

?¹

:
 : 20 가 15 , 가 5
 24 - 50 (30.4) T1 Conventional
 spin echo T1 (Conv - SET1), Turbo spin echo T1 (TSET1), Fast low angle shot (FLASH)
 . T2 Turbo spin echo T2 (TSET2), Half - fourier acquisition single -
 shot turbo spin echo (HASTE), True - fast imaging with steady - state precession (True -
 FISP), Echoplanar image (EPI)
 . 1) Contrast to Noise Ratio (CNR) -
 가 가 .
 2) , , ,
 , . 3 가
 : 1) - T1 TSET1 가
 Conv - SET1 . T2 TSET2가 가
 - T1 가 T2
 HASTE, EPI T2 FLASH가 가 . 2)
 가 T1 FLASH가 가 T1
 T2 가
 FLASH, T2 HASTE가 가
 True - FISP
 HASTE가 T2 True - FISP EPI
 Conv - SET1 가
 : T2 TSET2 가 T1
 (Corticomedullary differentiation)
 T1 FLASH T2 HASTE 가
 True - FISP 가 HASTE
 True - FISP, EPI Conv - SET1
 가

(1, 2).

(3 - 5).

:

가

(Region of Interest)

4

가

(SNR)

-

(CNR)

-

(CNR)

가

1)

-

(Contrast to noise ratio between cortex and perirenal fat)

= ()

2)

-

(Contrast to noise ratio between cortex and medulla)

= ()

20

15 ,

5

24 - 50

(30.4)

1.5 T MR (Siemens, Erlangen, Germany)

7가

T1 Conventional - spine echo

T1 weighted image (Conv - SET1), Turbo spin echo T1 weighted image (TSET1), Fast low angle shot (FLASH)

3가 T2 Turbo spin echo

T2 weighted image (TSET2), Half - fourier acquisition single - shot turbo spin echo (HASTE), True - fast imaging with steady - state precession (True - FISP), Echoplanar image (EPI) 4가 Conv - SET1

(breath hold)

6 mm, 2

mm

8 - 11

MR parameter

Table 1

(Table 1).

20

7가

1)

-

, 2)

-

, 3)

(

)

, 4)

, 5)

3

가

가 T1

3가 (FLASH, TSET1, Conv - SET1) 가

grade 1, 가

grade 3

grade 1~3

T2

4가

(TSET2, HASTE, True - FISP, EPI)

grade

1 - 4

가

7가

(T1

3가 , T2

4가)

grade 1~7

가

grade 1, 가

가

grade 7

가

grade 1

가

grade 7

(randomized block

design)

Duncan

95%

Friedman

(Signal to noise ratio,

95%

SNR)

(Contrast to noise ratio, CNR)

1)

3)

2) (Corticomedullary differentiation)

Table 1. Parameters of MR Sequences

	TR (msec)	TE (msec)	NEX	Th (mm)	TA (sec)	Matrix	FOV (mm)	Breath Hold
Conv-SET1	600	15	2	6	3:20	256 × 256	300 - 400	no
TSET1	450	12	1	6	23	256 × 256	300 - 400	yes
FLASH	120	4.1	1	6	18	256 × 256	300 - 400	yes
TSET2	3200	138	1	6	17	256 × 256	300 - 400	yes
True-FISP	4.8	2.3	1	6	7	256 × 256	300 - 400	yes
HASTE	4.4	64	1	6	13	256 × 256	300 - 400	yes
EPI	0.6	78	1	6	3	128 × 128	300 - 400	yes

