

The Importance of Diffusion Weighted Imaging in Breast MRI

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Abstract

Objectives: The aim of this study was to evaluate the value of diffusion weighted imaging in Diffusion weighted imaging in distinguishing between benign and malignant breast lesion

Methods: There were 37 female patients with 47 lesions. Sixty seven female subjects (40 mean age), age ranges 17-69, with histopathologically proven breast lesions underwent DWI of breasts with a single shot echo planar imaging (EPI) sequence. The computed mean apparent diffusion coefficients (ADCs) of the breast lesions and cell density were then correlated.

Results: The ADC varied substantially between benign breast lesions ($(1.52 \pm 0.26) \times 10^{-3} \text{ mm}^2 / \text{second}$). And malignant breast lesions ($(0.94 \pm 0.21) \times 10^{-3} \text{ mm}^2 / \text{second}$). The AUC with ROC analysis was 0.896 and the threshold for ADC was $1.17 \times 10^{-3} \text{ mm}^2 / \text{second}$ with a sensitivity and specificity of 90% and 85%, respectively. The mean ADC of malignant breast lesions was statistically lower for benign lesions (P value less than 0.01)

Conclusions: The ADC would be an effective parameter in distinguishing between malignant and benign breast lesions.

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