

: T2 MR 가 .  
 :  
 30 MR . MR  
 , T1 T2 ,  
 T1 T2 가  
 가 8 ( , ,  
 ) T2 .  
 : T1, T2 ,  
 70%(21/30), 70%(21/30), 93.3%(28/30), 73.3%(22/30) . T2  
 ( ) 가 18 (60%) 가 9 (30%)  
 3 (10%) . 30 20 (66.7%) T1  
 T2 가 1 MR T2  
 가 . 가 8 3  
 3 가 T2 .  
 : T2 T2 .  
 .  
 MR  
 가  
 (1,2). T1  
 1994 11 1998 5  
 , MR  
 30  
 (3-6). MR . 26 , 4  
 T2 , 14-76 , 35 .  
 30 27 2  
 , 1 .  
 (7) 가 T2 37.6-470ng/ml( 189ng/ml)  
 .  
 MR 가  
 가 T2 가  
 . T2 가  
 가 .  
 MR 1.0T Magnetom(Siemens, Erlangen,  
 Germany)  
 T1 (TR/TE=400/15msec),  
 T2 (TR/TE/ ETR=4500/90/11m-

<sup>1</sup>  
<sup>2</sup>  
 1998 10 20 1998 1 8

sec) Gd-DTPA (Magnevist, Schering, Germany) 30 21 (70%) T2 MR  
0.1mmol/Kg T1 가 9 (30%)  
(TR/TE = 400/15msec) 1 11 3 . T1 21 (70%)  
T1 9 (30%)  
3mm, FOV 20Cm matrix size T1 22 (73.3%)  
200×256, T2 374×512 . 8 (26.7%)  
, T1 T2  
28 (93.3%)  
, T1 T2 가 2 (6.7%)  
가 (Table 1). 20 (66.7%) T1 T2  
가  
MR T1 , T2 , 가 T1  
, T1 T2 T2  
가 5 (16.7%) (Fig. 1), 1 (3.3%)  
, T1 T2 MR T2  
8 T2 ( )  
( Grade 1, 2 ), 가 18 (60%) 12 (40%)  
T2  
. Bromocriptine 11 가 2  
, T2 .  
2-10mm 6.6mm  
가 7 (23.3%), 23 (76.7%)  
MR T2

Table 1. Detectability of Pituitary Microadenoma

MR sequence	Number of Detectable Cases(%)
T1WI	21 (70)
T2WI	21(70)
Dynamic CE T1WI	28(93.3)
Conventional CE T1WI	22(73.3)