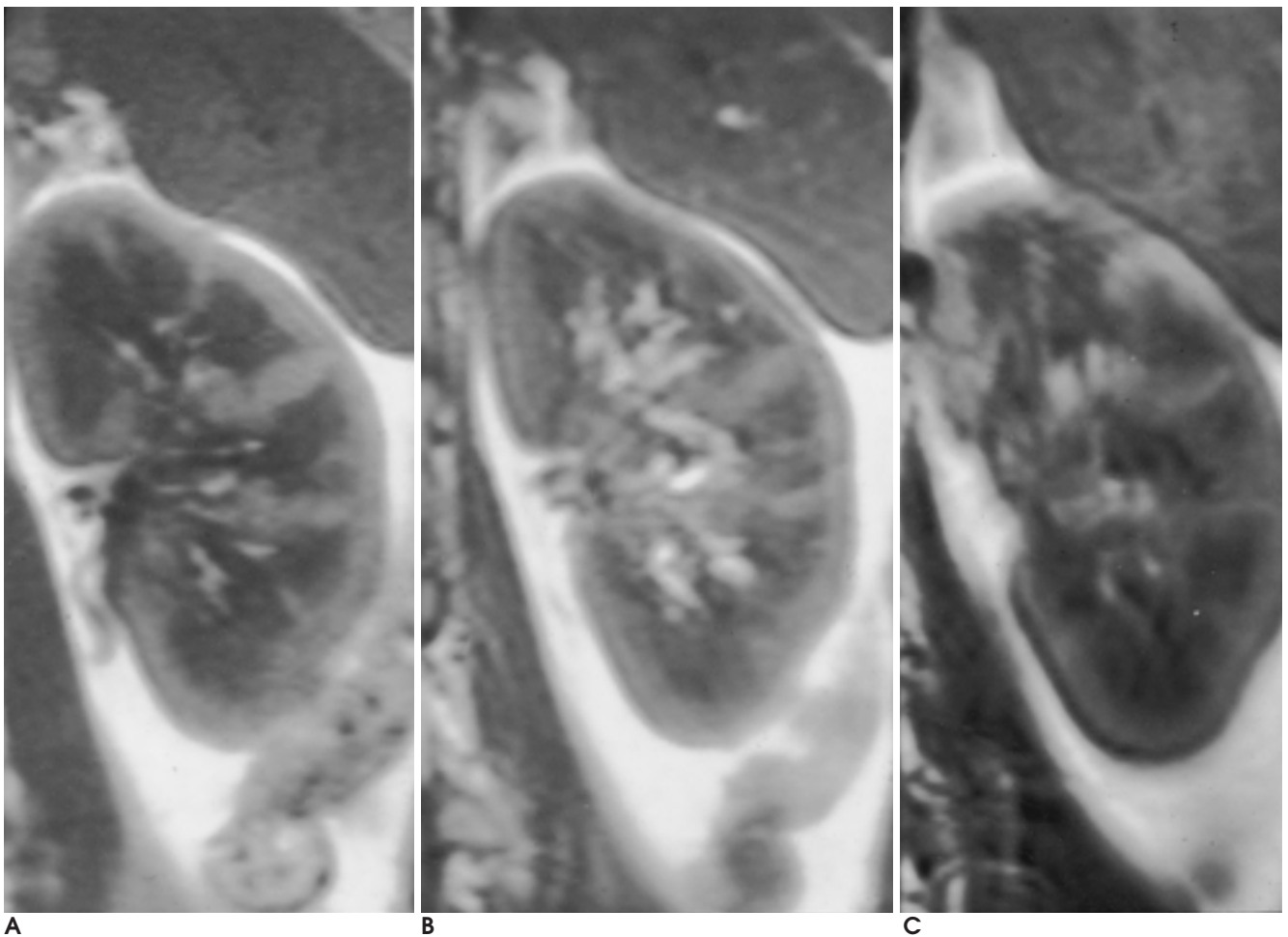
TR; repetition time, TE; time of echo, NEX; number of acquisition,

Th; thickness, TA; time of acquisition, FOV; field of view

Conv-SET1; Conventional spin echo T1, TSET1; Turbo spin echo T1, FLASH; Fast low angle shot,

TSET2; Turbo spin echo T2, HASTE; Half-fourier acquisition single-shot turbo spin echo,

True-FISP ; True-fast imaging with steady-state precession, EPI ; Echoplanar image.

