Role of Texture Analysis and Radiomics in Prediction of Bone Marrow Infiltration in Patients with Lymphoma

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TO EXPLORE the ability of image-based parameters with texture parameters in the differentiation of bone marrow infiltration by positron emission tomography

computed tomography (PET/CT).We retrospectively evaluated the baseline PET/CT scan of 44 patients with histopathological proven lymphoma. Seventy-three of features were extracted using CGITA software and statistical analysis were carried out on SPSS program. Result of spearman correlation analysis revealed a strong positive correlation between conventional PET metrics and texture features (19 significant association features) and inverse correlation was found (one parameter significant association feature). Area under the curve and p-value of receive operating characteristics showed that (HILRE (4-bin), HILZE (64-bin), LRE (64-bin), LZE (64-bin), max spectrum (8-bin), busyness (64-bin),code similarity (32-bin & 64-bin)) were significant discriminator of bone marrow infiltration among other features (AUC>0.682, p<0.05). Univariate analyses of texture features showed that code similarity and LRE (both 64 bin) has significant prediction to BMI. Multivariate analyses revealed that LRE (64 bin) p= 0.031; odds ratio: 1.022; 95% CI, 1.002-1.043) were independent variables for bone marrow infiltration. The study concludes that a significant association emerged between PET features and bone marrow infiltration in lymphoma. Texture analysis on PET/CT shows potential to differentiate between bone marrow infiltration in patients with Lymphoma.

Keywords: Bone marrow; Fluorodeoxyglucose F-18; Image texture; Lymphoma; Positron emission tomography.

Introduction

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Lymphoma is a heterogeneous type of disease that arises from the constituent cells of the immune system or from their precursors that arise in lymph nodes close to any organ or tissue in the body. Therefore, all organ systems may be involved at some stage of the disease including the central nervous system, head and neck, thorax, abdomen, gonads, and bone 1, 2.

Imaging modalities have a fundamental role in the staging of lymphomas. CT is the most often used imaging modality for staging malignant lymphoma due to the fact of its massive availability and enormously low cost ³ but sometimes CT impedes identification of disease in normal-sized organs and detection of lesions which have poor contrast with the surrounding tissues. Another reason is that CT is not effective in diagnosis lymphoma being not reliable in the detection of bone marrow disease, which, if present, by definition indicates stage IV disease ⁴.

¹⁸F-FDG PET/CT has an impact on the assessment of both newly diagnosed, prognosed and previously treated patients with lymphoma and also alters the initial clinical staging of this disease^{5, 6}. Incidence of marrow disease varies with histological subtype of lymphoma. Bone marrow biopsy is fundamental in identifying marrow involvement for therapy purpose ⁷. Marrow diseases can be diagnosed with ¹⁸F-FDG PET/CT scan and the visual interpretation of marrow FDG uptake throughout whole-body. PET scans can efficiently determine marrow disease status in a high proportion of lymphoma patients. Therefore, PET has the potential to reduce the guide for staging marrow biopsy ⁸. However, interobserver variability remain a limiting factor in qualitative image analysis.

A high level of concordance has been observed between the sites of focal ¹⁸F- FDG uptake in the bone marrow and bone marrow biopsy. In fact, PET scans have demonstrated a high negative predictive value to exclude bone marrow involvement. This holds particularly true for early stage lymphoma and may even obviate the need for bone marrow biopsy in this group ⁹⁻¹¹.

This result if confirmed will provide two identical methods for diagnosis of lymphomas. However, the use of ¹⁸F-FDG PET/CT in the sole assessment of the bone marrow and whether it can replace bone marrow biopsy is still a topic of debate and thus investigation with PET/CT scan through image

analysis is potentially advised. ³. However, it could be useful to strength the diagnostic power of PET imaging through sophisticated data analysis using the recent advances in PET texture analysis.

The aim of this study was to explore whether the textural features able to provide alternative or addition diagnostic information of bone marrow infiltration in patients diagnosed with lymphoma using ¹⁸F-FDG PET/CT.

