
Role of computed tomography in assessment of pelvic fractures

Alaa Mahmoud Mohamed

CT offers the possibility of identifying pelvic fractures that are not visible on conventional radiographs. It provides detailed knowledge of the fracture patterns and is useful in determining the degree of posterior ring comminution, detecting occult sacroiliac joint injuries, assessing pelvic ring stability, evaluating the acetabulum, and following soft tissue injuries within the pelvis. The aim of this work is to study the value of CT in diagnosis of pelvic fractures and to demonstrate the different CT features of each fracture pattern. This study was carried out on 20 patients with suspected or proven pelvic fractures and was classified into 3 main groups. Group I included 19 cases with pelvic ring fracture group II included 12 cases with acetabular fractures, group III included 13 cases with sacral fractures which were separated from the pelvic ring injury to deal with in more detail. All cases were subjected to CT scan of the pelvis with or without I.V contrast. Spiral CT was done for 15 patients. From the present study, we could summarize that, CT is a more precise method of evaluating the acutely injured pelvis, allowing detection and characterization of subtle fractures and fragments in areas of complex anatomy. In addition, it provides detailed information about the soft tissue in and around the pelvis, such as developing hematomas, soft tissue injuries, and location of foreign bodies. CT enhances the ability to diagnose posterior pelvic injuries more completely, and accurately. With early CT examination, the instability implied.