**Fig. 1.** T1 weighted MR sequencesFLASH image (**A**) shows good corticomedullary differentiation and outline of kidney than TSET1 (**B**), and Conv SET1 images (**C**). Artifacts are severe on Conv SET1 image (C) than FLASH (A) and TSET1 images (B).

4) (TSET2, True - FISP)
(Table 2, 4).

5)

T1 FLASH (1.11 ± 0.32)가 TSET1 (1.95 ± 0.40) Conv - SET1 (2.95 ± 0.23) (Table 2, 5) (Fig. 1), T2 TSET2 (2.16 ± 1.12)가 가 HASTE (2.21 ± 1.13), True - FISP (2.84 ± 1.17), EPI (2.68 ± 1.11) (Table 2, 6) (Fig. 2).

T1 TSET1 (83.7 ± 22.4) 가 Conv - SET1 (73.0 ± 15.8) FLASH (52.6 ± 9.6) (Table 2, 3).

T2 TSET2 (50.9 ± 10.7)가 가 EPI (38.6 ± 14.0), True - FISP (30.6 ± 12.8), HASTE (19.9 ± 6.9) (Table 2, 4).

T1 FLASH (1.05 ± 0.23)가 TSET1 (2.02 ± 0.32) Conv - SET1 (2.89 ± 0.32) (Table 2, 5) (Fig. 1). FLASH TSET1 Conv - SET1 20 3

T1 Conv - SET1 (24.9 ± 25.2) 가 TSET1 (15.3 ± 9.1), FLASH (15.1 ± 7.4) (Table 2, 3).

T2 HASTE (10.8 ± 6.6)가 가 EPI (10.6 ± 6.9) , TSET2 8 가 , True FISP

Table 2. Statistical Analysis of Results

		Analysis of result
Kidney shape	CNR between cortex and perirenal fat	T1WI : TSET1, Conv-SET1 > FLASH (p < 0.05) T2WI : TSET2 > EPI > True-FISP > HASTE (p < 0.05)
	Kidney outline	T1WI : FLASH > TSET1, Conv-SET1 (p < 0.05) T2WI : TSET2 , HASTE, EPI, True-FISP (p > 0.05)
Cortico-medullary differentiation	CNR between cortex and medulla	T1WI : Conv-SET1, TSET1, FLASH (p > 0.05) T2WI : HASTE, EPI > TSET2, True-FISP (p < 0.05)
	Cortico-medullary distinction	T1WI : FLASH > TSET1, Conv-SET1 (p < 0.05) T2WI : HASTE > EPI, TSET2, True-FISP (p < 0.05)
Renal vessels		True-FISP > other sequences (p < 0.05)
Renal pelvis/ureter		HASTE > FLASH, TSET1, Conv-SET1 (p < 0.05)
Artifact		Conv-SET1 > EPI > other sequences (p < 0.05)

Table 3. CNR between Cortex and Perirenal Fat and between Cortex and Medulla on T1 Weighted Sequences

CNR	Conv - SET1	TSET1	FLASH
Cortex and perirenal fat*	73.0 ± 15.8	83.7 ± 22.4	52.6 ± 9.6
Cortex and medulla†	24.9 ± 25.2	15.3 ± 9.1	15.1 ± 7.4

CNR; contrast to noise ratio

* p value (cortex and perirenal fat) ; 0.0001

† p value (cortex and medulla) ; 0.0781

Table 4. CNR between Cortex and Perirenal Fat, and between Cortex and Medulla on T2 Weighted Sequences

CNR	TSET2	HASTE	True-FISP	EPI
Cortex and perirenal fat*	50.9 ± 10.7	19.9 ± 6.9	30.6 ± 12.8	38.6 ± 14.0
Cortex and medulla†	4.6 ± 8.2	10.8 ± 6.6	0	10.6 ± 6.9

