

Can pain influence the severity of findings of an ^{18}F -FDG PET/CT scan in loosening hip arthroplasty?

Abstract

An 84 years old male patient, with a history of papillary thyroid cancer was referred to our Nuclear Medicine Department for an ^{18}F -FDG PET/CT scan for evaluation of his metastatic disease. He reported right hip prosthesis thirty years ago and now suffered from significant pain in the right hip joint which on a scale from 1 to 10 could be rated as grade 8. White blood cell count, sedimentation rate and C-reactive protein were within normal limits. *In conclusion*, in our case the degree of ^{18}F -FDG uptake in a loosening hip arthroplasty was related to the severity of pain although inflammation or infection could also play some role. Further studies are required to prove this suggestion.

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