

SCINTIGRAPHY OF MALIGNANT THYROID TUMOURS

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Summary

The paper reviews briefly the role of various radiopharmaceuticals for scintigraphic diagnosis and follow-up of thyroid malignancies. The emphasis is given to thyroglobuline quantification and ^{131}I whole-body scintigraphy as specific and accurate methods in the follow up of differentiated thyroid cancer. Recombinant human TSH is introduced as a promising, safe and effective method to stimulate ^{131}I uptake and Tg secretion without the disadvantages of induced hypothyroidism. High sensitivity and specificity of $^{99\text{m}}\text{Tc(V)}\text{-DMSA}$ scintigraphy is pointed out, both for detection of primary medullary thyroid carcinoma and follow-up of clinically apparent and occult recurrence of the disease, as well as the limited role of ^{131}I -MIBG and Octreoscan imaging of MCT. ^{18}F -FDG-PET is described as especially useful for revealing ^{131}I non-avid cervicomedial thyroid carcinoma metastases with aggressive clinical behaviour.