CNR; contrast to noise ratio

* p value (cortex and perirenal fat) ; 0.0001

† p value (cortex and medulla) ; 0.0001

7	True - FISP (1.10 ± 0.31)	7	Conv - SET1 (1.32 ± 0.48)	가
	(Table 2, 7) (Fig. 3).		EPI (2.95 ± 2.07)	(Table 2,
		7).		
7	HASTE (3.00 ± 2.71)가 가			
, T2	EPI (3.53 ± 2.48) True - FISP			
(4.58 ± 2.32)				
HASTE T1	FLASH (5.79 ± 1.13), TSET1	T1		가
(6.16 ± 0.77), Conv - SET1 (6.63 ± 0.68)		TSET1 가		
(Table 2, 7) (Fig. 4).		가 FLASH 가		
				가 가

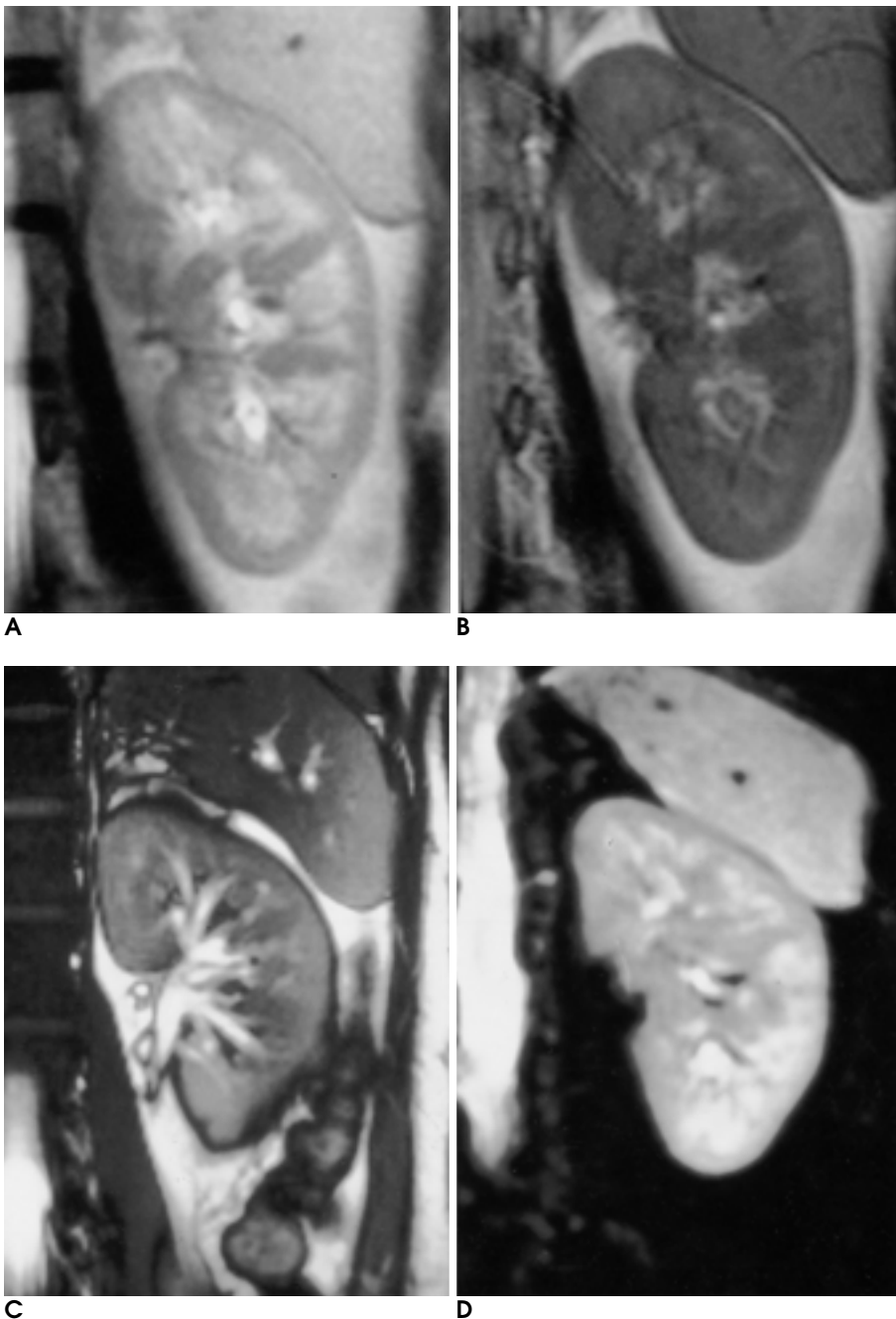


Fig. 2. T2 weighted MR sequences
Corticomedullary differentiation is the best on HASTE image (A) followed by EPI image (D). Faint differentiation is seen on TSET2 image (B). Corticomedullary differentiation is not seen on True-FISP image (C). Outline of kidney is relatively good on all T2 weighted images.

T1

T2 가 HASTE가 가 HASTE

TSET2가 가 EPI True-FISP

T2

T1 가 가 Conv-SET1 가

EPI

FLASH가

T1

FLASH가 가

T2 가 HASTE EPI가

가 HASTE

가 가 T2

HASTE가 가

7 True-FISP

가

Table 5. Grading of T1 Weighted Sequences for Kidney Outline and Cortico-Medullary Distinction.

Grading	Conv-SET1	TSET1	FLASH
Kidney outline*	2.95 ± 0.23	1.95 ± 0.40	1.11 ± 0.32
Cortico-medullary distinction ⁺	2.89 ± 0.32	2.02 ± 0.32	1.05 ± 0.23

* p value (kidney outline) ; 0.001

⁺ p value (cortico-medullary distinction) ; 0.001

Table 6. Grading of T2 Weighted Sequences for Kidney Outline and Cortico-Medullary Distinction

Grading	TSET2	HASTE	True-FISP	EPI
Kidney outline*	2.16 ± 1.12	2.21 ± 1.13	2.84 ± 1.17	2.68 ± 1.11
Cortico-medullary distinction ⁺	3.42 ± 0.84	1.05 ± 0.23	4	2.11 ± 0.32