Material and Methods

Patients

A total of 44 patients (56.8% Male) whose histopathology proven and diagnosed with lymphoma were retrospectively retrieved from our data records. The retrospective nature of the study has obviated the need to ask for patient consent. A committee ethical approval was obtained to perform the study. The inclusion criteria were those patients who had not prior treatment before ¹⁸F-FDG initial diagnosis. Bone marrow involvement were confirmed by two clinical observers who have 5 and 10 years of experience in reading and interpretation of ¹⁸F-FDG PET/CT. The number of patients who had bone marrow infiltration was 18 (41%) as agreed by the two observers.

PET/CT Examination

Patients were fasted 6 h and had serum glucose concentration <200 mg/dl before the intravenous injection of 185-370 MBq of ¹⁸F-FDG (4 MBq/kg or 0.1 mCi/kg of body weight). ¹⁸F-FDG PET/CT was performed using a Gemini 64 LXL PT/CT scanner (Philips Medical Systems) in 7 patients, 5 patients performed on Gemini 64 TF TOF PT/CT (Philips Healthcare) whereas the remaining 32 patients were imaged on a Biograph 20 mCT scanner (Siemens Medical Solutions). During imaging process, patients were in supine position with both arms extended in the cranial direction and breathing quietly. PET images were obtained at 2 min/bed frame for the patient less than 60 kg, 2.5 min/bed frame for the patients less than 90 kg and 3 min/bed frame for the patents up to 90 kg. PET images were reconstructed using CT-based attenuation correction by an ordered-subset expectation maximization iterative reconstruction algorithm (OSEM) with a slice thickness of 3 mm, and a pitch of 4 mm for the Biograph mCT; and slice thickness of 4 mm, and a pitch of 4 mm for the both Philips machines.

Feature extraction

All images were transferred to a personal computer that contained Chang-Gung Image Texture Analysis (CGITA) toolbox version 1.4. The PET images were then imported into (CGITA) toolbox. CGITA is an open-source software code with a graphical user interface for texture analysis running on MATLAB (Math Works Inc., version 2015a)¹².

Table 1: Clinical	characteristics and	acquisition
parameters of the	study population.	

		Median	47 year	
	Age	Mean	49.2 year	
		Range	19-88 year	
Corr.		Male	25	
stice	Sex	Female	19	
teri	Weight	Median	73.5 (kg)	
raci	weight	Range	50-110 (kg)	
Patients cha	Pland glugge	Median	102.5 (mg/dl)	
	blood glucose	Range	70-135 (mg/dl)	
	Type of	HL	30	
	lymphoma	NHL	14	
	Bone marrow	Yes	18	
	invasion by PET	No	26	
s	Injected radioactivity	Median	277.5 MBq	
eter	(¹⁸ F-FDG)	Range	185–370 MBq	
ram	¹⁸ F-FDG uptake	Median	55 min	
n pai	time	Range	50-60 min	
uisition	Time per bed position	2-3 min		
Acq	Scan time range	16-27 min		

PET images were manually or semi-automatic contoured with an iso-contour threshold was set to an absolute SUV value of 3.0 as previously described ¹³.

All scans were analyzed by senior residents independently (more than 5-year experience) and were interpreted by a senior radiologist (10 years of experience). The second step consisted of resampling or interpolating the non-cubic voxel grids into cubic voxels (2 mm) and performing quantization (also called discretization, down sampling or resampling) of the original intensities into a discrete set of values between the minimum and maximum within the VOI. This number determines the size of the matrices from which the different texture features will be subsequently calculated.

A bin number of 4, 8, 16, 32 and 64 was employed in this study. Third, a total of seventy-three radiomics parameters were extracted from images including texture features and conventional PET metrics such as SUVmax, SUVmean, SUVpeak and TLG were extracted for each VOI. SUVpeak was defined as the mean SUV within 1-cm sphere centered on the maximum pixel ¹⁴.

Texture analysis

Texture analysis includes first, second, and higher order texture methods as well as various transformbased methods. The most "direct" features are those based simply on intensity values within a region of interest (ROI). Texture features in the lymphoma is based on the same parent matrices that are utilized in tumor sites. Examples of these include the graylevel co-occurrence matrix (GLCM), the gray level run length matrix (GLRLM), the neighborhood intensity difference matrix (NIDM), neighborhood gray-level dependence matrix (NGLDM), and the intensity size-zone matrix (ISZM) ¹⁵⁻¹⁷.

