AN IMAGING EVALUATION OF ANGIODYSPLASIA SYNDROMES

C.L. Witte, M.H. Witte

Department of Surgery, The University of Arizona College of Medicine, Tucson, Arizona, USA

ABSTRACT

Current imaging techniques such as magnetic resonance, magnetic resonance angiography, computer tomography, ultrasound, plain x-rays, and lymphangioscintigraphy have enhanced the ability to define blood and lymph vascular malformations in more precise pathophysiologic terms. Not only can these imaging modalities distinguish arterial anomalies from lymphatic and venous angiodysplasia, but they also readily differentiate edema in the epifascial as opposed to the subfascial peripheral compartments. Moreover, visceral lymphangiectasia (e.g., chylous and non-chylous reflux), bone and muscle overgrowth, agenesis, and fat deposits can also be delineated. Clinical examples are provided including an algorithm for approaching these conditions.