* p value (kidney outline) ; 0.280

⁺ p value (cortico-medullary distinction) ; 0.001

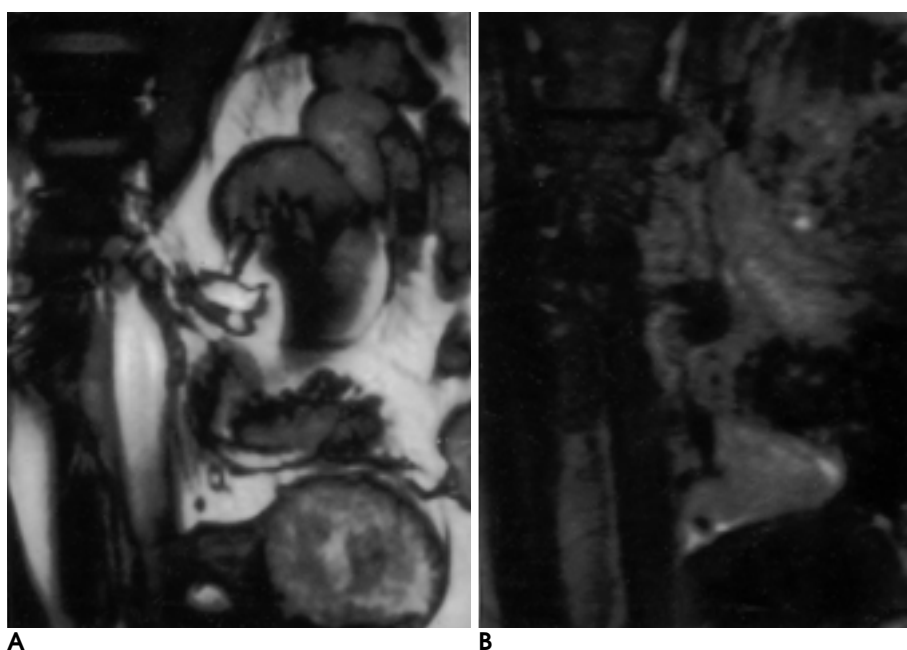


Fig. 3. Evaluation of renal vessels
Renal artery and vein are seen in bright signal intensity on True-FISP image (A) and margin of vessel is outlined by dark signal. On FLASH image (B), there is some abnormal increased intensity in vessel lumen due to flow-related artifact in normal patient.

