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Lectura recomendada

Pitfalls with Radiopharmaceuticals

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Abstract

Introduction: There is a considerable body of evidence describing that the pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics of radiopharmaceuticals may be changed by a variety of drugs, disease states and in some cases, surgical procedures.

Objective: To systematically search the medical literature and review the published evidence on adverse reactions to radiopharmaceuticals.

Method: MEDLINE, EMBASE, International Pharmaceutical Abstracts and Science Citation Index were searched for studies reporting adverse reactions to radiopharmaceuticals. Controlled trials, cohort studies, case-control studies and case series published in major Western languages were considered for the review. Each study included in the present review was described in a narrative way, and major components of each study were reported (ie, research design, patient characteristics, types of drugs and radiopharmaceuticals, dosing information and adverse reactions).

Results: The majority of adverse reactions to radiopharmaceuticals described in the literature required little or no treatment, and their negative effects were generally mild and self-limited. Large longitudinal greater than 5-year studies reported prevalence rates of adverse reactions due to radiopharmaceuticals ranging from 0 to 25 cases per 100,000 administrations. Case studies on the use of technetium reported mild adverse reactions; however, some led to potentially harmful complications. Similarly, studies involving fluorodeoxyglucose reported more severe adverse reactions.

Conclusion: The literature on radiopharmaceuticals adverse effects is scarce, and just a few studies were conducted to investigate the association between radiopharmaceuticals and adverse reactions. Despite relatively mild and self-limited symptoms, the current widespread use of radiopharmaceuticals requires constant monitoring for adverse reactions.



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