Diagnosis of hepatic angiomyolipomata using CT: report of three cases and review of the literature

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摘要

Abstract

Hepatic angiomyolipoma (AML) is a rare, primarily benign, mesenchymal tumour.1 The present report consists of three cases of AML and the approaches undertaken to achieve a diagnosis. Although the histological features of hepatic angiomyolipoma (AML) are highly variable, true malignant change is extremely rare with only a few reported cases.2"4 Most patients with hepatic AML are asymptomatic,4^6 and their tumours are found incidentally during routine health check-ups.4 Previous studies suggested that this disease can be managed by conservative treatment with follow-up.7~9 Surgical intervention may be needed in selected patients with symptomatic masses to alleviate effects on neighbouring organs.4'9 Unfortunately, hepatic AML is often misdiagnosed,10 leading to unnecessary surgery in many cases. In the present report, cases of AML were classified into three types based on the imaging findings of fatty and vascular composition (Table 1). These classifications may be useful in alerting radiologists to specific tumour presentations that facilitate correct diagnosis#