

**MRI in the EVALUATION
of
LIVER DISEASE**

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North Shore Magnetic Imaging Center has acquired gradients and computer software which have given us the capability to obtain breath-hold abdominal images on our 1.5 Tesla magnets. New respiratory triggered MRI techniques also significantly decrease motion artifact from breathing. North Shore Magnetic Imaging Center can now provide high quality abdominal imaging with little image degradation by motion.

MRI of the liver is useful as a problem solving modality. The new Single Shot Fast Spin Echo (SSFSE) sequence provides breath-hold images with virtually no image degradation by motion. This technique provides exquisite images that show liver architecture and vascular anatomy. This technique is also highly sensitive for detection of liver cysts. Cysts on this sequence have sharply defined margins and very bright signal intensity. This allows confident differentiation of cysts from other lesions such as cystic neoplasms.

continued on page 2

**RELEASE
OF
PATIENT RECORDS**

The process for the release of MRI reports has undergone a change at North Shore Magnetic Imaging Center. As of February 26, 1999, MRI reports will only be released to the physicians listed on the original order, i.e. the referring physician and the primary care physician. The patient must sign a consent for the report to be released to any other physician.

continued on page 5

WHAT'S INSIDE

Management Changes..p.6
Web Site Information...p.6
ACR Accreditation.....p.7
Comments.....p.7

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A joint venture of Addison Gilbert, Beverly and Salem Hospitals and AtlantiCare Medical Center
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