T1WI : T1-Weighted Image

T2WI : T2-Weighted Image

CE T1WI : contrast enhanced T1-Weighted Image

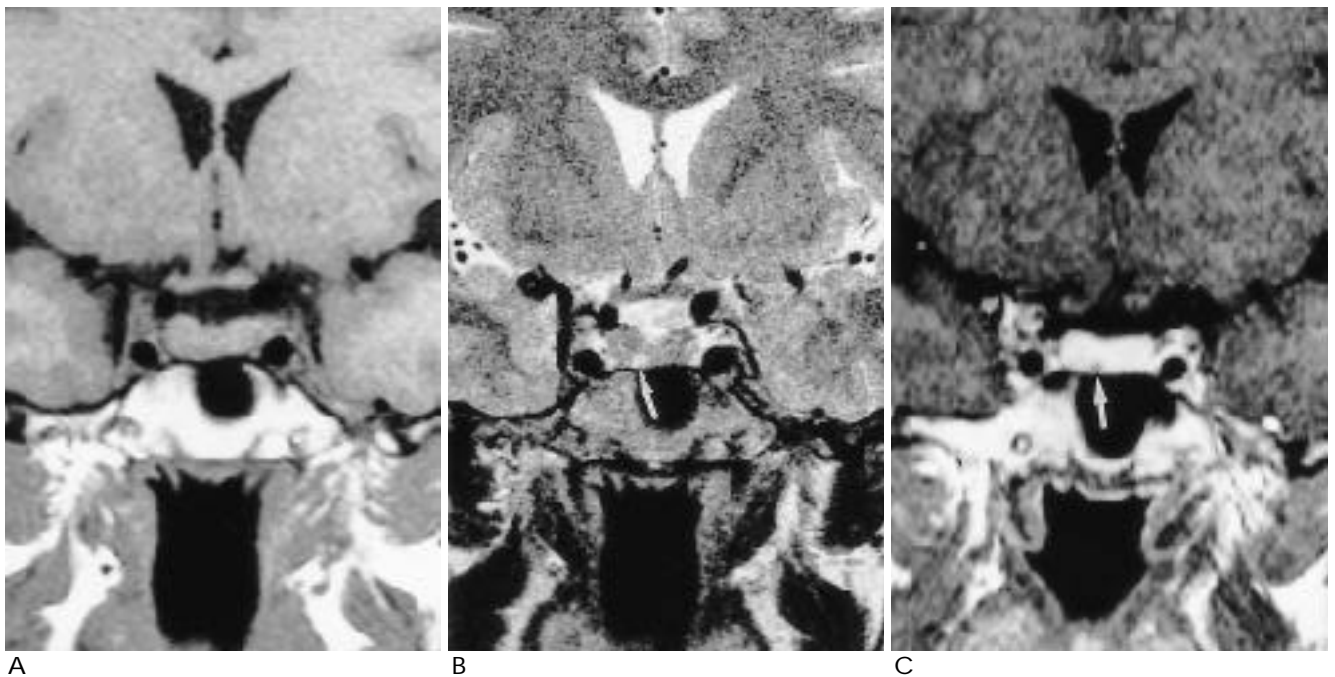


Fig. 1. A 38-year-old woman with pituitary microadenoma.

A. Coronal T1-weighted image shows no demonstrable mass in the pituitary gland.

B. On coronal T2-weighted image, about 4mm high signal intensity mass (arrow) is noted in the right inferior portion of the gland.

C. Dynamic contrast enhanced T1-weighted image shows a mass (arrow) of same size and location as T2-weighted image.

, 6 (20%)

8 2

3 2

T2

Bromocriptine

. 9 (30%)

(10%)

(Fig. 2). T1

18 (60%)

, 9 (30%)

, 3 (10%)

(Table 2).

가

10 2

가

가

8 6 3

2 T2

(Fig. 3).

1

Bromocriptine

grade 1, 2

6 grade 2

3

200ng/ml

가

, 25-200ng/ml

(cimetidine, phe-

nothiazine, opiate, estrogen )

(8).

가

가

가

10-15%

10mm

(8,9).

Table 2. Signal Intensity of Pituitary Microadenoma

MR sequence	Number of Cases(%)			Total(%)
	High-SI	Iso-SI	Low-SI	
T1WI	3(10)	9(30)	18(60)	100
T2WI	18(60)	9(30)	3(10)	100

