

Fig. 1. Physicians' opinion regarding the quantity of the radiologic reports.
A. The proportion of respondents who think the radiologic report is written too briefly. For conventional radiographs, the proportion was statistically higher among residents than staffs ($p=0.006$).
B. The proportion respondents who think the radiologic report is verbose. Differences among residents, staffs, internists, and surgeons were not statistically significant.

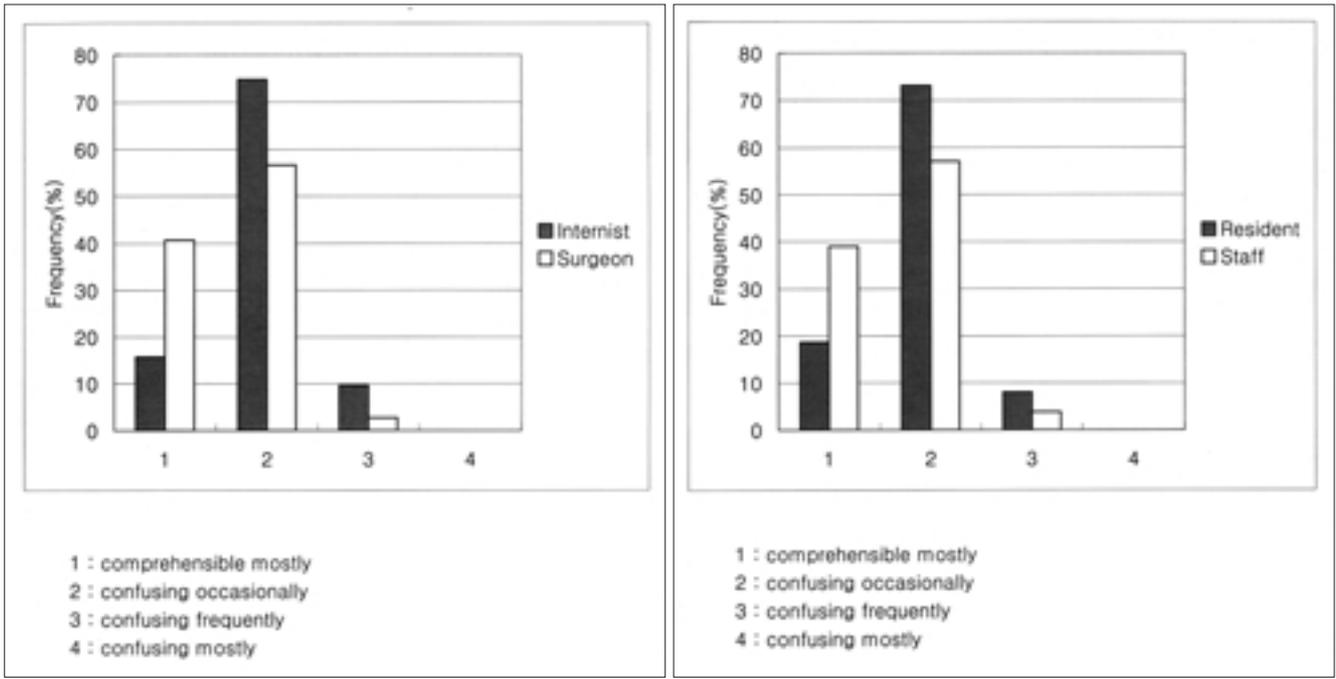


Fig. 2. The extent of comprehension of the radiologic reports. The proportion of responses on a four-point scale is shown.
A. The extent of comprehension is higher among surgeons than internists ($p=0.001$).
B. The extent of comprehension is higher among staffs than residents ($p=0.002$).

