

Use of CT venography in CCSVI

We describe results obtained with venous angio-MDCT in patients affected by multiple sclerosis who were positives for CCSVI at US-Doppler.

The CT exams were performed with a multislices-CT before and after i.v. contrast media injection. CT scans were obtained from a supraorbital height to the D10 level. Images obtained were processed with orthogonal and curvilinear MPR.

The results show that the main advantages of CT-venography are:

1. possibility to obtain venous multiplanar and multidistrict evaluation;
2. direct assessment of the Azygos vein (morphology, caliber, course and possible calcifications);
3. integrated study of the intra-cerebral drainage veins, collateral circles, morphology and caliber of the cranial jugular foramens;
4. very helpful for the therapeutic planning;
5. preliminary assessment about the presence and type of anomalies such as venous valvular septa, abnormal valves and twisting;
6. objective reproducibility of the investigation, not operator dependent.

However, this technique has only limitations associated with the use of ionizing radiation and contrast media.