

編 集 後 記

According to Professor Margulis AR(1), in the field of medical imaging during last 20 years the new developments have been dramatic with the introduction and explosive advance in "cross sectional imaging" and interventional radiology. This vertiginous forward surge was due in part to the continuous advance in computer technology, communication technology, and display techniques. These in turn were in part stimulated by the transfer of advances in technologies for defense, space exploration, surveys for oil and mineral deposits from space, among others, all of which are amply funded. Research which has specifically been responsible for changes of the face of imaging was supported by government agencies in the United States, Japan and Europe, industry, and to a lesser degree by venture capital investments, universities and private foundations.

The general directions of the progress in imaging in the past, present and very probably in the future will result in improvement: in reduction of invasiveness, increased sensitivity, specificity, speed of examinations and procedures, faster throughput of patient, development of artificial intelligence, that will guide the selection of the imaging approach, improved display of images and methods for minimizing the cost. The latter will lead to research efforts in cost effectiveness of imaging, an essential activity for harvesting the advantages of these advances. If society cannot afford modern medicine all progress comes to naught.

I, as the chief editor of Tomography, quite agreed with his opinion, especially the expression, explosive advances in "cross sectional imaging" etc..

Furthermore, I would like to add the remarkable improvement in SPECT and PET, both instrumentation and radiopharmaceuticals of which images are quite functional and quantitative.

I encourage all members, distinctively young doctors of the Society and young readers of this journal to submit scientific papers, Japanese or English, to the editorial office, in which CT, MRI, US, PET, SPECT etc are contained. I am sure that a good paper will educate all of us and improve clinical radiology and unclear medicine in all over the world.

Ref 1) Margulis AR: Radiology in the 21st century. Nippon Acta Radiologica 1999; 59(2): s4-s4

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