

3.0T MR 가

b Value¹

² . .

: b value 가

.
: T2

21 . 3.0T MR .

EPI , b value 0, 1,000, 1,500, 2,000, 2,500, 3,000 s/mm²

가 6 TE

. , b value

6 (, ,)

b value 1,000 s/mm²

: , b value 가 가

. b=3,000 s/mm²

가 가 , ,

, , 가

b value가 1,000 s/mm²

0.71 (b=1,500 s/mm²), 0.52 (b=2,000 s/mm²), 0.41 (b=2,500 s/mm²), 0.33 (b= 3,000 s/mm²)

: 가 b

value 3,000 s/mm² , 가

.

value 1,000 s/mm² (1,000 - 3,000)

, 가 가 .

b (2, 3), 1.5 3.0 T MR

value 1,000 s/mm²

b value (1,000 s/mm²) (4, 5).

MR 3.0 T MR b value 1,000

b value 10,000 s/mm² s/mm²

(1). 3.0T MR 1,000 s/mm²

1.5T MR b b value

3.0 T MR 1,000

s/mm² b value

가

1
2

2003 2 7 2003 11 10

work station (Advantage
Windows; GE Medical Systems)
T2
21
가 13 , 가
8 , 19 24 21.4
maximum strength 40 mT/m, slew rate
150 T/m/s 3.0 T (Signa, VH/I,
GE Medical Systems, Milwaukee, U.S.A.)
EPI , b value 0, 1,000, 1,500, 2,000,
2,500, 3,000 s/mm² 가 가 6
TR 10,000 msec,
26 × 23 cm, 128 × 128, 5 mm,
2 mm, NEX 1 , TE (72 - 96
msec)
가 , 가
b value
1,000 s/mm² ,
1,500 - 3,000 s/mm² b value 가
(Fig. 2).

가
b value
,
, b value 1,000 s/mm²
(Fig. 1).
(ROI)

Table 1. Relative Signal-to-Noise Ratios in Six Anatomic Regions at Varying High b Values (Normalized to SNR at b = 1,000 s/mm²)

b value (s/mm ²)	Corpus Callosum White Matter						Mean
	Genu	Splenium	Frontal	Parietal	IC*	Thalamus	
1,500	0.70	0.68	0.69	0.68	0.71	0.78	0.71
2,000	0.50	0.51	0.50	0.50	0.59	0.54	0.52
2,500	0.40	0.40	0.38	0.38	0.47	0.40	0.41
3,000	0.32	0.34	0.31	0.31	0.41	0.30	0.33

* IC: internal capsule, posterior limb.

