



Mild ^{68}Ga PSMA-11 Uptake in Incidental Pituitary Adenoma

İnsidental Pitüiter Adenomda Hafif ^{68}Ga PSMA-11 Tutulumu

Ediz Beyhan¹, Özge Erol Fenercioğlu¹, Yeşim Karagöz², Nurhan Ergül¹, Tevfik Fikret Çermik¹

¹University of Health Sciences Turkey, İstanbul Training and Research Hospital, Clinic of Nuclear Medicine, İstanbul, Turkey

²University of Health Sciences Turkey, İstanbul Training and Research Hospital, Clinic of Radiology, İstanbul, Turkey

Abstract

A 76-year-old man with metastatic prostate cancer was referred to ^{68}Ga prostate-specific membrane antigen (PSMA) positron emission tomography/computed tomography (PET/CT) for restaging. A consecutive ^{18}F -fluorodeoxyglucose (FDG) PET/CT was performed due to the history of lung cancer in the left lung treated with stereotactic radiotherapy. Intense ^{18}F -FDG uptake was detected in the pituitary gland despite the mild uptake of ^{68}Ga PSMA. Contrast-enhanced magnetic resonance imaging confirmed pituitary adenoma.

Keywords: ^{68}Ga PSMA PET/CT, pituitary adenoma, ^{18}F -FDG PET/CT

Öz

Metastatik prostat kanseri tanılı 76 yaşında erkek hasta yeniden evreleme amacıyla ^{68}Ga prostat-spesifik membran antijen (PSMA) pozitron emisyon tomografi/bilgisayarlı tomografi (PET/BT) görüntüleme için yönlendirildi. Akciğer kanseri öyküsü olan ve sol akciğere stereotaktik radyoterapi uygulanan hastaya ayrıca ^{18}F -fluorodeoxyglucose (FDG) PET/BT görüntüleme de yapıldı. Hipofiz glandında yoğun ^{18}F -FDG tutulumu saptanırken, ^{68}Ga PSMA görüntülemesinde hafif tutulum saptandı. Kontrastlı manyetik rezonans görüntüleme ile pitüiter adenom tanısını doğrulandı.

Anahtar kelimeler: ^{68}Ga PSMA PET/BT, pitüiter adenom, ^{18}F -FDG PET/BT

Address for Correspondence: Ediz Beyhan MD, University of Health Sciences Turkey, İstanbul Training and Research Hospital, Clinic of Nuclear Medicine, İstanbul, Turkey

Phone: +90 535 713 24 98 **E-mail:** edizbeyhan@gmail.com ORCID ID: orcid.org/0000-0001-6833-4830

