

Colorectal liver metastases; imaging strategies



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Imaging of CRLM



- Medical oncology, Surgical oncology, or Radioembolisation?
- UMCU guideline imaging GI and HPB tumors
- CT/MRI/ECHO/PET?
- CT quality control
- RECIST and developments in tumor quantification
- Summary

- Start of therapy: complete inventory
 - *All target and non-target lesions*
 - RECIST 1.1; 5 max, 2 biggest liver lesions
 - Recurrence or other EHD?
 - *All other findings*
- Follow-up: only relevant data
 - *Diameter target lesions*
 - *Trent non-target lesions*
 - *New lesions ?*
 - *No conclusion as to response classification*



Surgical Oncology

- Liver lesions
 - *Segmental location*
 - *Size*
 - *Nature (B, probl B, questionable, probl M, M)*
- Extrahepatic disease
 - *Anastomosis*
 - *Lymph nodes*
 - *Other locations in abdomen or thorax*
- Anatomy
 - *Arterial supply, portal and hepatic veins*
 - *Individual segmental anatomy*
 - *Relation lesions to vital structures*
 - *Liver hilum, IVC, larger hepatic and portal veins*
 - *Volume of residual liver*



Radio-embolisation

- Liver lesion distribution
- Volume of remaining Liver
- Extrahepatic disease ?
- Anatomy
 - *Arterial anatomy*
 - *Portal patency*
- MAA scan
 - *Arterial estuary*
 - *Shunting?*



Imaging Colorectal liver metastases

- Medical oncology:
 - *CT Abdomen*
- Pre-operative evaluation:
 - *Multi-phase CT: Arterial, portal, equilibrium*
 - *CT Thorax*
- *PM:*
 - US liver (5-10%), DD subcm cyst/solid
 - MRI liver (10-20%), characterization lesions
 - PET (< 5%), EHD?, characterization lesions



CT, MRI, US, PET?

- CT, mono- or multiphasic: first line diagnostic
 - *Reproducible, constant quality*
 - *Chest and abdomen*
 - *Available, not too expensive*
 - *Easy to interpret*
- MRI: second line diagnostic
 - *Higher sensitivity at lesion level*
 - *Better lesion characterization*
 - *Inconstant imaging quality*
 - *Limited availability, expensive*
 - *Difficult to interpret*
- US: targeted problem solution
 - *DD Solid vs cystic*
 - *Anatomical relation tumor and (vascular) surroundings*



Pre-op evaluation CRLM

68 CRLM patients, referred for partial liverresection

- 5 inoperable on imaging
- 63 laparotomy with curative intent
 - *OR findings:*
 - R0 resection (+/- RFA) 55
 - R1: 7 (pre-op: small margin tumor/resection plane)
 - No resection possible: 1 patient with pre-op detected tumor close to duodenum
 - Number of intra-op detected EHD: none
- R0 resection = 87,3%
- R1 + futile laparotomy = 12,7%

CRLM Sens 80,2%, Spec 67,8% is apparently good enough



CT quality control

- Geometry:
 - ≤ 5 mm section, overlapping
 - Entire abdomen and Thorax
- Enhancement
 - Sufficient contrast, optimal timing
 - Med oncology
 - consistent protocol
 - max sensitivity not required
 - Pre-op evaluation: max sensitivity
 - ≥ 60 gr Iodium (200ML at 300mgr I/ml)
 - Multi-phase: only pre-op
 - Arterial, Equilibrium
 - Sometimes useful for characterization
 - seldom useful for detection CRLM
 - Art en portal essential for anatomy
- < 6 weeks before resection
- Always look at previous imaging, especially pre-chemotherapy !



Tumor quantification

- RECIST 1.0
 - *Max 5 liver lesions*
 - *Lymph nodes: long axis*
- RECIST 1.1
 - *Max 2 liver lesions*
 - *Lymph nodes: short axis*
 - Non-target: 10-15 mm
 - Target: > 15 mm
- Volumetry?
- Lesion “behaviour”?



Tumor quantification; trends

- Volumetry lesions
 - *More sensitive for change*
 - *More representative for irregular lesions*
- “Behaviour” lesions: functional imaging
 - *MRI parameters*
 - T1, T2
 - Diffusion
 - Perfusion
 - *“Molecular imaging”*
 - SPECT, PET, etc



Summary: imaging and CRLM

- Consistent protocols for image acquisition and reporting
- CT modality of first choice
 - *Consistent imaging abdomen and thorax*
- MRI, US, PET
 - *Problem solving*
- Medical oncology
 - *Consistency in imaging*
 - *Consistent quantification, reporting and communication*
- Surgical oncology
 - *Maximize sensitivity and optimize characterization*
 - *Anatomical roadmap*
- Radio embolisation
 - *Tumor load intrahepatic and extrahepatic*
 - *Relevant anatomy*