

**POSTER PRESENTATION**

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# Value of a hybrid PET/MRI in the assessment of cardiac viability

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From 15th Annual SCMR Scientific Sessions  
Orlando, FL, USA. 2-5 February 2012

## Summary

Hybrid PET/MRI imaging techniques are becoming more readily available, and its role in viability assessment appears promising.

## Background

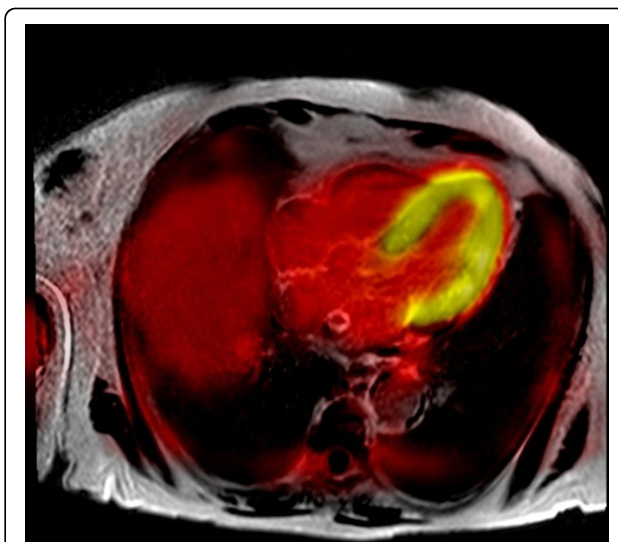
We evaluated the potential for hybrid PET/MRI devices to provide integrated metabolic, functional and anatomic characterization of patients with fixed hypoperfusion on cardiac SPECT.

## Methods

A pilot study of eleven patients (6 fixed hypoperfusion on cardiac SPECT and 5 healthy volunteers) performed an imaging study using a hybrid PET/MRI (Philips). Viability assessed by <sup>18</sup>F-FDG was performed in diseased patients along with MRI anatomic, functional and viability assessment as determined by transmural extent of late gadolinium enhancement (LGE). A reassessment by conventional PET/CT was carried out within 30 minutes. Non-contrast right coronary artery (RCA) targeted and whole heart 3D coronary angio-MRI using ECG-gating and respiratory navigator was performed in healthy volunteers with reconstruction performed using MPR and volume rendering. The extent of metabolic defect (MD) using PET/MRI and PET/CT were compared in patients and coronary territories (LAD, CX, RCA). Assessability of coronary lumen was judged as good, sub-optimal or non-assessable using a 16-segments coronary model.

## Results

Direct comparison of myocardial viability as assessed by MRI LGE and PET metabolism revealed consistent results in 4 of the 6 diseased patients, and discordant results in the other two. Of note, one discordant result was potentially due to suboptimal attenuation correction in the case of a hypertrophied left ventricle. Metabolic assessment was successful in all patients with MD being 19.2% vs 18.3% using PET/MRI and PET/CT, respectively ( $P = \text{ns}$ ). The MD was 10.2%, 6%, and 3% vs 9.3%, 6% and 3% for LAD, CX and RCA territories, respectively ( $P = \text{ns}$ ). Coronary angio-MRI was successful in all volunteers with 66 coronary segments visualized overall. The RCA was fully visualized in 4/5 volunteers and the left coronary arteries in 4/5 volunteers. Assessability in



**Figure 1**

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**Figure 2**

visualized segments was good, sub-optimal and non assessable in 88%, 2% and 10%, respectively.

### Conclusions

Hybrid PET/MRI does not compromise image quality and in addition provides clinically significant results for myocardial viability assessment.

### Funding

Institutional Funding, Geneva University Hospitals.

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Published: 1 February 2012

doi:10.1186/1532-429X-14-S1-P80

**Cite this article as:** Carballo *et al.*: Value of a hybrid PET/MRI in the assessment of cardiac viability. *Journal of Cardiovascular Magnetic Resonance* 2012 **14**(Suppl 1):P80.

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