In this study, the derived features from voxels of the segmented PET images can be grouped into different categories. First-order features were derived from the histogram of voxel intensities (SUVmean, SUVmax, skewness, kurtosis, etc.). Second-order textural features were based on matrices that contained information about the regional spatial arrangement of the voxels such as their homogeneity, contrast, and coarseness simulating the human perception of the image. Higher-order features such as Grey-level run-length features focused on local collinear voxels with the same grey level. Table I in supplement material describes the extracted features using CGITA toolbox from the segmented images.

Statistical Analysis

Spearman rank correlations between all extracted features were calculated and displayed via a heatmap (Fig.1). Spearman correlation coefficient (rho) was used to evaluate the pairwise relationships between SUVmean, SUVmax, SUVpeak, TLG, surface area, and the derived 73 texture features including all bin sizes. Since not all the parameters contributed to differentiating lymphoma disease, we resorted to the results of operation characteristic curve at each bin size and to test the diagnostic potential of the quantitative indices including the conventional metrics as well as texture features in discrimination of bone marrow invasion 18, 19. A heatmap (with Pearson's correlation coefficient values) was constructed to observe correlations among the detected constituents between each feature which has a strong or moderate correlation coefficient resulted from the Spearman test for different bin size. Receive operation characteristic curves (ROC curve) were used to select the most discriminative parameters in each bin size (Fig. 2).

Specificity and sensitivity (including 95% confidence intervals [CIs]) for each of the investigated parameters were also derived and calculated. The Youden index is the vertical distance between the 45-degree line and the point on the ROC curve. ROC data analysis was performed. Binary logistic regression test was used to express results of univariate then multivariate analysis for those

features of high AUC derived from ROC data plots. All statistical analysis was performed using SPSS program (IBM Corp, Armonk, New York, version 23). A *p*-value of < 0.05 was defined as statistically significant. No adjustment for multiple comparisons was made in this analysis.

Result

Patients

The general characteristics of the study participants are shown in Table 1. There were 25 men (mean age, 53.4 years; age range 19–67 years) and 19 women (mean age, 39.9 years; age range 19–88 years). Based on histopathological proof, 30 patients had Hodgkin's lymphoma (HL) and 14 was Non-Hodgkin's lymphoma (NHL).

PET features and statistical analysis

Median pretreatment tumor MTV was 147.5 cm³ (interquartile range [IQR], 89–179.2), and median pretreatment SUVmax was 23.1 (IQR, 14.6–29.1). The results of correlation of PET texture indices with the conventional quantitative metrics namely maximum SUV (SUVmax), mean SUV (SUVmean), tumor lesion glycolysis (TLG), metabolic tumor volume (MTV), SUVpeak and surface area are summarized in tables I and II in supplement material.

A general observation was that texture features obtained from all bin size analyzed have shown a moderate to strong correlation with conventional PET metrics. Spearman's rank correlation coefficients (rho) has ranged from 0.50 to 0.97 for positive correlation and ranged from -0.52 to -0.97 for the inverse correlation.

A heat map depicting the absolute value of Pearson's correlation coefficients between all pairs of textural PET features is shown in Figure 1. Correlation exceeded 0.8 (strong correlation coefficient) for 23.3% of feature pairs (17 variables in between 73 features) and exceeded 0.5 (moderate correlation coefficient) for 19.2% of feature pairs (14 variables in between 73 features). Many features were highly correlated with TLG such as contrast, entropy, homogeneity, dissimilarity, inverse difference moment and MTV; on another hand, MTV was highly correlated with features of contrast, entropy, homogeneity, dissimilarity, inverse difference moment, intensity variability, run-length variability and TLG; also SUVmax was highly correlated with mean SUV, SUV variance and SUV SD.

