Can Urologists Conduct MRI-Guided TRUS Biopsy Targeting?

Introduction and Objective: Prostate mp-MRI can be used to define a target for biopsy. It is uncertain whether specialist radiological skill is needed for implementing such targeting. We evaluated whether urologists could target MRI-defined lesions at TRUS biopsy as with comparable accuracy to radiologists.

Materials and Methods: Men undergoing a primary TRUS biopsy between 10/11/2010-05/09/2011 and who had mp-MRI prior to biopsy were included. Three operators, one urologist and two radiologists with variable prostate MRI expertise performed TRUS biopsies by 'cognitively' deciding where on ultrasound to 'target' a needle based on mp-MRI lesion. Only patients undergoing standard biopsies with additional targeted cores to MRI lesions scoring >/=3/5, or those having limited targeted biopsies only, were analysed. Clinically significant disease was defined as ≥3+4 AND/OR maximum cancer core length ≥4mm.

Results:

		Standard Biopsy				Targeted Biopsy			
Operator	PSA	Clinically	All	Positive	Average	Clinically	All	Positive	Average
	Range	significant	disease	cores %	number	significant	disease	cores	number
	(Median)	disease	detection		of	disease	detection	%	of
		detection	rate %		biopsy	detection	rate %		biopsy
		rate %			cores	rate %			cores
1	3.1-31	48	62	22	10.7	48	65	55	2.1
Urologist	(6.91)	(n=10/21)	(n=13/21)	(54/245)		(n=11/23)	(n=15/23)	(27/59)	
2	3.2-40	46	61	27	9.38	36	50	56	2.28
Radiologist	(7.5)	(n=6/13)	(n=8/13)	(33/122)		(n=4/14)	(n=7/14)	(18/32)	
3	1.38-200	58	83	28	10.9	69	77	79	2.2
Radiologist	(7.9)	(n=7/12)	(n=10/12)	(40/142)		(n=9/13)	(n=10/13)	(23/29)	

Conclusions: It appears feasible for urologists, who have been well trained to interpret prostate mp-MRI images, to perform accurate targeted TRUS biopsies. By utilising high quality MRI reports and 'cognitively' translating MRI information in order to target a lesion during TRUS biopsy, comparable disease detection rates were obtained by the urologist and radiologists, without need for in-bore biopsies or specialist fusion software.