Received: 10.07.2021 **Accepted:** 10.10.2021

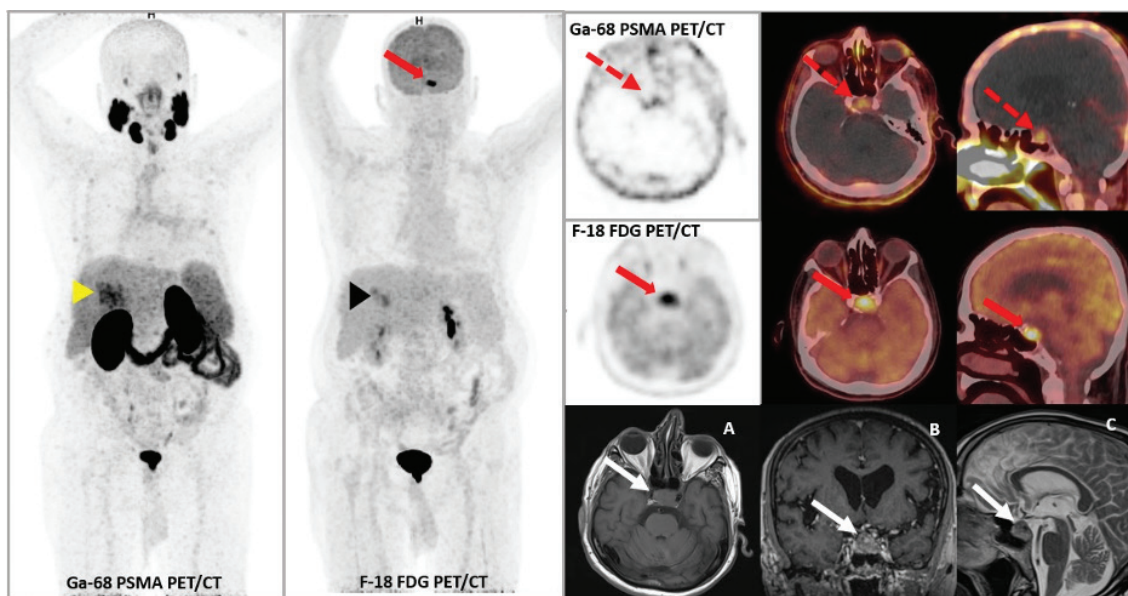


Figure 1. A 76-year-old man underwent radical prostatectomy for prostate adenocarcinoma 4 years ago. The patient received chemoradiotherapy due to castration resistance and was referred to ^{68}Ga prostate-specific membrane antigen (PSMA) positron emission tomography/computed tomography (PET/CT) for restaging. He also had a history of lung cancer and stereotactic radiotherapy to a lesion in left lung. A consecutive ^{18}F -fluorodeoxyglucose (FDG) PET/CT was performed for evaluation of lung cancer remission. Metastatic lesions in liver are seen in both PET/CT images (maximum intensity projection images, arrowheads). Intense ^{18}F -FDG uptake was observed in pituitary gland in axial and sagittal slices of ^{18}F -FDG PET/CT [maximum standardized uptake value (SUV_{max}): 13.94] (red arrows). Axial and sagittal PET and fusion images showed mild ^{68}Ga PSMA uptake (SUV_{max} : 1.88) in the pituitary gland (dashed arrows). Magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) examination of pituitary gland-verified macroadenoma filling and expanding the sella in T1 weighted sequences axial slice (A), contrast-enhanced coronal slice (B), and T2 weighted sequences sagittal slice (C). Pituitary adenomas are detected incidentally in oncological ^{18}F -FDG PET/CT and the incidence was found as 0.073% in a multi-center study (1,2). The SUV_{max} value was determined as 4.1 in another study conducted with ^{18}F -FDG PET/CT to discriminate physiological and pathological involvement (3). Pituitary lesions can be detected with high accuracy in contrast-enhanced MRI (4). PSMA PET/CT plays a significant role in diagnosis and treatment response assessment in prostate cancer patients (5). Various benign lesions with PSMA uptake have been reported (6,7,8). We showed the mild uptake on ^{68}Ga PSMA PET/CT in a pituitary adenoma for the first time to our knowledge.

Ethics

Informed Consent: Obtained from the patient.

Peer-review: Externally peer-reviewed.

Authorship Contributions

Concept: T.F.Ç., N.E., Design: T.F.Ç., N.E., Data Collection or Processing: Y.K., Ö.E.F., E.B., Analysis or Interpretation: T.F.Ç., N.E., Literature Search: E.B., T.F.Ç., N.E., Writing: E.B., Y.K., Ö.E.F., T.F.Ç., N.E.

Conflict of Interest: No conflict of interest was declared by the authors.

Financial Disclosure: The authors declared that this study received no financial support.

References

- Jeong SY, Lee SW, Lee HJ, Kang S, Seo JH, Chun KA, Cho IH, Won KS, Zeon SK, Ahn BC, Lee J. Incidental pituitary uptake on whole-body ^{18}F -FDG PET/CT: a multicentre study. *Eur J Nucl Med Mol Imaging* 2010;37:2334-2343.
- Maffei P, Marzola MC, Musto A, Dassie F, Grassetto G, De Carlo E, Rampin L, Chondrogianis S, Massaro A, Pelizzo MR, Rubello D. A very

rare case of nonfunctioning pituitary adenoma incidentally disclosed at ^{18}F -FDG PET/CT. *Clin Nucl Med* 2012;37:e100-e101.

- Hyun SH, Choi JY, Lee KH, Choe YS, Kim BT. Incidental focal ^{18}F -FDG uptake in the pituitary gland: clinical significance and differential diagnostic criteria. *J Nucl Med* 2011;52:547-550.
- Bashari WA, Senanayake R, Fernández-Pombo A, Gillett D, Koulouri O, Powlson AS, Matys T, Scoffings D, Cheow H, Mendichovszky I, Gurnell M. Modern imaging of pituitary adenomas. *Best Pract Res Clin Endocrinol Metab* 2019;33:101278.
- Sheikhabahei S, Afshar-Oromieh A, Eiber M, Solnes LB, Javadi MS, Ross AE, Pienta KJ, Allaf ME, Haberkorn U, Pomper MG, Gorin MA, Rowe SP. Pearls and pitfalls in clinical interpretation of prostate-specific membrane antigen (PSMA)-targeted PET imaging. *Eur J Nucl Med Mol Imaging* 2017;44:2117-2136.
- Bilgin R, Ergül N, Çermik TF. Incidental meningioma mimicking metastasis of prostate adenocarcinoma in ^{68}Ga -labeled PSMA ligand PET/CT. *Clin Nucl Med* 2016;41:956-958.
- Strele-Trieb P, Dunzinger A, Sonnberger M, Wolfsgruber J, Pichler R. Uptake of ^{68}Ga -prostate-specific membrane antigen PET in adrenal gland: a potential pitfall. *Clin Nucl Med* 2018;43:50-51.
- Pföb CH, Karimov I, Jesinghaus M, Novotny A, Weber WA, Eiber M, Feuercker B. Pitfalls in ^{68}Ga -PSMA-PET/CT: incidental finding of parathyroid adenoma. *Eur J Nucl Med Mol Imaging* 2019;46:1041.