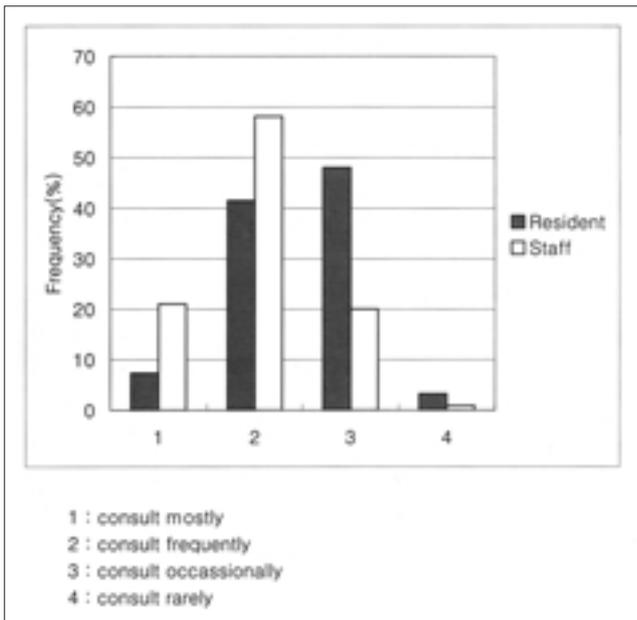


Fig. 3. The frequency of consultation with radiologists in case of confusing radiologic reports. The proportion of responses on a four-point scale is shown. Staffs tend to consult radiologists more actively than residents ($p=0.001$).

가
 ()
 가
 10 (68%) , 10-30 가
 (29%).
 가 40% , 가
 가 34% .
 CT MR .
 가 42%, 22% .
 MR (Fig. 1).
 (p=0.006).
 5 1
 가 가 가
 가 가 가
 가 (p=0.001), 가

(d)

(e)

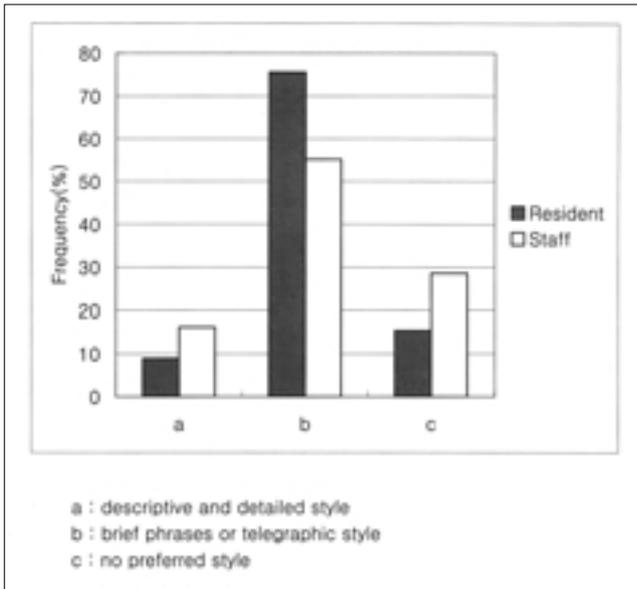


Fig. 4. Preference of reporting styles in radiologic reports. The most preferred style was brief phrases or telegraphic sentences, and this preference was statistically more apparent among residents than staffs ($p=0.005$).