low angle shot (FLASH), Fast imaging with steady-state precession (FISP), Turbo Spin echo (TSE), Half-fourier acquisition single-shot turbo spin echo (HASTE), Echoplanar image (EPI)

Siemen Fast
GE Spoiled

Gradient - Refocused acquisition in the steady state (Spoiled GRASS), Gradient - Refocused acquisition in the steady state (GRASS), Fast Spin Echo (FSE), Single Shot Fast Spin Echo (SSFSE), Echoplanar image (EPI)

90 °

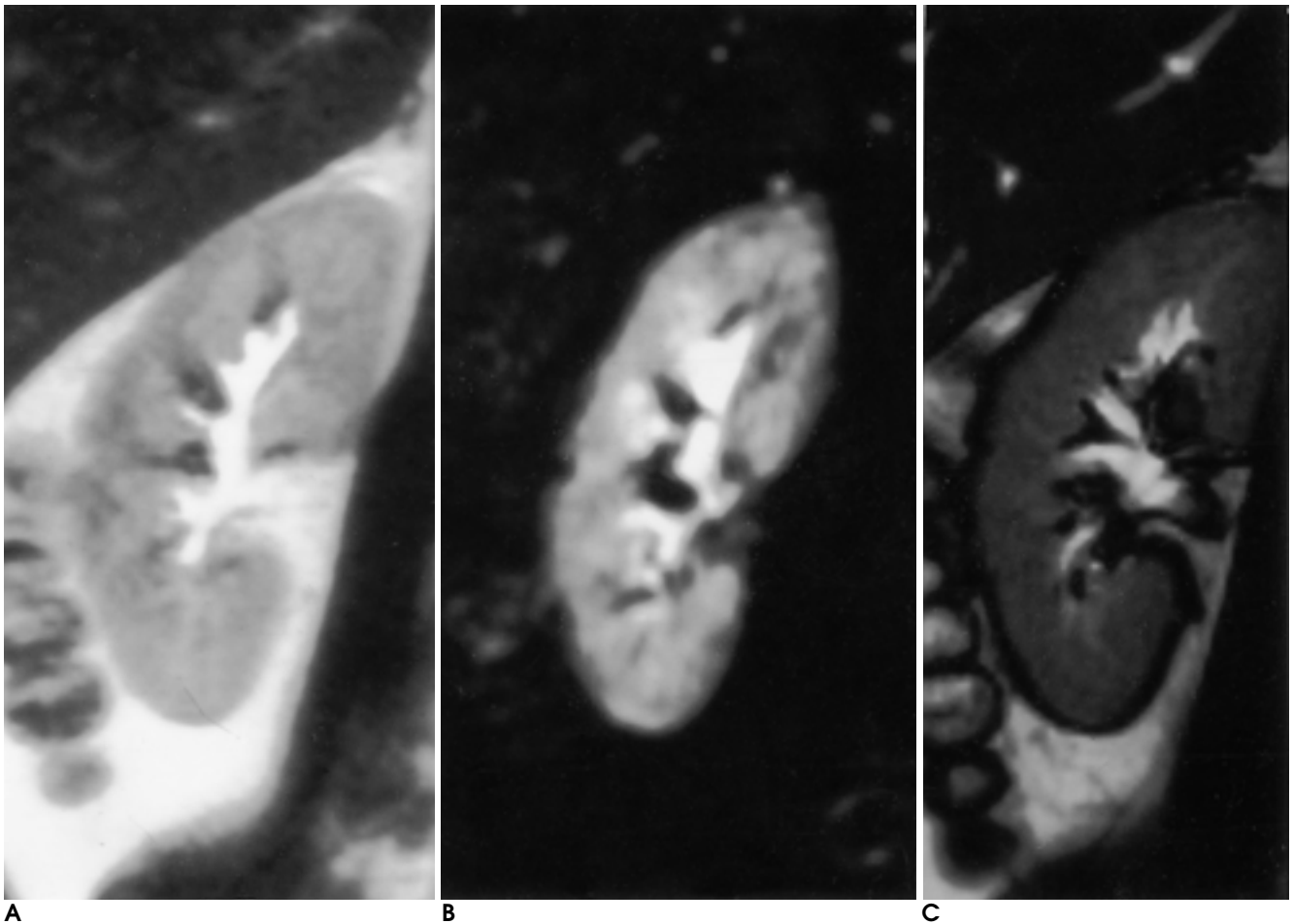
Table 7. Grading of MR Sequences for Renal Vessel, Pelvis/Ureter, and Artifacts

