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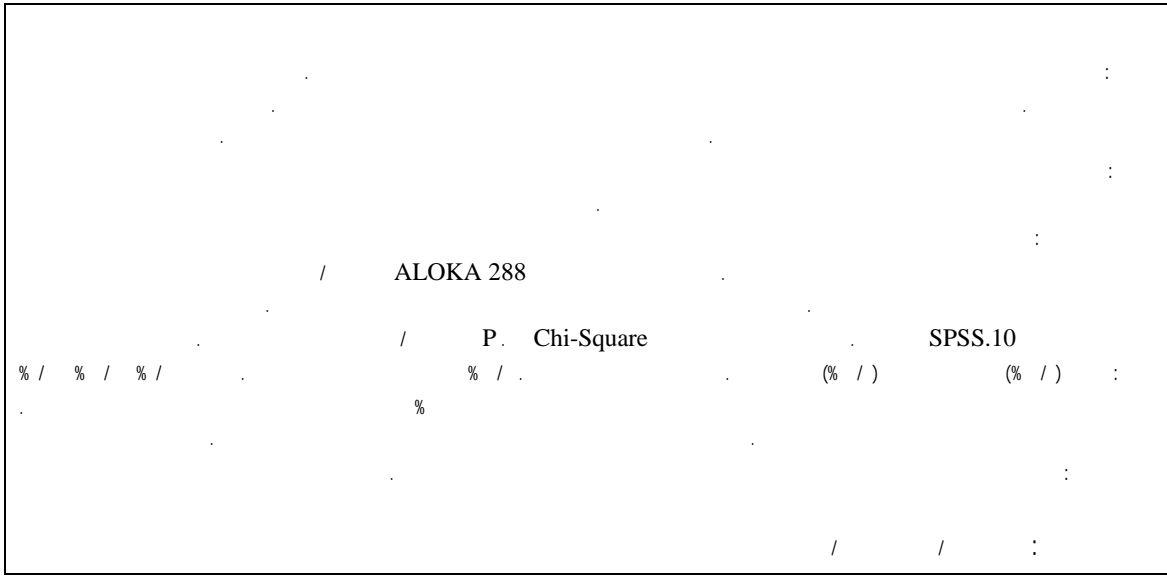
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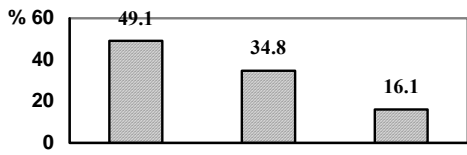
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The Sonographic Findings in Human Fascioliasis

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Abstract

Introduction: Human Fascioliasis is a commonplace infection caused by leaf-shaped Trematode “Fasciola hepatica” incidentally affects a human host. It seems that the incidence of infection is increasing in worldwide. Human Fascioliasis has differentially diagnosed from hepatobiliary diseases such as acute hepatitis, neoplasms and other liver infections.

Diagnosis of the disease is achieved by locating the ova either in feces or duodenal drainage or by serologic studies. Imaging techniques are the most useful methods for confirming the diagnosis and also follow up of treatment. In this article, we present Ultrasonographic features of human Fascioliasis in the hepatitis phase to differentiate it from lesions such as metastasis and primary malignant liver tumor.

Objective: Survey the sonographic findings role in Human Fascioliasis.

Materials and Methods: 248 patients were selected from 1998 to 1999. All of patients referred by gastroenterologists and infectious disease specialists. Our sonographic apparatus brand was ALOKA 288 with 3.5 MHZ probe in a private clinic. Sonographic study could be helpful to differentiate hepatic fascioliasis from tumoral liver disease. Data were collected and analyzed by SPSS.10 software. We used Chi-Square Test for analysis. P value less than 0.05 was considered significant.

Results: 78 (31.5%) were males and 170 (68.5%) were females. A majority of involvement patients aged 20-40 years. 45.2% had paranchymal involvement, 7.3%, 13.7%, 4.8% had Biliary Tracts involvement, Gall bladder infection by worms and involvement of both liver and Biliary Tracts, respectively. There was no abnormal findings in 29% of patients. The most frequent site of liver involvement was posterior segment of right lobe. There was no significant difference between site of involvement and sex or age groups.

Conclusion: Ultrasonography can play an important role in the diagnosis of Human Fascioliasis.

Key words: Fasciola Hepatica/ Fascioliasis/ Ultrasonography