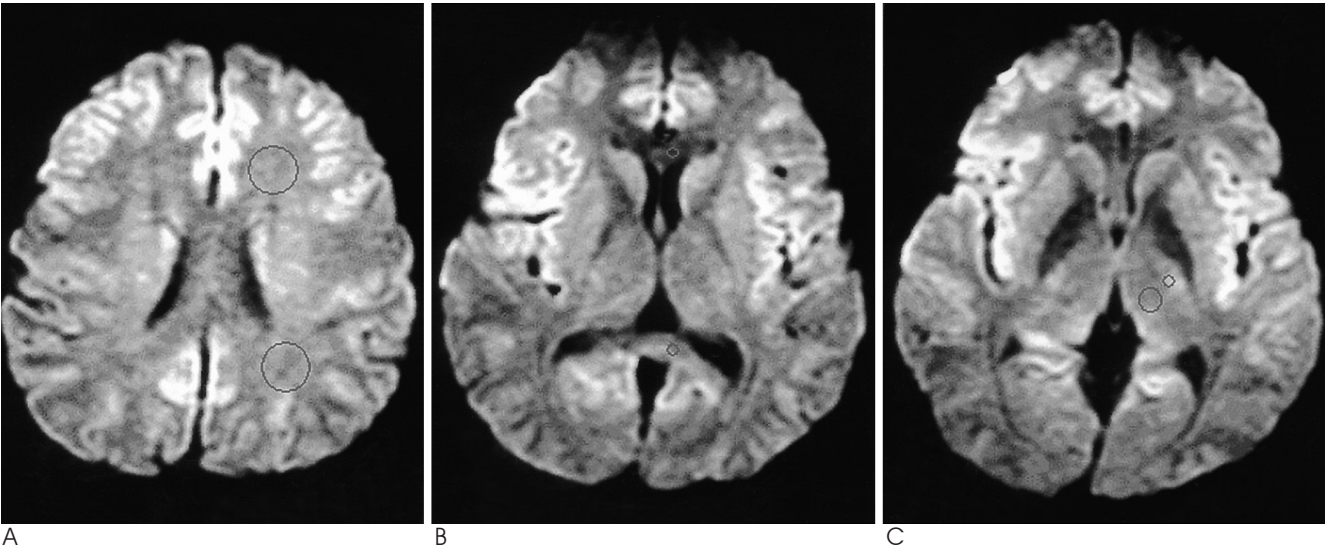


Fig. 1. Quantitative measurements of the signal intensities were done at six anatomic regions, including frontal and parietal white matter (A), genu and splenium of corpus callosum (B), posterior limb of internal capsule and thalamus (C).

가 b value 1,000 s/mm²

2%

가 b value가
가
b value가 1,000 s/mm²
b value 1,500, 2,000, 2,500, 3,000 s/mm²
0.71, 0.52, 0.41, 0.33
(Table 1).