T1WI : T1-Weighted Image

T2WI : T2-Weighted Image

SI : signal intensity

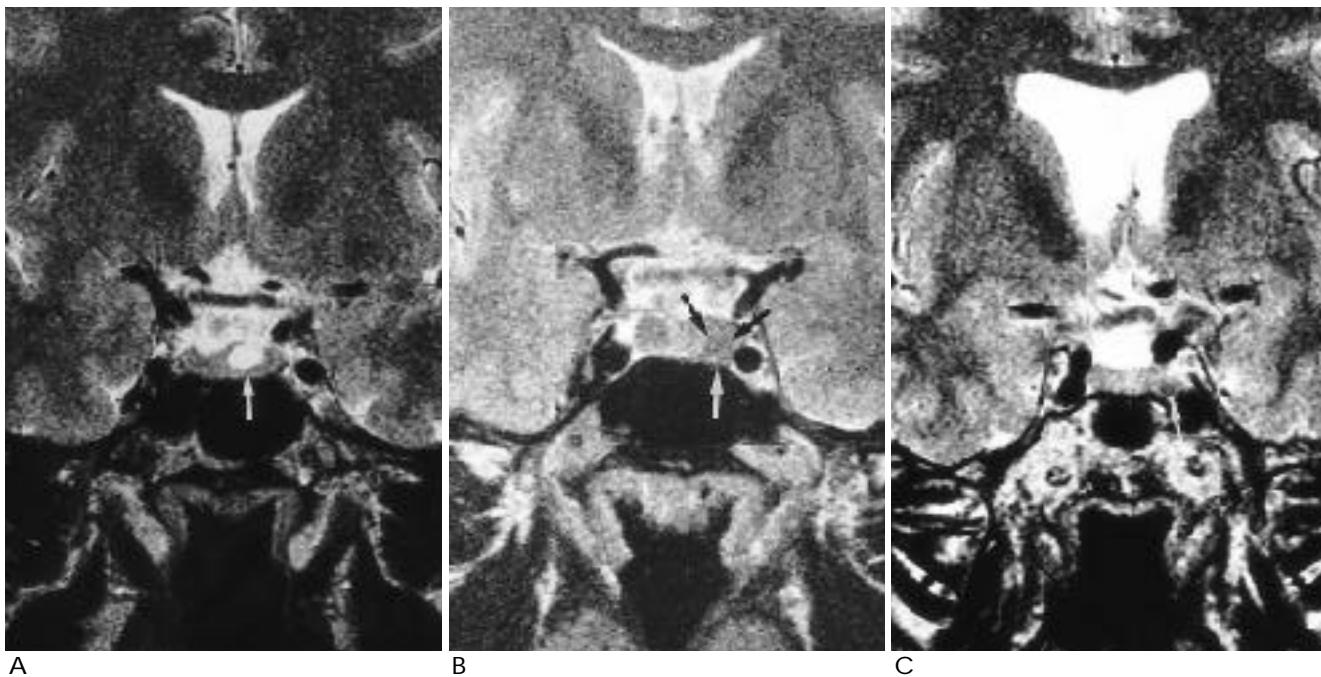


Fig. 2. Signal intensity of pituitary microadenoma on T2-weighted image

A. A 24-year-old woman with pituitary microadenoma. The mass (arrow) shows high signal intensity similar to CSF.

B. A 23-year-old woman with pituitary microadenoma. The mass (arrows) shows iso-signal intensity relative to the pituitary gland.

C. A 40-year-old woman with pituitary microadenoma. The mass (arrow) shows low signal intensity compared to the pituitary gland.

