

PP-29

MR-guided focal cryoablation of recurrent prostate cancer: How we do it

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Learning Objectives: To describe our approach to transperineal magnetic resonance (MR)-guided focal cryoablation of recurrent prostate cancer (PCa).

Background: Whole-gland cryoablation under transrectal ultrasound (TRUS) guidance is an established treatment option in both newly diagnosed and recurrent PCa. However, due to poor tumor localization and limited visualization of the ablated zone, this method is associated with substantial morbidity risks, i.e. incontinence. Recently, MR imaging has been proposed in guiding prostate cryoablation procedures. This modality offers accurate lesion localization and targeting as well as superior monitoring capabilities, allowing the focal treatment of prostatic tumors.

Clinical Findings / Procedure: From May 2011 to March 2013, 39 consecutive patients with PCa recurrence after radiotherapy underwent transperineal MR-guided focal cryoablation at our institution. In this poster presentation, we describe step-by-step how we perform this procedure. Also, technical details on procedure setup and equipment will be provided.

Conclusion: We present a feasible and safe approach to perform transperineal MR-guided focal cryoablation in patients with recurrent PCa after radiotherapy.