The AUC from ROC analysis was determined for every texture index. Out of the complete 73 textural features derived from CGITA, it was found that 8 textural features had AUC significantly higher than 0.6 (p < 0.05) for bin size 4, 8, 32 and 64 while data derived from 16 bin have not contained any significant results. Egypt. J. Biophys. Biomed. Eng., Vol. 21 (2020)

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Figure 1. Heatmap depicting absolute value of Spearman correlation coefficients between pairs of textural features. Correlogram after multiple comparison correction (P < green colors represent strong positive correlations (close to 1), the dark red represent strong inverse correlations (close to -1). The light/orang represent an absence of correlation (close to 0). 0.05). Correlogram shows close association of different features to each other. Correlation coefficients are expressed by color scale from red to green. The dark

Variable	Bin size	Sens.	Spec.	Criterion	AUC	Lower Bound	Upper Bound	Sig.
High-intensity long-run emphasis	4	66.7	76.9	>74.23	0.739	0.587	0.891	0.008
High-intensity large- zone emphasis	64	55.6	84.6	>140111.2	0.718	0.563	0.873	0.015
Code Similarity	32	55.6	84.6	≤0.005	0.714	0.553	0.874	0.017
Max spectrum	8	44.4	88.5	>0.126	0.682	0.522	0.842	0.042
Long run emphasis	64	61.1	76.9	>39.36	0.709	0.554	0.865	0.019
Code Similarity	64	50	88.5	≤ 0.008	0.707	0.548	0.867	0.021
Busyness	64	77.8	65.4	>2.262	0.705	0.535	0.875	0.022
Large-zone emphasis	64	61.1	76.9	>99688.3	0.701	0.541	0.861	0.025

 Table 2. Sensitivity, specificity and area under the curve (AUC) results of receiver operating characteristics (ROC) demonstrated for those parameters that showed a statistically significant area greater than 0.5.

Table 2 describes the texture features that showed significant AUC higher than 0.6 (p<0.05). The ROC curves of the significant data are shown in figure 2. Along all significant data, code similarity had higher AUC with sensitivity of (55.6% and 50%) and specificity of (84.6% and 88.5%) for 32 and 64 bin respectively.

Univariate and Multivariate binary logistic regression (UVA and MVA)

Univariate binary logistic regression analysis performed for those features of high AUC derived from ROC data plots then to attest whether the above factors, which had prognostic values for survivals in univariate analysis would have independent prognostic significances, multivariate analysis was conducted. The results were recorded in Table 3. In univariate binary logistic analysis 2 textural features showed statistically significant association with bone infiltration whereas multivariate analysis yielded one texture feature (LRE (64 bin), p=0.031; OR 1.022; 95% CI, 1.002-1.043) showed statistically significant association with bone infiltration. The set of variables in the MVA included all the significant variables in the univariate setting, using forward likelihood method.

Discussion

The tumor is composed of a heterogeneous cell population rather than a homogeneous one, with distinct molecular and phenotypic characteristics ²⁰. Biological intra-tumoral heterogeneity is may be the main reason for resistance to treatment ²¹. Imagebased assessment of metabolic intra-tumoral heterogeneity is based on the hypothesis that it may be a projection of underlying tumor biology, including glucose metabolism, necrosis. oxygenation, vascularization and angiogenesis ²². With the heightened interest in measurement of metabolic intra-tumoral heterogeneity by texture analysis, a number of clinical studies have reported that texture features from PET images have more

prognostic ability than conventional SUV parameters in various cancers ²³⁻²⁵. Although, researchers cannot interpret texture features in an intuitive way, because texture features merely offer a physical and mathematical explanation of images that can be interpreted as not only heterogeneous, but also smooth, coarse, rough, or grainy ²⁶.

Further, it has not been easy to find a consensus regarding the parameter that best represents intratumoral heterogeneity. Therefore, an integrated radiomics approach that departs from the traditional approach is required.

As it was explained in previously, quantitative features are descriptors extracted from the images using computational mathematical algorithms. The extracted features from PET/CT images using different matrices include the gray-level co-occurrence matrix (GLCM), the gray level run length matrix (GLRLM), the neighborhood intensity difference matrix (NIDM), neighborhood gray-level dependence matrix (NGLDM), and the intensity size-zone matrix (ISZM)^{12, 27}.

