LYMPHOSCINTIGRAPHY AS A DIAGNOSTIC TOOL IN PATIENTS WITH LYMPHEDEMA OF FILARIAL ORIGIN – AN INDIAN STUDY

S. Shelley, G. Manokaran, M. Indirani, S. Gokhale, N. Anirudhan

Departments of Nuclear Medicine and Lymphology, Apollo Hospitals, Chennai, India

ABSTRACT

Lymphedema is a common clinical problem. Filariasis is the commonest cause of lymphedema in India and is a chronic debilitating disease. The purpose of this study is to highlight the role of lymphoscintigraphy in the evaluation of lymphedema. Our study population consisted of 418 patients diagnosed with filarial lymphedema of different clinical stages referred for lymphoscintigraphy of the limbs by the lymphologist at our institution. An analysis of the various studies was done to determine how lymphoscintigraphy can be useful in documentation of the diagnosis, evaluation, as a screening procedure to prevent progression, and to enhance management of filarial lymphedema.