

가
T2
61
가 29 32
TR/TE 2000 msec/20 - 33 msec, 2 mm, 16 × 16
cm, 256 × 192, 2, 0 mm
(fascicle) 가
(partial volume effect)
T2
가 가 ,
가
T2
T2

가 (5, 6). 3 - 4 mm
60 - 75% (1 - 3). 가
(partial volume effect)
1 mm (gradient echo)
(3).
(2, T1 - T2 T2
4). 가 , T2
가
가 (signal to noise ratio)가

가

(imaging plane)

T2

가

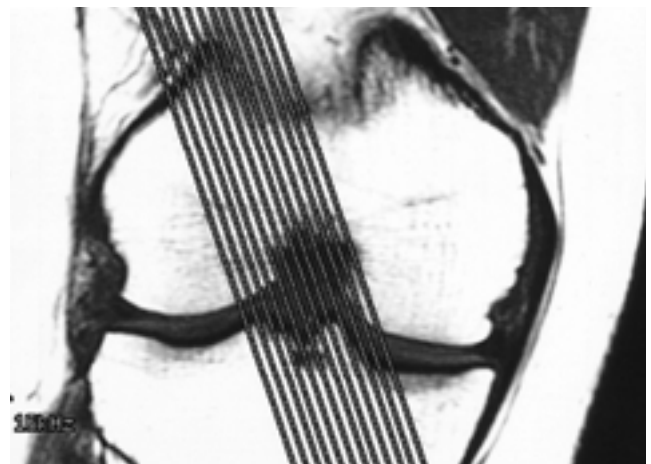


Fig. 1. Scanogram of thin-section proton density oblique sagittal image. The imaging plane is parallel to the anterior cruciate ligament.

1997 6 1999 12

가

T2

61

16

62

34

40:21

가,

가

가

29

32

16

49

(

32

,

19:10)

17

62

(

38

,

19:13)

14

,

5

가

15

5

10

가

11

가

5

(anterior medial band)

(posterior lateral band)

3

,

2

,

(fascicle)

(avulsion fracture) 1

,

6

(linear signal intensity)

가

가

4

1.5 Tesla

(Signa, GE medical system, Milwaukee, WI, U.S.A.)

(TR 2000 msec/TE 20 - 30 msec)

T1

(500/10),

가
t - (paired t - test)

T2

(2000/80)

10 - 15 °

14 x 14 cm

256

x 192,

1.5

,

4 mm,

0

0.5 mm

29

28 (: 97%),

26

(: 90%),

T2

28

(

: 97%)

가

(Table

가

TR/TE 2000 msec/20 - 33 msec,

16 x 16 cm,

1).

256 x 192,

2

(Fig. 1).

(23/29)

T2

(21/29)

(13/29)
가 T2 (20/29),
가 (6/29)
가 (1/29)
가 (Table 2, Fig. 2).

(31/32)
(32/32),
(1/32)
T2

1.38, 1.44, T2
1.78 (Table 3, Fig. 3).
1
가, 가,
(False positive) T2
1

Table 1. Detectability and Diagnostic Values of ACL Tear

	TSPDI	PDI	T2WI
True positive	28	26	28
True negative	29	29	30
False positive	3	3	2
False negative	1	3	1
Sensitivity	97%	90%	97%
Specificity	91%	91%	94%
Accuracy	93%	90%	95%

TSPDI: thin-section proton density oblique sagittal image, PDI: conventional proton density oblique sagittal image, T2WI: T2-weighted oblique sagittal image

Table 2. Incidence for Multiple Signs in ACL Injury Group

	TSPDI		PDI		T2WI	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Increased SI	23	79	13	45	21	72
Thickening	20	69	12	41	6	21
Displacement	10	34	9	31	9	31
Discontinuity	3	10	0	0	4	14
Nonvisualization	0	0	11	38	5	17

TSPDI: thin-section proton density oblique sagittal image, PDI: conventional proton density oblique sagittal image, T2WI: T2-weighted oblique sagittal image, SI: signal intensity

Table 3. Incidence for Normal Findings in Intact ACL Group

	TSPDI		PDI		T2WI	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Anterior margin	31	97	29	91	25	78
Posterior margin	15	47	11	34	8	25
Internal structure	32	100	20	63	15	47
PVE	1	3	9	28	8	24

TSPDI: thin-section proton density oblique sagittal image, PDI: conventional proton density oblique sagittal image, T2WI: T2-weighted oblique sagittal image, PVE: partial volume effect



Fig. 2. Partial tear of anterior cruciate ligament.

A, B. T2-weighted(**A**) and conventional proton density(**B**) oblique sagittal images demonstrated focal increased signal intensity in proximal ACL.

C. Thin-section proton density oblique sagittal image well demonstrated focal bulbous swelling and well defined posterior margin of tear site(arrows).

