

Experience of using PET-CT for head and neck cancer

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Abstract

Recently, PET examination has become common. We have reported the usefulness of using ^{18}F FDG-PET examination for head and neck cancer. In 2007, we performed PET-CT examination which can investigate whole body. In the present study, we reported the outline of it.

In 2007, we performed PET-CT examination for 14 patients. One of these, we suspected metastasis for abdomen after primary therapy. In this patient, there was a sign of integration of ^{18}F FDG in right abdomen in whole scan PET image. Later, we performed CT examination for abdomen. Then, it turned out cyst of kidney.

The distant metastasis is a great influence on prognosis in cancer. By using PET-CT examination which can investigate whole body, we can investigate not only metastasis for local lymph nodes or recurrence in primary lesion but also metastasis for distant organs. Therefore, PET-CT examination contribute to improve prognosis of patients who has head and neck cancer.