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(G*) A PoC study of in-vivo Simultaneous Hyperpolarized ^{129}Xe MRI and ^{15}O -water PET Measurements

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INTRODUCTION: A non-invasive imaging technique inhaled hyperpolarized (HP) ^{129}Xe magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) is presently employed to assess lung structure and function¹. It is possible to quantify the ventilation/perfusion (V/P) of the lungs simultaneously using this MRI technique because the solubility of xenon in lung tissues is higher compared to other imaging gases. This measurement is possible owing to the distinct and broad range of chemical shift frequencies (~200 ppm) of ^{129}Xe when residing in lung tissue, brain tissue, and red blood cells as opposed to the gas phase.

^{15}O -water positron emission tomography (PET) is the gold standard imaging method for determining cerebral perfusion^{2,3}. In this study, simultaneous in-vivo ^{129}Xe -based MRI and ^{15}O -water PET images were collected and compared.

METHODS: ^{15}O -water solution (30mL) contained in a 60mL plastic syringe was used to dissolve 30mL of the hyperpolarized ^{129}Xe gas. Anesthesia was induced in rats with 5% isoflurane and oxygen and maintained at 2%. A 24g tail vein catheter was inserted for delivery of the ^{15}O -water / ^{129}Xe mixture. Hyperpolarized ^{129}Xe gas was obtained from a turn-key, spin-exchange polarizer system (Polarean 9800 ^{129}Xe polarizer). In-vivo PET imaging was obtained using a small animal MRI compatible PET insert (Cubresa Inc.) ^{15}O -water PET data was acquired simultaneously with ^{129}Xe MRI using the integrated PET system in the 3T PET/MRI.

RESULTS: 2D axial ^{129}Xe MRI images and ^{15}O -water PET images were acquired simultaneously indicating that the diameter of the phantom from both PET and MRI images were similar. The ^{129}Xe image demonstrates a sufficient SNR level (80). The anatomical-proton and ^{15}O -water-PET-perfusion images of rat-brain were also produced.

CONCLUSIONS: The results of this study clearly indicate the feasibility of simultaneous hyperpolarized ^{129}Xe MRI and ^{15}O -water PET measurements. This demonstration proves that ^{129}Xe could be used as a potential non-radioactive and high-resolution imaging tool.

References:

1. Kaushik, S. S. et al. MRM (2016); 2. Fan, A., et. al. JCBFM (2016); 3. Ssali, T., et. al. JNM (2018).

Keyword-1

hyperpolarized gas MRI

Keyword-2

^{129}Xe

Keyword-3

^{15}O -water/gas

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