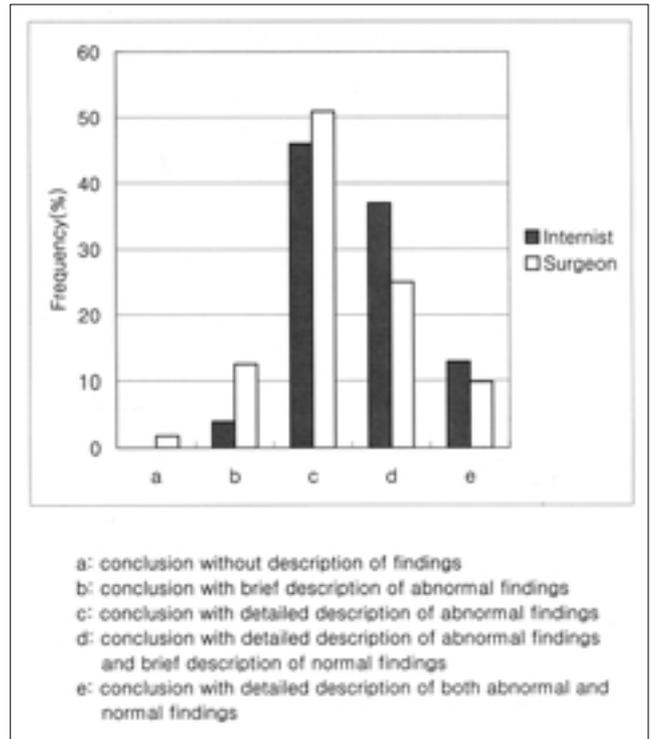


Fig. 5. Preference of description styles of the radiologic reports. Physicians were asked if they prefer any of the five styles (a-e) when given radiologically significant abnormal findings on specific radiologic studies such as special radiographs, US, CT, or MR in the cases of positive clinical findings. The proportion of each preferred style is indicated. Internists wanted more detailed reports than surgeons did ($p=0.027$).

($p=0.002$) 가 (Fig. 2).

가 (46%),
 가 (30%),
 (14%)
 (62%) (35%) (3%)
 ($p=0.001$, Fig. 3).

가 (58%) (11%) 40%, 39%, 21% 가
 (31%) 가 (51%) 가 (47%)
 가 40% 50 - 80%
 가 94% 92% 30 - 50%, 80%

4). 가 ($p=0.005$, Fig.

(83%),
 (no interval change) ”

가 (a)
 (b)
 MR
 (b)

86% 83% 가

가

가

(c)

($p=0.027$, Fig. 5).

가

가 41%

30%

가

(11)

“(no interval change)”

가

가

가

가

(9, 14). 가

가

가

가

가

(1).

가

가

가

가

가

(3, 11, 12, 15), Clinger

(11)

49%

가

(13).

가

가

가

10

“(no interval change)”

가

가 40%

. Revak (6)

가

38%

(11).

Clinger

가

가

가

Clinger (11)

가

3

2

(telegraphic style)

, MaLoughlin (10)

Radiologic Reports: Attitudes, Preferred Type, and Opinion of Referring Physicians¹

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Purpose: To determine referring physicians' general attitudes, preferred reporting types, and opinions on radiologic reports.

Materials and Methods: A survey questionnaire was distributed to the 315 staff and residents of four university hospitals with 400 to 800 beds, and a total of 228 physicians responded. The questionnaire aimed to determine of the general attitude of referring physicians to radiologic reports, the type of report they preferred, and other opinions and suggestions. The responses elicited, as well as discrepancies among residents, staff, internist, and surgeons, were analyzed.

Results: Most referring physicians replied that they read an entire report regardless of its length, and the second majority read the conclusion first and then the remainder of the report only if clarification was required. With regard to report length, physicians answered that reports describing the findings of conventional radiography were often too short, while those dealing with MRI were verbose. The majority experienced occasional confusion when reading a report, the major cause being grammatical errors and incomprehensible sentence structure. When confused, most physicians consulted the radiologist; staff showed a greater inclination than residents to pursue this option. Most physicians preferred brief phrases or telegraphic-style sentences to a style which stressed completeness and detail, a preference which was statistically higher among residents than staff. Whereas physicians favored a brief radiologic report in cases of normal radiologic findings, conventional radiologic studies or no clinical findings, they wished to see a more detailed report in cases of abnormal radiologic findings, specific radiologic studies (special radiographs, US, CT, or MRI), or positive clinical findings. This need for more detail was expressed more frequently by internists than by surgeons.

Conclusion: If implemented, the results of this study can be expected to enhance the quality and comprehensibility of radiologic reports, and may also lead to more efficient communication between radiologists and physicians.

Index words : Radiology and radiologists
Radiology reporting systems

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