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Metabolic biomarker for hepatic ischemia in a rat model using ¹³C hyperpolarized 13C MR spectroscopy

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This study investigated the metabolic alterations in a rat model of hepatic ischemia reperfusion injury (IRI) using the combined *in vivo* hyperpolarized ¹³C MRS and intravoxel incoherent motion (IVIM)-diffusion weighted imaging (DWI). Hyperpolarized 13C MRS with IVIM-DWI was performed on the liver of nine sham-operated control rats and nine rats before and after hepatic IRI. The hepatic IRI-induced rats showed significantly higher ratios of [1-13C] alanine/ pyruvate, [1-13C] alanine/total carbon, [1-13C] lactate/ pyruvate and [1-13C] lactate/total carbon compared with both sham-operated controls and rats before IRI, whereas [1-13C] pyruvate/total carbon ratio was decreased in

IRI-induced rats. In IVIM-DWI study, apparent diffusion coefficient (ADC), perfusion fraction (f) and D values in rats after hepatic IRI were significantly lower than those of rats before IRI and sham-operated controls. The levels of [1-13C] alanine and [1-13C] lactate was negatively correlated with ADC, f and D values, whereas the level of [1-13C] pyruvate was positively correlated with these values. The levels of [1-13C] alanine, [1-13C] lactate and [1-13C] pyruvate in conjunction with IVIM-DWI and serum enzyme levels will be helpful to evaluate the hepatic IRI.

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