Introduction: pediatric body MRI course supplement

Govind B. Chavhan¹ · Jonathan R. Dillman²

Received: 22 January 2016 / Accepted: 2 February 2016
© Springer-Verlag Berlin Heidelberg 2016

This special supplement issue of *Pediatric Radiology* includes numerous review articles based on presentations given at the Society for Pediatric Radiology's first course on pediatric body MRI, which was conducted under the leadership of Drs. Govind B. Chavhan and Jonathan R. Dillman with the administrative assistance of Ms. Angela Davis. The course was conducted Sept. 19–20, 2015, at The Hospital for Sick Children in Toronto, Canada. The course was jointly supported by the Society for Pediatric Radiology (SPR) and the American College of Radiology (ACR).

This 2-day course featured 26 expert faculty speakers who presented 30 lectures, one case-based review and an interactive MRI protocol session. In addition to numerous pediatric radiologists, speakers included a pediatric hepatologist, a pediatric urologist, a gastroenterologist, an oncologist, and an interventional radiologist who treats vascular anomalies. Each non-radiologist presenter provided important clinical perspectives before each session. The course provided 15.5 credit hours of continuing medical education through the American Medical Association Physician's Recognition Award (AMA PRA) Category 1 Credits™ program. The course also offered four self-assessment module (SAM) sessions (7.25 SAM credits).

The program included discussions of both basic and advanced MRI techniques as applied to pediatric body imaging, such as diffusion-weighted imaging, MR elastography and whole-body MRI. There was in-depth coverage of MRI techniques and applications related to various pediatric body systems and diseases, including the hepatobiliary system, the gastrointestinal tract, the genitourinary system, the chest, and vascular anomalies and pediatric oncology. The course also covered recent technical and clinical advances in pediatric body MRI, such as MRI assessment of suspected appendicitis and state-of-the-art MR angiography techniques. The case-based review of interesting pediatric body MRI cases was conducted by two senior and very experienced speakers, Dr. Taylor Chung, from Children's Hospital and Research Center Oakland, and Dr. Kassa Darge, from Children's Hospital of Philadelphia.

The course was attended by 126 participants who enthusiastically interacted throughout the course with questions and comments. The course facilitated many positive interactions between sessions, as well, and provided a unique forum for the sharing of knowledge, experiences and ideas among pediatric body MR imagers.

This peer-reviewed supplement to the journal *Pediatric Radiology* was designed to spread the benefits of the course to the SPR membership as well as the broader radiology community. We would like to thank Dr. Peter Strouse, North American editor of *Pediatric Radiology*, for his guidance in the preparation of this supplement and all of the authors who contributed high-quality reviews based on their course presentations. It is our hope that this supplement promotes greater understanding of pediatric body MRI and serves as an excellent reference source for radiologists involved in the diagnosis and management of children.

Compliance with ethical standards

Conflicts of interest Dr. Dillman receives grant support from Siemens Medical Solutions USA, Inc. Dr. Chavhan has no financial interests, investigational or off-label uses to disclose.

✉ Govind B. Chavhan
drgovindchavhan@yahoo.com

¹ Department of Diagnostic Imaging,
The Hospital for Sick Children and Medical Imaging,
University of Toronto,
555 University Ave., Toronto, ON M5G 1X8, Canada

² Department of Radiology,
Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center,
Cincinnati, OH, USA