Grading	T1 weighted images				T2 weighted images		
	Conv-SET1	TSET1	FLASH	TSET2	HASTE	True-FISP	EPI
Renal vessel*	5.75 ± 0.72	4.50 ± 1.00	4.55 ± 0.94	3.10 ± 1.48	3.15 ± 1.04	1.10 ± 0.31	7.00
Renal pelvis/ureter ⁺	6.63 ± 0.68	6.16 ± 0.77	5.79 ± 1.13	5.79 ± 1.18	3.00 ± 2.71	4.58 ± 2.32	3.53 ± 2.48
Artifact*	1.32 ± 0.48	5.74 ± 2.23	6.21 ± 1.58	6.42 ± 1.74	6.74 ± 1.15	6.21 ± 1.58	2.95 ± 2.07

* p value (renal vessel) ; 0.001

+ p value (renal pelvis/ureter) ; 0.001

* p value (artifact) ; 0.001

**Fig. 4.** Evaluation of Urinary Tract

Renal pelvis is seen as high signal intensity on HASTE (A), EPI (B), and True-FISP images (C). Renal pelvis and calyces are outlined the most prominently on HASTE image (A).

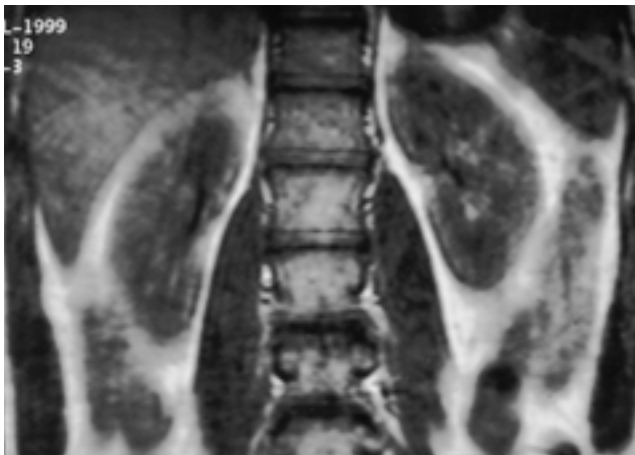


Fig. 5. Artifact
Prominent respiratory motion artifacts are seen on Conv-SET1 image.