The hypothesis of this study was to find a correlation between tumor texture heterogeneity as revealed by radiomics analysis of primary lymphomatous lesion and bone marrow involvement. The use of texture features in differentiating between tumor cells of low or high metastatic spread could be a key tool in bone marrow involvement or at least serve as an adjunct in improving the diagnostic performance of ¹⁸F-FDG PET/CT in staging and management of lymphoma patients. ¹⁸F-FDG PET/CT plays an important role in diagnosis, staging, treatment monitoring, prognosis and assessment of lymphoma ²⁸. Also, a heterogeneity metric can only have complementary (or higher significant association) value if it is not highly correlated with the corresponding volume ²⁹. The correlation between heterogeneity metrics and the conventional PET indices showed significant association for twentyone parameters (rho ≥ 0.7) which have strong correl-

	Univariate ana	lysis					
Disk factors	n nalvo	Odda Datia	(95% CI)				
KISK factors	p-value	Ouus Katio	Lower Bound	Upper Bound			
Busyness (64 bin)	0.590	1.011	0.971	1.052			
Large-zone emphasis (64 bin)	0.362	1.000	1.000	1.000			
High-intensity large-zone emphasis (64 bin)	0.340	1.000	1.000	1.000			
Max spectrum (8 bin)	0.143	28.45	0.32	2525.05			
High-intensity long-run emphasis (4 bin)	0.102	1.010	0.991	1.023			
Code Similarity (32 bin)	0.100	1.000	1.000	1.000			
Code Similarity (64 bin)	0.039*	1.000	1.000	1.000			
Long run emphasis (64 bin)	0.025*	1.021	1.043	1.043			
Multivariate analysis							
Long run emphasis (64 bin)	0.031*	1.022	1.002	1.043			
* Significant at two I arror of 50/ CI - confide	naa intorval						

Table 3. Univariate and Multivariate binary logistic regression analysis performed for those features of high AUC derived from ROC data plots.

Significant at type I error of 5%. CI = confidence interval.

ation coefficient and sixteen parameters with moderate correlation (0.7>rho≥0.5). Bone marrow biopsy has been the conventional method of assessment of bone marrow infiltration. It has several staging, treatment and prognostic implications ³⁰. Limitation of bone marrow biopsy include site-dependence, discordance in morphology between lymphomatous cells in extramedullary sites and those cells in the bone marrow ³¹. In addition, histologic data may report a different pathologic non-lymphoma related malignancy or disorder as well as its invasive nature, pain and clinician expertise. Other drawbacks include extra medical staff, sample fixation and decalcification besides more stay in the clinic. Not more likely but also add some burden to the examination is the addition of trephine biopsy with

bone marrow aspiration that may cause some adverse events including hemorrhage and morbidity ³². Another major shortcoming is the likelihood of missing focal disease as biopsy normally doesn't cover the entire portion of bone marrow. These shortcomings of bone marrow biopsy are stimulating to find out alternative methods that obviate the need for such procedures while able to provide at least equivalent if not better diagnostic performance. However, ¹⁸F-FDG PET/CT has several advantages in this context including full body coverage, less invasive, precise local assessment of diffuse versus focal infiltration using anatomical features as well as possibility of quantitative data interpretation. The current study focuses on the later advantage using not only the conventional PET metrics but also incorporates the



Figure 2. ROC curves of the PET heterogeneity indices. It was observed that the texture features had higher discriminative power than the conventional PET metrics.

new advances in texture feature analysis or radiomics data extraction.

The replacement of ¹⁸F-FDG PET/CT to bone marrow biopsy is still a matter of active debate. However, the quantitative capacity and recent advances in radiomics data analysis open up new avenues in this context. The present paper has been designed to find out the major PET feature that could be utilized in future studies as benchmark or evident source in eliciting more biological characteristics of bone marrow invasion. Several researches have confirmed a relation between greater FDG uptake and more aggressive course of malignancy in lymphoma ^{33, 34}.

The resulting significant features confirmed that ¹⁸F-FDG PET images have advantages of combining practical and anatomical information which is regarded as contemporary trendy reference for the management of lymphomas ³⁵. In other study, when looking into the prognostic performance of the texture data, MTV was found the most statistically significant parameters that have shown the largest correlation coefficient ²⁹. A recent report looking at the differences that arise from tumor volume segmentation has shown that low MTV had a significantly longer progression free survival and overall survival compared to patients with high MTV. These findings were obtained regardless of the segmentation methods used ³⁶.

