Vascular infection
- Z. Keidar, O. Israel
  Department of Nuclear Medicine, Rambam Health Care Campus, Haifa, Israel

PART II: INFLAMMATORY DISORDERS

Vasculitis
- G. Treglia
  Institute of Nuclear Medicine, PET Centre, Catholic University of the Sacred Heart, Rome, Italy

Clot detection – the inflammatory component
- A. Salavati/Sina Housmand
  Division of Nuclear Medicine, University of Pennsylvania Perelman School of Medicine, Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA, USA
- S. Hess
  Department of Nuclear Medicine, Odense University Hospital, Odense, Denmark

Imaging atherosclerosis
- B. Blomberg
  Department of Nuclear Medicine, Odense University Hospital, Denmark
  Department of Radiology and Nuclear Medicine, University Medical Center Utrecht, the Netherlands

Inflammatory bowel disease
- S.B. Perlman
  The University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health, Madison, WI

Pulmonary inflammatory diseases
- S. Hess
  Department of Nuclear Medicine, Odense University Hospital, Odense, Denmark
- P. H. Madsen
  Department of Respiratory Medicine, Vejle Hospital, Denmark

Infection and inflammation imaging: Beyond FDG
- V. Kumar, D.K. Boddeti
  Department of Nuclear Medicine and PET, Westmead Hospital, Westmead NSW, Australia

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