가 (9). FLASH
T1
T1
가 ,
FISP
T2
True - FISP FISP
가 T2
(out of phase artifact or phase cancellation artifact)
가
가 True - FISP
TSE HASTE TR 180 RF
Conv - SE
HASTE
(64 - 128)
(1
ghost artifact)
(11).
HASTE T2 가
가
가
(11, 12). TSE HASTE
T2
HASTE

EPI (Echoplanar image) 1 RF
k - space sampling
echo 가
(5). EPI 1977 Mansfield
(13) 가
T2 T2
가
(chemical shift) 가
EPI 가 (14).
가
T2 TE가
T1 가
(15)
(15, 16).
가 T1
T2 HASTE 20
가
T2 가
EPI 17 가
TSET2 8 가 True - FISP
T2
HASTE 가
FLASH SE T1
가 FLASH가 SE 가
가 T1
가가 가 가
가 T2
가
TSET2 가 가 T2
EPI가 SE
가
SE HASTE가 가
180 T2 가 TSET2
True - FISP
가

1 가 (17,
18) SE
(flow related artifact),
(19, 20)
(10) 가 True - FISP FLASH
, True - FISP 가
가
, 가
True - FISP 가
HASTE T2
(MR urography)
(MR cholangiopancreatography) 가
(21, 22). 가 HASTE 가
가 True - FISP, EPI
가
가
가 가
가
Conv - SET1 가
Conv - SET1
Conv - SE
가 가
가
TSET2 T1
가 T1 FLASH
, T2 HASTE 가
True - FISP
가 HASTE
EPI, True - FISP
Conv - SET1 가

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What is the Best MR Sequence to Evaluate Normal Structures of Kidney?¹

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Purpose: To determine the best MR sequence for evaluation of the anatomical structures of normal kidney

Materials and Methods: Twenty normal volunteers (M:F = 15:5) took part in this study, and for each, seven sequences were performed. The T1 weighted sequences were conventional spin echo T1 (Conv-SET1), turbo spin echo T1 (TSET1), and fast low angle shot (FLASH), while the T2 weighted sequences were turbo spin echo T2 (TSET2), half-Fourier acquisition single-shot turbo spin echo (HASTE), true-fast imaging with steady-state precession (True-FISP), and echoplanar imaging (EPI). The study involved quantitative and qualitative analysis. In quantitative analysis, CNRs between cortex and adjacent fat tissue, and between cortex and medulla were calculated from SNR (signal to noise ratio), and the CNRs of sequences were statistically compared. In quantitative analysis, three radiologists collectively evaluated kidney outline, cortico-medullary division, the renal vessels, the pelvis/ureter, and artifacts. For each sequence a grade was assigned, and for each parameter the grades were compared.

Results: Between cortex and adjacent fat, the highest CNR was shown by TSET1, followed by Conv-SET1, while among T2 sequences, the CNR shown by TSET2 was highest. Between cortex and medulla, the CNR demonstrated by the three T1 sequences showed no statistically significant difference. Among T2 sequences, however, HASTE showed the highest CNR, followed by EPI, and statistically, the findings for these two were significantly different from those of other T2 sequences. Among T1 sequences, FLASH provided the best kidney outline, though among T2-sequences there was no statistically significant difference. FLASH was also the best for cortico-medullary distinction, while for this purpose the best T2 sequence was HASTE. True-FISP was best for the evaluation of renal vessels, and HASTE for evaluating the pelvis and ureter. Artifacts were most prominent on Conv SET1.

Conclusion: For evaluating the shape of the kidney, the best T2 sequence was TSET2, but the best T1 sequence could not be determined. For cortico-medullary differentiation, the best T1 sequence was FLASH and the best T2 sequence was HASTE. For the evaluation of renal vessels, True-FISP was best, and for the pelvis and ureter, HASTE. Artifacts were most prominent on Conv-SET1.

Index words : Kidney, anatomy
Kidney, MR

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