

This article was downloaded by: [b-on: Biblioteca do conhecimento online IPL]

On: 04 April 2013, At: 09:42

Publisher: Taylor & Francis

Informa Ltd Registered in England and Wales Registered Number: 1072954 Registered office: Mortimer House, 37-41 Mortimer Street, London W1T 3JH, UK

## Computer Methods in Biomechanics and Biomedical Engineering: Imaging & Visualization

Publication details, including instructions for authors and subscription information:

<http://www.tandfonline.com/loi/tciv20>

### Image quality of myocardial perfusion-gated studies: effect of ingestion of different fat content in the reduction of extra-myocardial abdominal signal

Lina Vieira <sup>a,b</sup>, Pedro Almeida <sup>a</sup> & Durval C. Costa <sup>c</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Instituto de Biofísica e Engenharia Biomédica, Faculdade de Ciências da Universidade de Lisboa, Lisboa, Portugal

<sup>b</sup> Área Científica de Medicina Nuclear, Escola Superior de Tecnologia da Saúde de Lisboa, Instituto Politécnico de Lisboa, Av. D. João II, Lote 4.69.01, 1990-096, Lisboa, Portugal

<sup>c</sup> HPP Medicina Molecular, SA, Porto, Portugal

Version of record first published: 15 Mar 2013.

**To cite this article:** Lina Vieira, Pedro Almeida & Durval C. Costa (2013): Image quality of myocardial perfusion-gated studies: effect of ingestion of different fat content in the reduction of extra-myocardial abdominal signal, *Computer Methods in Biomechanics and Biomedical Engineering: Imaging & Visualization*, DOI:10.1080/21681163.2013.764611

**To link to this article:** <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/21681163.2013.764611>

#### ABSTRACT

Myocardial perfusion-gated-SPECT (MP-gated-SPECT) imaging often shows radiotracer uptake in abdominal organs. This accumulation interferes frequently with qualitative and quantitative assessment of the infero-septal region of myocardium. The objective of this study is to evaluate the effect of ingestion of different fat content on the reduction of extra-myocardial uptake and to improve MP-gated-SPECT image quality. In this study, 150 patients (65 ± 18 years) who were referred for MP-gated-SPECT underwent a 1-day-protocol including imaging after stress (physical or pharmacological) and resting conditions. All patients gave written informed consent. Patients were subdivided into five groups: GI, GII, GIII, GIV and GV. In the first four groups, patients ate two chocolate bars with different fat content. Patients in GV – control group (CG) – had just water. Uptake indices (UI) of myocardium (M)/liver(L) and M/stomach–proximal bowel(S) revealed lower UI of M/S at rest in all groups. Both stress and rest studies using different food intake indicate that patients who ate chocolate with different fat content showed better UI of M/L than the CG. The UI of M/L and M/S of groups obtained under physical stress are clearly superior to that of groups obtained under pharmacological stress. These differences are only significant in patients who ate high-fat chocolate or drank water. The analysis of all stress studies together (GI, GII, GIII and GIV) in comparison with CG shows higher mean ranks of UI of M/L for those who ate high-fat chocolate. After pharmacological stress, the mean ranks of UI of M/L were higher for patients who ate high- and low-fat chocolate. In conclusion, eating food with fat content after radiotracer injection increases, respectively, the UI of M/L after stress and rest in MP-gated-SPECT studies. It is, therefore, recommended that patients eat a chocolate bar after radiotracer injection and before image acquisition.

**Keywords:** Tc-99m tetrofosmin; MP-gated-SPECT; myocardial extra-myocardial activity; fat chocolate; water