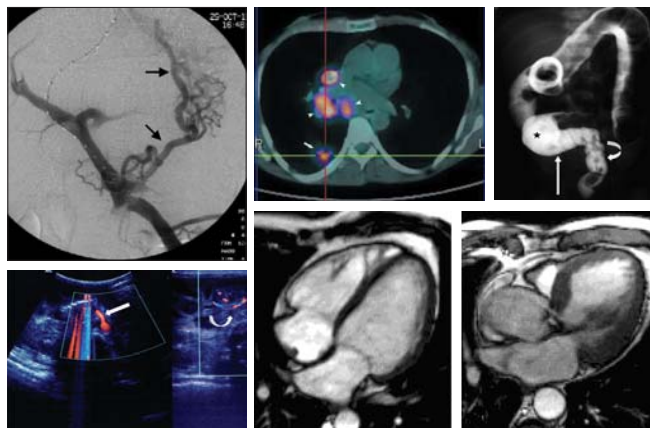


RADIOLOGY FOR PRACTITIONERS FOREWORD

<http://www.lebanesemedicaljournal.org/articles/57-3/foreword.pdf>



The increasing technological evolution, along with the constant developments of imaging in the diagnostic and therapeutic management of patients, both justify the proposition of this issue to the medical community. It aims at providing information about important subjects according to recent medical advances.

In fact, it is crucial for the clinician to follow the medical advances in order to provide up-to-date diagnostic strategies and therapeutic options for patients.

This special issue of the Lebanese Medical Journal includes several chapters written by Lebanese and foreign experts, on imaging topics of interest to practitioners. The chapters are not only intended for radiologists but also for clinicians, whether GP's or specialists. Furthermore, these chapters should provide the most relevant and appropriate clinical applications of different imaging modalities, depending on the patient's clinical presentation. Subjects such as musculoskeletal system imaging, breast imaging, emergency abdominal imaging, oncologic imaging, neurological imaging and pediatric imaging have all been addressed with a highlight on the importance of cross-sectional imaging techniques which play a key role in diagnosis, screening, staging and follow-up of diseases.

Cardiac imaging is a true revolution in radiology, being almost the full responsibility of the cardiologists in the past. Nowadays, the radiologist plays a pivotal role in imaging of cardiovascular diseases using cross-sectional imaging techniques.

The growing role of radiology will not stop. Actually, imaging technology is capable to go beyond the simple morphological imaging. Today, new cross-sectional imaging techniques bring more and more functional and dynamic information, with the emergence of molecular imaging which will develop significantly in the upcoming years and will link both technological and medical developments in radiology and nuclear medicine.

In this special issue the importance of interventional radiology is also highlighted. With the advent of endovascular navigation and the precision of imaging guidance, the radiologist currently participates in the minimally invasive treatment of many diseases either as an alternative or as a complementary option to other therapeutic modalities, mainly surgical.

We thank the Editorial Committee of the Lebanese Medical Journal for giving us the opportunity to present the clinical applications of medical imaging to the Lebanese medical community. The expertise of several motivated authors in their fields is the guaranty regarding the quality of the information provided.

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