(gradient fac-
tor) b value
(1 - 3).
1,000 s/mm² b value

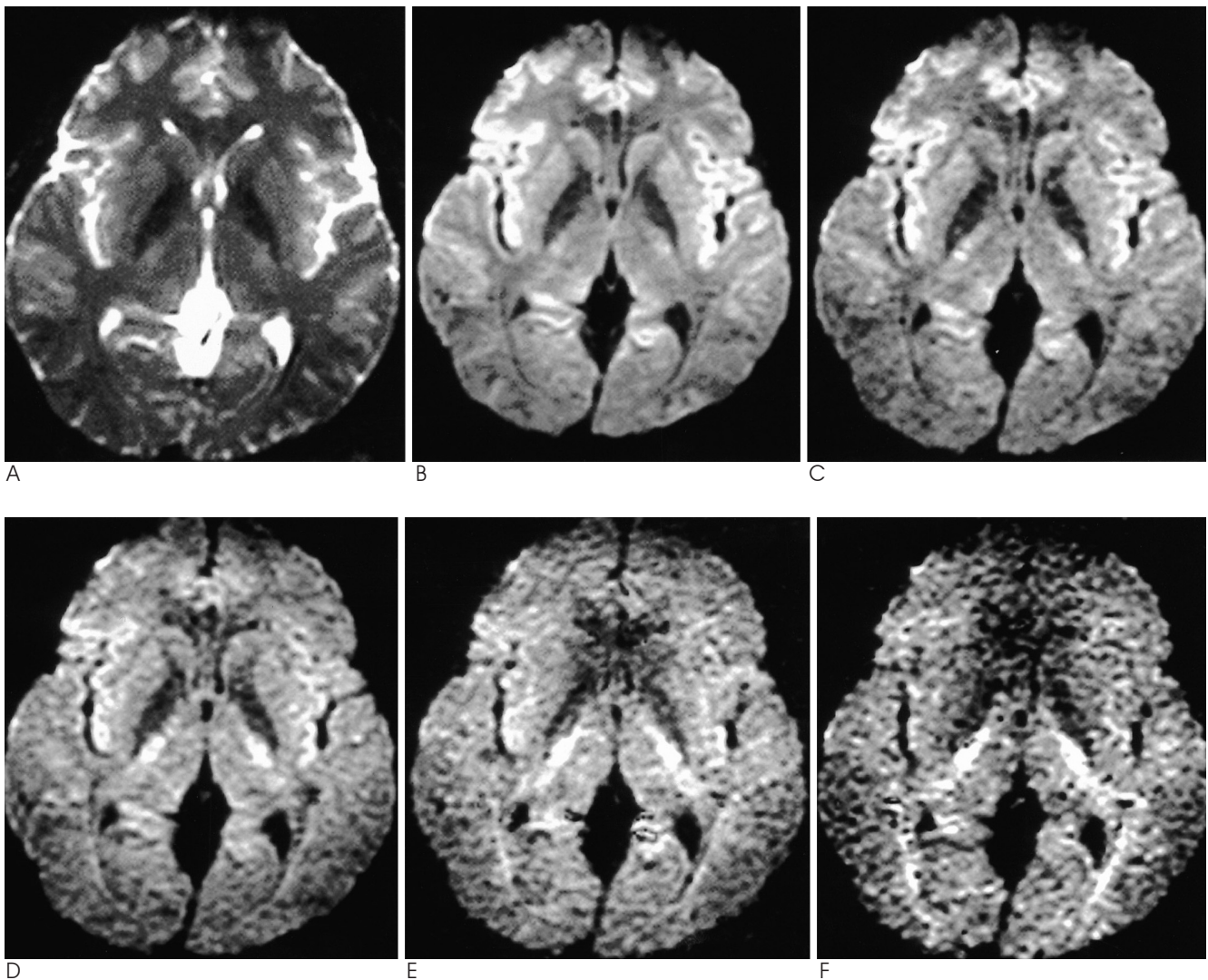


Fig. 2. As gradient strength increased (corresponding b values of A=0 s/mm², B=1,000 s/mm², C=1,500 s/mm², D=2,000 s/mm², E=2,500 s/mm², F=3,000 s/mm²), both gray and white matter structures diminished in signal intensity, and white matter became relatively hyperintense.

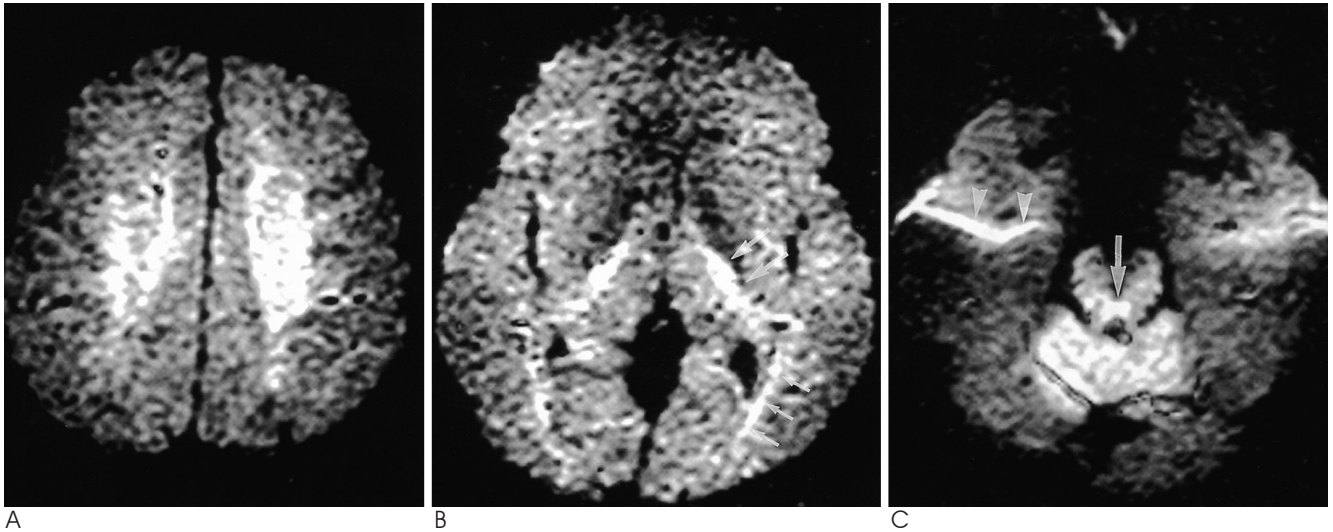


Fig. 3. At higher b value images ($b = 3,000 \text{ s/mm}^2$), strong hyperintense foci were seen at centrum semiovale (A), posterior limb of internal capsule (arrows) and optic radiation (small arrows) (B), and decussation of superior cerebellar peduncle (large arrow) (C). Note susceptibility artifacts at the base of the brain (arrow heads).

