Quantitative assessment of liver function using hepatobiliary scintigraphy

Rassam, F.

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QUANTITATIVE ASSESSMENT OF LIVER FUNCTION
USING HEPATOBILIARY SCINTIGRAPHY

1. Whenever a doctor cannot do good, he must be kept from doing harm. *Hippocrates*

2. Dynamic quantitative liver function tests are based on the capacity of the liver to clear a specific agent. These tests are able to quantify liver function by measuring the uptake of a liver specific agent in a time-dependent (dynamic) manner. *This thesis*

3. To ensure optimal and reproducible results that can be compared across different centers, it is crucial to standardize the methodology and practical applicability of HBS, thereby enabling external validation and multicenter trials. *This thesis*

4. Transient Elastography provides a practical, non-invasive tool to assess the grade of liver fibrosis while HBS has the advantage of assessing both global and regional liver function. *This thesis*

5. Liver function does not correspond with liver volume per se and liver function is not distributed homogeneously in the liver. *This thesis*

6. After portal vein embolization, the measured functional increase (which exceeds the volume increase) is not a consequence of increased hepatic perfusion but from an increase in functional hepatocyte mass. HBS therefore provides adequate representation of the liver function. *This thesis*

7. If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together. *African Proverb*

8. The structural application of portal vein embolization potentially reduces adverse outcomes after liver resection and ultimately offers more patients the chance of long-term survival. *This thesis*

9. Technical modifications leading to a less invasive ALPPS procedure, like limited parenchymal transection, is sufficient to induce the accelerated and larger response. By limiting the surgical impact during the first stage, the risk of potential major interstage complications are reduced. *This thesis*

10. If in ancient mythology the regenerative power of the liver appears as a mean of additional punishment, in modern medicine this power is a gift promoting the patient’s chances of survival. *Niki Papavramidou*

11. The dynamics of the hepatocyte activity might include a functional reserve capacity. A potential liver function stress test could be an interesting parameter for more optimal patient selection for liver surgery on the basis of functional imaging. *This thesis*

12. Assessment of liver function with dynamic gadoxetate-enhanced MRI is comparable with that of hepatobiliary scintigraphy and has the potential to be combined with diagnostic MRI imaging. *This thesis*

13. It is literally true that you can succeed best and quickest by helping others to succeed. *Napoleoan Hill*

Fadi Rassam