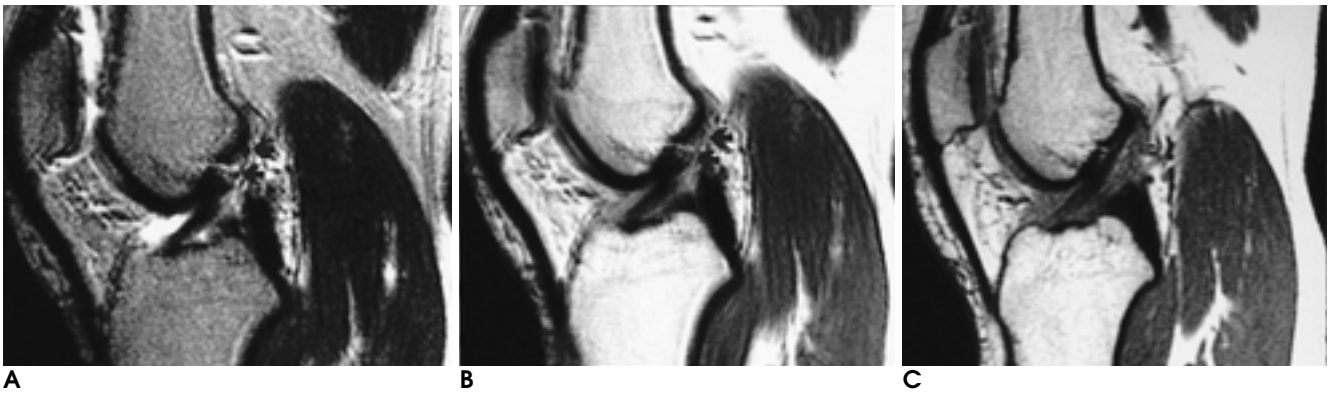


Fig. 3. Normal anterior cruciate ligament mimicking tear on conventional MRI.
A, B. T2-weighted(**A**) and conventional proton density(**B**) oblique sagittal images demonstrated increased signal intensity within poorly defined ACL proximal portion.
C. Thin-section proton density oblique sagittal image demonstrated normal ACL.

(pulse sequence) , 가
(15). 가
3.8 cm , 1 cm (10, 16, 17)
(8, 9). (18). 5 mm
T1 - 10 - 15 °
T2 , 가 (19)
(intercondylar roof) . Reeder (15)
(10). 3 mm T1 1.5 mm
3 (Three - Dimensional gradient - echo)
(11,12). Mink (13) 3 mm 5 mm
T1 (20).
85%, 95%, 94%, T2
100%, 96%, 97%
T2
(14) 80%, (21).
97%, 92% (femur condyle) 가 가
93% 97%, 91%,
91%, 90%, T2 97%, 94%, 가
95% 가
2 T2 가 (13).
10 - 20 °
가 .

2 mm

가

(Selection bias)

가

가

가

가

T2

1. Speer KP, Warren RF, Wickiewicz TL, Horowitz L, Henderson L. Observations on the injury mechanism of anterior cruciate ligament tears in skiers. *Am J Sports Med* 1995;23:77-81
2. Lee JK, Yao L, Phelps CT, Wirth CR, Czajka J, Lozman J. Anterior cruciate ligament tears: MR imaging compared with arthroscopy and clinical tests. *Radiology* 1988;166:861-864
3. Resnick D, Kang HS. *Internal derangements of joints: emphasis on MR imaging*. Philadelphia; Saunders, 1997: 675-691

