



e-ISSN: 2582-5208

International Research Journal of Modernization in Engineering Technology and Science

(Peer-Reviewed, Open Access, Fully Refereed International Journal)

Volume:04/Issue:08/August-2022

Impact Factor- 6.752

www.irjmets.com

USE OF MAGNETIC RESONANCE IMAGING DURING PREGNANCY RISK VERSUS BENEFIT RATIO

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DOI: <https://www.doi.org/10.56726/IRJMETs29390>

ABSTRACT

Different kinds of radiological procedures have become a necessity in the modern life for detecting various types of diseases and other abnormalities. Radiological modalities have been a great help to doctors and researchers around the globe for various diagnosis and also for improving public health. However considering the other side of the coin when focussed on the risks of these modalities or procedures towards public occupational workers there has been a confusion and conflict about the extent of their use. Also during some specific time periods in some specific individuals use of these modalities is limited because of the fact that majority of the radiographic techniques make use of ionizing radiations. Although there are few modalities such as MRI and Ultrasonography which do not make use of ionizing radiations and are considered to be safe but when the need of these modalities to be used during sensitive periods especially during pregnancy arises, again a confusion gets created in our mind keeping in view the highly sensitive foetal cells. Talking about MRI, it also has its own specific utility and risks. While, currently there is no evidence that MRI produces any harmful effects during pregnancy to the foetus or to the mother, however there are some aspects that need to be further studied for long term and complete safety. This study is done to present a review on the pros and cons of MRI imaging during pregnancy. It also overview the foetal risks due to exposure to Magnetic Resonance Imaging. The main purpose of writing this paper is to evaluate whether a pregnant female can undergo an MRI examination or not.

Keywords: Foetus, Pre-Natal, Post-Natal, Appendicitis, Anomalies, Oligohydrominos.

I INTRODUCTION