T2 . b value 0 s/mm^2 (6-8). Meyer (4) ,
T2 2,500 1,000 s/mm^2 b value 가
, b value 1,000 s/mm^2 가
T2 (2). b value 가 T2 . Pereira (5) 3.0 T
가 T2 MR b value 1,500 s/mm^2 가 가
b value 가 가 b value
, 1.5 T MR . DeLano (2) b value가 가
가 b value 2,500, 3,000 s/mm^2 ,
, , ,
b value가 가
1.5 T s/mm² . 1.5 T MR b value 3,000
1,000 s/mm^2 b value 3,000 s/mm^2 33% b value 1,000 s/mm^2
b value 3,000 s/mm^2 가 acquisition 3
가 , 45% (3). TE가 b value
가 가 , 가
T2 20 가
T2 가
TE

b value 가

TE

1.5 T MR

가 가

, 3.0 T MR 1,000 s/mm² b value

가 b value 가

가 가

b value 가

1.5 T MR

b value

가

Clin N Am 2002;12:21-34

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Signal Intensity Changes of Normal Brain at Varying High b-Value Diffusion-Weighted Images Using 3.0T MR Scanner¹

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Purpose: Using diffusion-weighted MR imaging (DWI), to evaluate the signal intensity characteristics of normal adult brain as diffusion gradient strength (*b* value) increases from 1,000 to 3,000 s/mm².

Materials and Methods: Twenty-one healthy volunteers with neither neurologic symptoms nor pathologic findings at axial and sagittal T2-weighted MR imaging were involved in this study. All images were obtained with a 3.0T MR scanner. Six sets of spin-echo echo-planar images were acquired in the axial plane using progressively increasing strengths of diffusion-sensitizing gradients (corresponding to *b* values of 0, 1,000, 1,500, 2,000, 2,500, and 3,000 s/mm²). All imaging parameters other than TE remained constant. Changes in normal white-gray matter signal intensity observed at variable *b*-value DWI were qualitatively analysed, and the signal-to-noise ratios (SNRs) in six anatomic regions (frontal and parietal white matter, genu and splenium corporis callosi, the posterior limb of the internal capsule, and the thalamus) quantitatively, and the ratios were averaged and compared with the average SNR of 1,000 s/mm DWI.

Results: As gradient strength increased from 1,000 to 3,000 s/mm², both gray-and white-matter structures diminished in signal intensity, and images obtained at a *b* value of 3,000 s/mm² appeared very noisy. White matter became progressively hyperintense to gray matter as the diffusion sensitizing gradient increased, especially at the centrum semiovale, the posterior limb of the internal capsule, and the splenium corporis callosi, but the genu corporis callosi, showed exceptional intermediate low signal intensity. At quantitative assessment, the signal-to-noise ratio decreased as the diffusion sensitizing gradient increased. Relative to the images obtained at a *b* value of 1,000 s/mm², average SNRs were 0.71 (*b* = 1,500 s/mm²), 0.52 (*b* = 2,000 s/mm²), 0.41 (*b* = 2,500 s/mm²), 0.33 (*b* = 3,000 s/mm²).

Conclusion: As the diffusion sensitizing gradient increased, the signal-to-noise ratio of brain structures diminished, especially at a *b* value of 3,000 s/mm², and white matter became relatively hyperintense compared to gray matter. In order to avoid misdiagnosis, it is important to be aware of the nature of normal changes in the signal intensity of gray-white matter occurring at high-*b*-value DWI.

Index words : Magnetic resonance (MR), diffusion

Brain, MR

Brain, infarction

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