Premalignant Lesions: IPNB, Imaging Features

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IPNB is a preinvasive biliary neoplasm of the bile duct. Until its new definition in the fifth edition of the WHO classification of the digestive tract tumors of 2019, the pathologic features of IPNB were confusing because of heterogeneous morphologies and biological activities. In 2019, the WHO classification defined IPNBs as non-invasive papillary or villous biliary neoplasms covering delicate fibrovascular stalks and classified into two types pathologically. One type (type 1 IPNB) is histologically similar to IPMNs of the pancreas and typically develops in the intrahepatic bile ducts. The other (type 2 IPNB) is histologically less similar to IPMN and typically involves the extrahepatic bile ducts. Patients with IPNB showed a significantly better prognosis than those with PCCs. Several studies examined the radiological features of IPNBs, although imaging findings of the types of IPNB has been still unclear. Imaging findings useful for discriminating the two types of IPNB have been reported to be the location, shape of the tumor, the appearance of mural nodules, bile duct dilatation, and abnormal enhancement of the adjacent bile duct. The familiarity of imaging findings of IPNB is important for clinical management. I will illustrate CT and MRI findings of IPNB and to discuss the differential diagnosis of 2 types of IPNB.

Keywords: Intraductal papillary neoplasms of the bile duct, CT, MRI