The conventional PET indices (also extracted features calculated from SUV) in calculation depends on radioactivity concentration measured by the PET scanner within a region of interest (ROI) (¹⁸F-FDG uptake interior contoured lesion) ³⁷, and biopsy (i.e. pathological sample) is the gold standard for determining tumor genetics ³⁸; also genomic features of gene expression and pathways can be predicted by FDG uptake features from the lesion ³⁹.

Therefore, the correlation between conventional matrix (such as SUV mean, SUV max, TLG) and quantitative features from PET images (especially those with strong correlation) can be considered a positive result to replace these features instead of guided biopsy to prevent delaying diagnosis and other associated complications described earlier. While ROC analysis could provide a static assessment of risk identification through cut-off points that maximize sensitivity and specificity, it can provide important information about diagnostic test performance $^{40, 41}$.

In this work, the event in ROC curve depends on the presence or absence of bone marrow infiltration for every individual patient. By comparing AUC of ROC curves of texture parameters, we found that texture parameters presented could have strong discriminating capabilities in identifying patients who have bone marrow infiltration. This effective diagnostic capacity was statistically absent in the conventional and standard method of quantitation including SUVmax, SUVmean, SUVpeaks, TLG and MTV.

Also in between significant parameters, highintensity large zone emphasis (HILRE) achieved the highest AUC (0.718, CI 0.563-0.873)) among all significant data of ROC curves. Long run emphasis, however, has a significant strong correlation with metabolic volume which might underscore its performance in bone marrow involvement. ¹⁸F-FDG PET/CT has been widely used for lymphoma diagnosis as the specificity and sensitivity have higher indications in lymphoma regions especially in the initial staging procedures ^{11, 42}.

In fact, second order and high-order statistics (i.e., based on gray-level matrix, nearest neighbor spatial dependence matrices, voxel-alignment matrix, intensity size-zone matrix, texture feature coding co-occurrence matrix, etc.) provide information from the spatial relationship of image voxels. Moreover, a multitude features may be derived from the gray-level matrices to characterize the structure of interest ⁴³. These features are independent of tumor position, orientation, size, and brightness and consider the local intensity-spatial distribution ⁴⁴.

Based on the ROC curves, the results showed that high-intensity long-run emphasis (HILRE 4bin) long-run emphasis (LRE 64 bin) (i.e. voxelalignment matrix ⁴⁵), high-intensity large-zone emphasis (HILZE 64 bin), large-zone emphasis (LZE 64 bin) (i.e. intensity size-zone matrix ⁴⁶), max spectrum (8 bin) (i.e. spectrum matrix) ⁴⁷, busyness (64 bin) (neighborhood gray intensity difference matrix ⁴⁸), code similarity (32 bin and 64 bin) (coding co-occurrence matrix ⁴⁹) were significant predictors of bone marrow infiltration (p < 0.05). These features were extracted from the second and higher-order matrix, highlighting the relevance of voxel arrangement and their spatial correlation to the underlying biological processes of bone marrow infiltration.

To our knowledge, this finding has not been reported in the literature. Busyness extracted from contoured PET images offered a greater discriminatory power marked by higher accuracy, specificity, and sensitivity than commonly used quantitative metrics such as SUVmax which was not significant in this study. It has been reported that the NGIDM texture features was able to differentiate malignant pulmonary nodules ⁵⁰. The enhancement in discriminatory performance shown in this study could benefit patients by preventing the high false-positive rate of PET for FDG uptake regions.

One limitation of the present study was the pathological guidance of bone marrow infiltration in the selected patient cohort. This should be tackled in validation studies investigating the role of texture feature analysis in diagnosing bone marrow infiltration in lymphoma patients. Future studies are therefore highly warranted to confirm the performance of the texture data described here with special emphasis placed on code similarity and long run emphasis.

