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Summary

CONTRIBUTION OF BILIARY MRI IN THE DIAGNOSIS OF EXTRAHEPATIC CHOLANGIOCARCINOMA

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A retrospective study of 27 patients evaluated the MRI characteristics of extrahepatic cholangiocarcinoma, finding that late progressive enhancement with T1 hyposignal and T2 hypersignal were the most frequent imaging features.

KEY POINTS

- The study included 27 patients with extrahepatic cholangiocarcinoma diagnosed over 2 years, with mean age 65.5 years and male predominance (59.2%).
- Most tumors were hilar (77.7%), with 48.1% classified as Bismuth IV; altered general condition (66.6%), jaundice (59.2%), and angiocholitis (40.7%) were the main presenting features.
- All cholangiocarcinomas appeared as irregular processes with late progressive enhancement after contrast and diffusion restriction; T1 hyposignal (70.3%) and T2 hypersignal (51.8%) were most common.
- Histological confirmation was obtained in only 40.7% of patients, with 11.1% undergoing surgery and 92.5% receiving palliative treatment.
- This material would be most relevant to radiologists and gastroenterologists involved in diagnosing and managing biliary tract malignancies.

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