P44: Computed Tomography Enterography: Contrast agent use in small-bowel imaging and distensibility assessment

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Introduction: The imaging analysis of the gastrointestinal tract is still a challenge for radiologists, surgeons and gastroenterologists. However, due to the technical advances of multislice computed tomography (CT) and the wide variety of oral contrast agents currently available, the Enterography technique has been an important method for this study.

Objectives: The objective of this study was to seek scientific evidence regarding the gastrointestinal tract distension obtained by means of the use of different oral contrast medium in small-bowel imaging.

Materials and Methods: An integrative review on the electronic health databases Web of Science and Scopus using the following descriptors: "*oral contrast medium*", AND "*multislice CT*", AND "*gastrointestinal tract*" AND "*distension"* was performed. The inclusion criteria are as follows: full papers and abstracts, published between 2011 and 2015, in English or Portuguese. Two reviewers selected 66 articles.

Results and Discussion: The literature review show that only 50% of the CT Enterography studies performed the analysis of intestinal distension with the use of different oral contrast medium, such as water or milk. The visualization of the hyper-density of the intestinal walls is also an important feature for diagnosis, as reported in 56.3% of the selected studies.

Conclusion: There is firm evidence that qualitative and quantitative analysis of small-bowel must be performed to assess the best oral contrast agent for CT Enterography use. The results evidenced that the oral contrast agent must be neutral.

References

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