Conclusion

In conclusion, this study confirmed that FDG PET textural parameters have an effective role to differentiate lymphoma disease with bone marrow infiltration so, study proposed a new method for differentiating lymphoma disease. More investigations are highly warranted to combine the role of texture analysis in providing additional diagnostic as well as prognostic values to ¹⁸F-FDG PET/CT in initial staging of patient with lymphoma.

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Supplementary Material

Table S.I.	Summary of	the texture	feature extracted	from	CGITA	package.
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Parent matrix	Feature measure
Co-occurrence matrix [4]	Second angular moment, contrast, entropy, homogeneity, dissimilarity, inverse difference moment.
Voxel-alignment matrix [5]	Short-run emphasis, long-run emphasis, intensity variability, run-length variability, run percentage, low-intensity run emphasis, high-intensity run emphasis, low-intensity short- run emphasis, high-intensity short-run emphasis, low- intensity long-run emphasis, high-intensity long-run emphasis.
Neighborhood intensity difference matrix [6]	Coarseness, contrast, busyness, complexity, strength.
Intensity size-zone matrix [7]	Short-zone emphasis, large-zone emphasis, intensity variability, size-zone variability, zone percentage, low- intensity zone emphasis, high-intensity zone emphasis, low- intensity short-zone emphasis, high-intensity short-zone emphasis, low-intensity large-zone emphasis, high-intensity large-zone emphasis.
Normalized co-occurrence matrix [4]	Second angular moment, contrast, entropy, homogeneity, inverse difference moment, dissimilarity, correlation.
Voxel statistics	Minimum SUV, maximum SUV, mean SUV, SUV variance, SUV SD, SUV skewness, SUV kurtosis, SUV skewness (bias corrected), SUV kurtosis (bias corrected), TLG, tumor volume, entropy, SUL _{peak}
Texture spectrum [8]	Max spectrum, Black-white symmetry.
Texture feature coding [9]	Coarseness, homogeneity, mean convergence Second angular moment, contrast, entropy, homogeneity, intensity, inverse difference moment, correlation, variance, code similarity.
Texture feature coding co- occurrence matrix [9]	Second angular moment, contrast, entropy, homogeneity, intensity, inverse difference moment, correlation, variance, code entropy.
Neighborhood gray-level dependence [10]	Small-number emphasis, large-number emphasis, number non-uniformity, second moment, entropy.

Strong correlation						
	Correlation Coefficient (Spearman's rho, ρ)					
Variable	TLG					
	4	8	16	32	64	
Contrast	0.829	0.855	0.854	0.854	0.855	
Entropy	-0.798	-0.798	-0.780	-0.763	-0.727	
Homogeneity	0.790	0.784	0.754	0.731	0.701	
Dissimilarity	0.825	0.847	0.849	0.848	0.852	
Inverse difference moment	0.790	0.779	0.732	0.707	0.702	
Tumor volume	0.792	0.792	0.789	0.796	0.792	
			Surface area			
A sphericity	0.798	0.798	0.797	0.793	0.798	
			MTV			
Contrast	0.859	0.849	0.813	0.801	0.795	
Entropy	-0.967	-0.969	-0.969	-0.969	-0.946	
Homogeneity	0.970	0.969	0.961	0.950	0.909	
Dissimilarity	0.862	0.892	0.893	0.887	0.888	
Inverse difference moment	0.970	0.969	0.954	0.920	0.827	
Intensity variability	0.754	0.742	0.751	0.772	0.748	
Run-length variability	0.839	0.883	0.865	0.844	0.811	
TLG	0.792	0.792	0.789	0.796	0.792	
			SUVmean			
Minimum SUV	0.731	0.731	0.736	0.704	0.731	
Maximum SUV	0.801	0.801	0.811	0.756	0.801	
SUV SD	0.865	0.865	0.870	0.850	0.865	
	SUVmax					
Mean SUV	0.801	0.801	0.811	0.756	0.801	
SUV Variance	0.836	0.836	0.796	0.876	0.836	
SUV SD	0.930	0.930	0.932	0.929	0.930	

Table S.II. Spearman correlation between texture features and the most commonly used PET quantitative metrics.
The table shows variable degree of associations being highest and strong correlation coefficient.