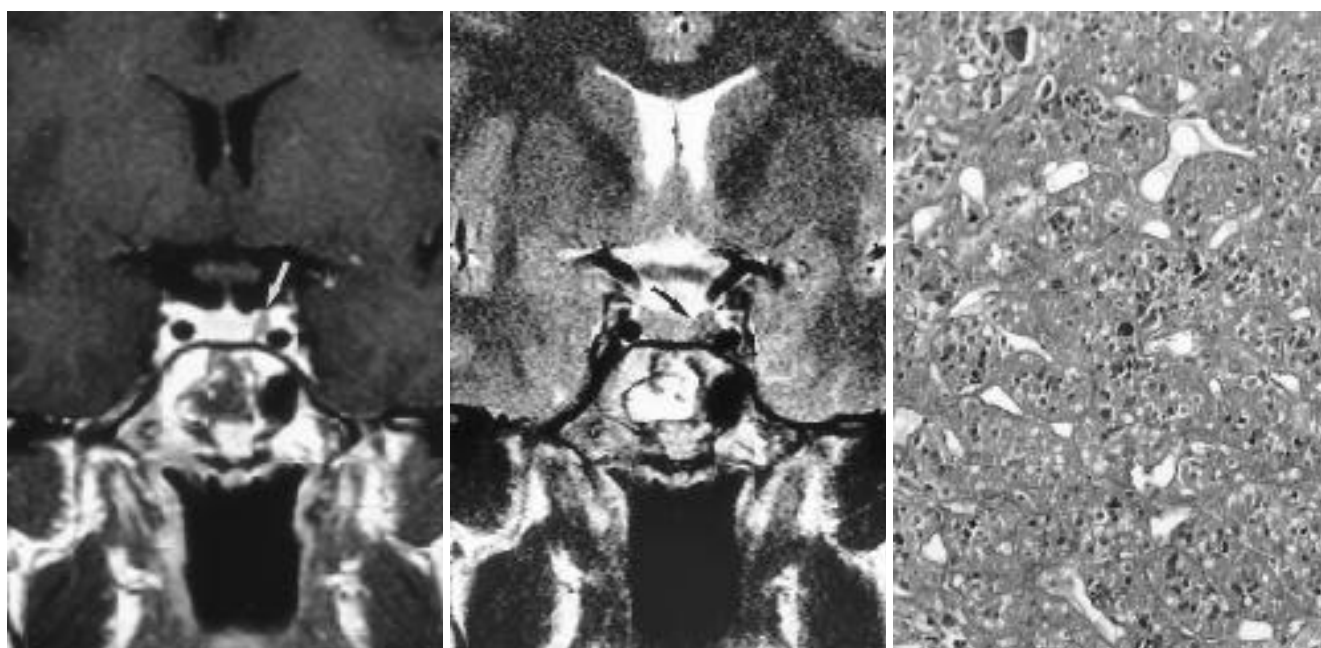


Fig. 3. A 27-year-old woman with pituitary microadenoma.

A. Contrast enhanced T1-weighted image shows low signal intensity mass (arrow) in the left side of the gland.

B. On coronal T2-weighted image, the mass (arrow) shows low signal intensity.

C. On histopathologic examination, moderate degree fibrosis is noted in the tumor (Masson Trichrome stain,  $\times 100$ ).

가 . 가 MR T2

가 (8,10). 가 가 T2

가 가 30 20 (66.7%) T1 T2

가 가 T1

CT MR T2

MR (1,2,11). 가 T1 T2

가 T1 T2 dose

가 MR 가

가 T2

가 가 8 3

2 T2 1

3 2 Bromocriptine

Weissbuche (13) Bromocriptine

가 가

가 T2 가 T2

Grade 2 가

5-15% 6 3 T2 3

(3-6,8). T2 (70%) T1 3 2

(70%) 5 (16.7%) 가 T2

T1 T2

1 (3.3%) 가 8

가  
2 T2  
Snow (10) T2  
가  
T2  
T2  
(14).  
MR  
13-22% T1 T2  
T2  
가 (8,15-17).  
T2  
T2

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## Diagnosis of Pituitary Microadenoma : Significance of T2-Weighted MR Image<sup>1</sup>

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**Purpose :** To evaluate the significance of T2-weighted MR imaging(T2WI) in the diagnosis of pituitary microadenoma.

**Material and Methods :** We retrospectively evaluated the MR imaging findings of 30 cases of pituitary microadenoma. Diagnosis was made on the basis of surgery, serum hormonal level, and the presence of mass lesion on MR (T1WI and T2WI), and conventional as well as dynamic contrast enhanced T1WI images were obtained. In each MR sequence, signal intensity and detectability of the tumor were evaluated. We also determined whether diagnosis was possible on both T1WI and T2WI. In eight cases, histopathologic findings (cellularity, fibrosis, and cystic change) were correlated with T2 signal intensity of the tumor.

**Results :** T2WI, T1WI, and dynamic and conventional enhanced T1WI detected the tumor in 21 cases (70%), 21 cases (70%), 28 cases (93.3%), and 22 cases (73.3%), respectively. On T2WI, pituitary microadenomas showed a high signal in 18 cases (60%), an iso-signal in nine (30%), and a low signal in three (10%) compared with normal pituitary gland. In 20 cases (66.7%), diagnosis of pituitary microadenoma was possible on both T1WI and T2WI, but in one case, the tumor was detected only on T2WI. Three cases with fibrosis, as seen on histopathologic examination showed an iso or low signal on T2WI.

**Conclusion :** T2WI is useful in the diagnosis of pituitary microadenoma. Decreased signal intensity on T2WI may suggest fibrosis.

**Index words :** Pituitary, MR  
Pituitary, neoplasms

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