4. Fischer SP, Fox JM, Pizzo WD, et al. Accuracy of diagnosis from magnetic resonance imaging of the knee: a multi-center analysis of one thousand and fourteen patients. *J Bone Joint Surg [Am]* 1991; 73:2-10
5. Lerman JE, Gray DS, Schweitzer ME, Bartolozzi A. MR evaluation of the anterior cruciate ligament: value of axial images. *J Comput Assist Tomogr* 1995;19:604-607
6. Fitzgerald SW, Remer EM, Friedman H, Rogers LF, Hendrix RW, Schafer MF. MR evaluation of the anterior cruciate ligament: value of supplementing sagittal images with coronal and axial images. *AJR Am J Roentgenol* 1993;160:1233-1237
7. Markolf KL, Mensch JS, Amstutz HC. Stiffness and laxity of the knee-contributions of the supporting structures: a quantitative in vitro study. *J Bone Joint Surg [Am]* 1976;58:583-594
8. Girgis FG, Marshall JL, Monajem ARS. The cruciate ligaments of the knee joint: anatomical, functional, and experimental analysis. *Clin Orthop* 1975;106:216-231
9. Arnoczky SP. Anatomy of the anterior cruciate ligament. *Clin Orthop* 1983;172:19-25
10. Tung GA, Davis LM, Wiggins ME, Fadale PD. Tears of the anterior cruciate ligament: primary and secondary signs at MR imaging. *Radiology* 1993;188:661-667
11. Berquist TH. *MRI of musculoskeletal system*. 3rd ed. Philadelphia; Lippincott-Raven, 1996;345-358
12. Hodler J, Haghighi P, Trudell D, Resnick D. The cruciate ligaments of the knee: correlation between MR appearance and gross and histologic findings in cadaveric specimens. *AJR Am J Roentgenol* 1992;159:357-360
13. Mink JH, Levy T, Crues III JV. Tears of the anterior cruciate ligament and menisci of the knee: MR imaging evaluation. *Radiology* 1988;167:769-774
14. 1993;29:809-813
15. Reeder JD, Matz SO, Becker L, Andelman SM. MR imaging of the knee in the sagittal projection: comparison of three-dimensional gradient-echo and spin-echo sequences. *AJR Am J Roentgenol* 1989; 153:537-540
16. T2 1998;38:717-722
17. MR T1 1994;31:949-954
18. Roychowdhury S, Fitzgerald SW, Sonin AH, Peduto AJ, Miller FH, Hoff FL. Using MR imaging to diagnose partial tears of the anterior cruciate ligament: value of axial images. *AJR Am J Roentgenol* 1997; 168:1487-1491
19. Buckwalter KA, Pennes DR. Anterior cruciate ligament: oblique sagittal MR imaging. *Radiology* 1990;175:276-277
20. Stoller DW, Cannon WD, Anderson LJ. *The Knee*. In: Stoller DW, ed. *Magnetic resonance imaging on orthopedics and sports medicine*. Philadelphia; Lippincott, 1993;254-255
21. Niitsu M, Ikeda K, Fukubayashi T, Anno I, Itai Y. Knee extension and flexion: MR delineation of normal and torn anterior cruciate ligaments. *J Comput Assist Tomogr* 1996;20:322-327

The Anterior Cruciate Ligament: The Value of Thin-section Proton Density Oblique Sagittal MR Imaging¹

Seong Whi Cho, M.D.^{1,3}, Young-Hoon Kim, M.D.², Sang Tae Kim, M.D., Chun Hwan Han, M.D.

¹Department of Radiology, Kangnam General Hospital Public Corporation

²Department of Orthopedic Surgery, Kangnam General Hospital Public Corporation

³Department of Radiology, Inha University College of Medicine

Purpose: To evaluate the usefulness of thin-section proton density oblique sagittal MR imaging in the diagnosis of tear involving the anterior cruciate ligament (ACL).

Materials and Methods: In 61 arthroscopically confirmed cases (29 patients with ACL injury and 32 normal subjects), thin section proton-density images (TSPDI) were obtained and compared with conventional oblique sagittal PDI and T2-weighted images (T2WI). In TSPDI imaging, the scan plane was parallel to the course of the ACL, based on a coronal scanogram; the parameters used were TR/TE 2000 msec/20 - 33 msec, 2-mm slice thickness, 16 × 16 cm FOV, 256 × 192 matrix, two excitations, and no intersection gap. We evaluated the sensitivity and specificity of MR images for diagnosing ACL tear, and their quality, on the basis of whether or not they successfully visualised the anterior/posterior margin of the ACL and linear signal intensities within the ACL fascicles. We also investigated the effects of partial volume averaging between the proximal portion of the ACL and the lateral femoral condyle.

Results: The sensitivity/specificity of TSPDI imaging for diagnosing ACL tear were not significantly different from those of conventional oblique sagittal PDI and T2WI. In the ACL injury group, TSPDI was better in detecting increased signal intensity, ACL thickening, and visualization of torn ACL than conventional oblique sagittal PDI and T2WI. In normal subjects, image quality was constantly better on TSPDI than on conventional oblique sagittal PDI and T2WI. TSPDI clearly revealed the anterior margin in 31/32 cases (97%) and linear signal intensities within the ACL fascicles in all 32 (100%), and also markedly reduced the partial volume effect of the proximal ACL and lateral femoral condyle.

Conclusion: In evaluating the ACL, the use of TSPDI imaging is likely to lead to improved image quality. In addition, where routine MR imaging reveals indeterminate ACL injury, TSPDI can provide additional clues to diagnosis.

Index words : Knee, MR

Knee, ligaments, menisci, and cartilage

Knee, injuries

Address reprint requests to : Seong Whi Cho, M.D., Department of Radiology, Inha University Hospital
7-206 3rd St., Shinheung-dong, Choong-Ku, Incheon 400-103, Korea.
Tel. 82-32-890-2769 Fax. 82-32-890-2743 E-mail: csw@medikorea.net