 Table II. Spearman correlation between texture features and the most commonly used PET quantitative metrics.

 The table shows variable degree of associations being higher and moderate correlation coefficient.

Ν	Aoderate corr	elation				
	Correlation Coefficient (Spearman's rho, ρ)					
Variable	TLG					
	4	8	16	32	64	
Intensity variability	0.529	0.519	0.530	0.565	0.581	
Run-length variability	0.632	0.700	0.677	0.670	0.681	
Maximum SUV	0.530	0.530	0.528	0.527	0.530	
Mean SUV	0.502	0.502	0.500	0.502	0.502	
SUV Variance	0.583	0.583	0.579	0.587	0.583	
SUV SD	0.582	0.582	0.546	0.590	0.582	
			Surface area	l		
Entropy	-0.526	-0.531	-0.520	-0.553	-0.543	
Homogeneity	0.543	0.545	0.527	0.560	0.539	
Inverse difference moment	0.543	0.547	0.531	0.557	0.504	
Tumor volume	0.635	0.635	0.627	0.641	0.635	
			MTV			
Long run emphasis	0.5	0.501	0.588	0.672	0.634	
Low-intensity long-run emphasis	0.5	0.503	0.593	0.677	0.636	
Surface area	0.635	0.635	0.627	0.641	0.635	
			SUVmean			
SUV Variance	0.655	0.655	0.636	0.653	0.655	
TLG	0.502	0.502	0.501	0.502	0.502	
			SUVmax			
TLG	0.530	0.530	0.525	0.527	0.530 5	

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الغرض

استكشاف قدرة الميزات الكمية ومعلومات المتغيرات المستخرجة من الصور الطبية في تمايز تسلل نخاع العظم عن طريق التصوير المقطعي بالإصدار البوزيتروني (PET/CT) لمرضي سرطان الغدد الليمفاوية. ا**لمواد والطرق**

هذه الدراسة شملت تقييم فحص PET/CT لـ 44 مريضًا يعانون من سرطان الغدد الليمفاوية المثبت هيستوباثولوجياً بأثر رجعي وتم استخراج ثلاثة وسبعين ميزة كمية (متغير) بإستخدام تطبيق خاص بمجال معالجة الصور الطبية "CGITA" وتم إجراء التحليل الإحصائي عليها على برنامج Statistical Package for. SPSS"the Social Sciences".

النتائج

أظهر تحليل الإرتباط لبعض المتغيرات المستخرجة من الصور عن وجود علاقة إيجابية طردية قوية بين مقاييس PET التقليدية المستخدمة في مقاييس وجود المرض كذلك تم العثور على ارتباط وحيد ذو علاقة عكسية؛ وأظهرت المنطقة الواقعة أسفل منحنيات اختبار "ROC" ("area under the curve "AUC") أن ثمانية من المتخرجة من صور المرضي وهي:

(HILRE (4-bin), HILZE (64-bin), LRE (64-bin), LZE (64-bin), max spectrum (8-bin), busyness (64-bin), code similarity (32-bin & 64-bin))

كانت ذات تنبؤ لتسلل نخاع العظام (AUC> 0.682) من بين الميزات الأخرى وكانت لها قيمة p-value أقل من 0.05؛ كما أظهرت التحليلات أحادية المتغير للمتغيرات المستخرجة أن:

(code similarity & LRE (both 64 bin) لهما تنبؤ كبير بتسلل المرض لنخاع العظم؛كذلك أظهرت (التحليلات متعددة المتغيرات أن المتغير:

(LRE (64 bin)) والذي كانت له (p= 0.031; odds ratio: 1.022; 95% Cl, 1.002-1.043) كان متغيراً مستقلاً لتسلل نخاع العظم في سرطان الغدد الليمفاوية.

الاستنتاجات

يوجد ارتباطات قوية بين المتغيرات المستخرجة من صور PET وتسلل نخاع العظم في سرطان الغدد الليمفاوية وبالتالي فأن تحليل المتغيرات المستخرجة من صور PET/CT له إمكانية التمييز بين تسلل نخاع العظم في مرضى سرطان الغدد الليمفاوية دون الحاجة الي إجراءات أخذ عينة العظم "biopsy".