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# INCIDENTAL FINDINGS OF EXTRA OSSEOUS $^{99m}\text{Tc}$ -DPD UPTAKE, IN UNSELECTED PATIENTS UNDERGOING BONE SCINTIGRAPHY

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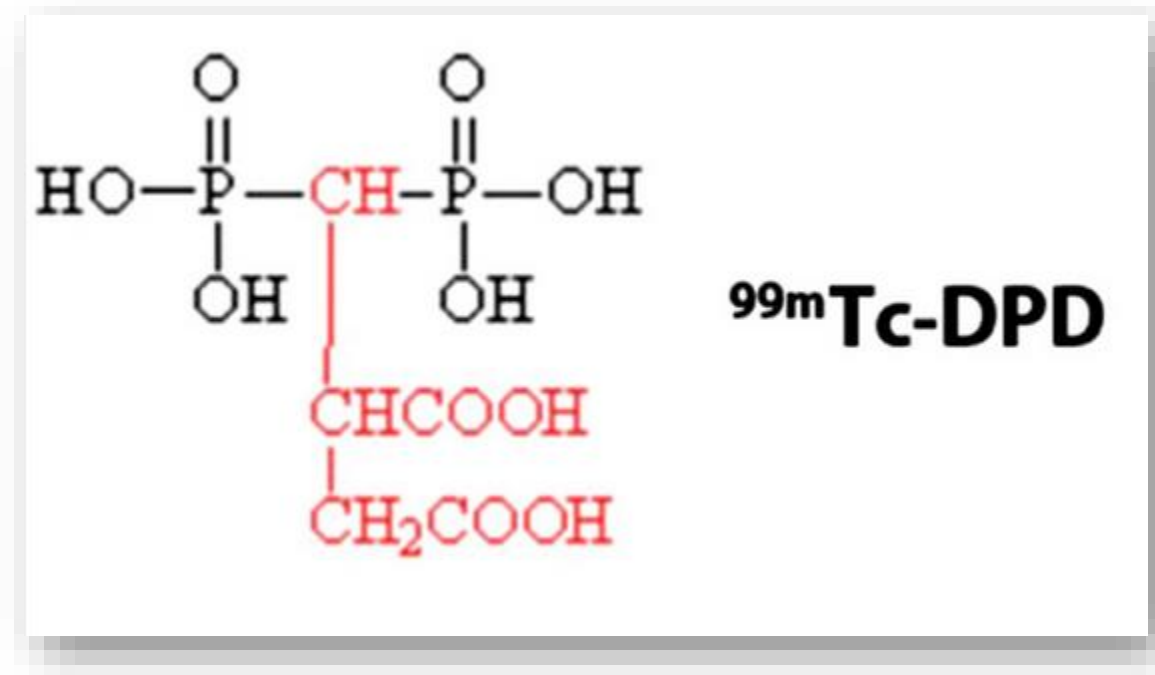
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**Introduction:** Recently, due to a research protocol we are conducting on cardiac amyloidosis, bone scintigraphy is performed in all our patients using exclusively  $^{99m}\text{Tc}$ -DPD.

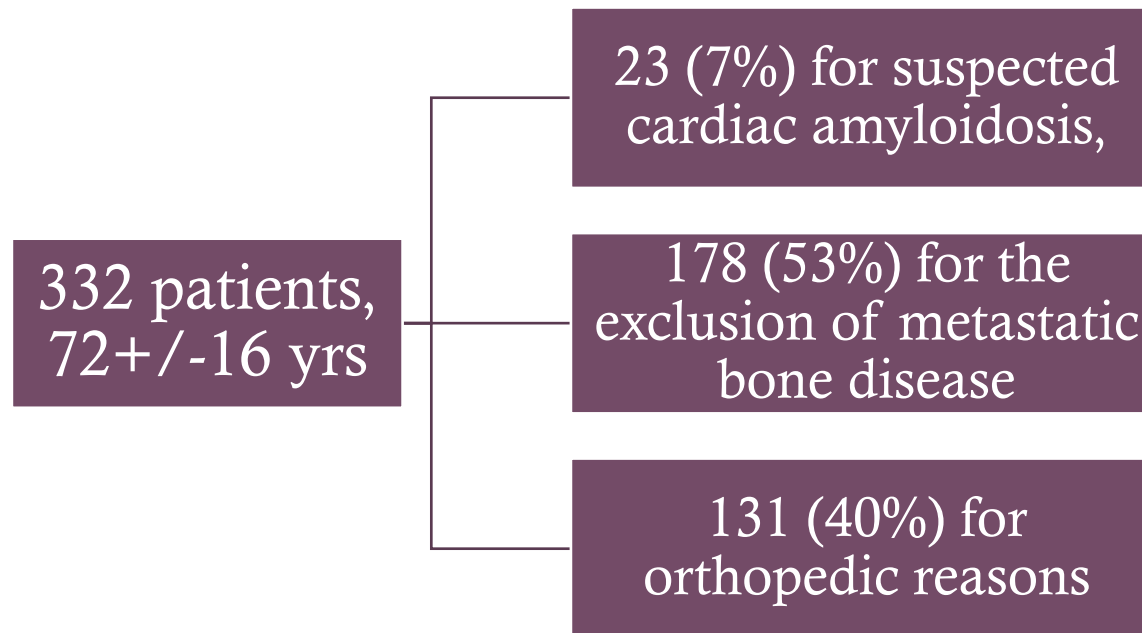
Some interesting findings are incidentally revealed, which are worth describing.



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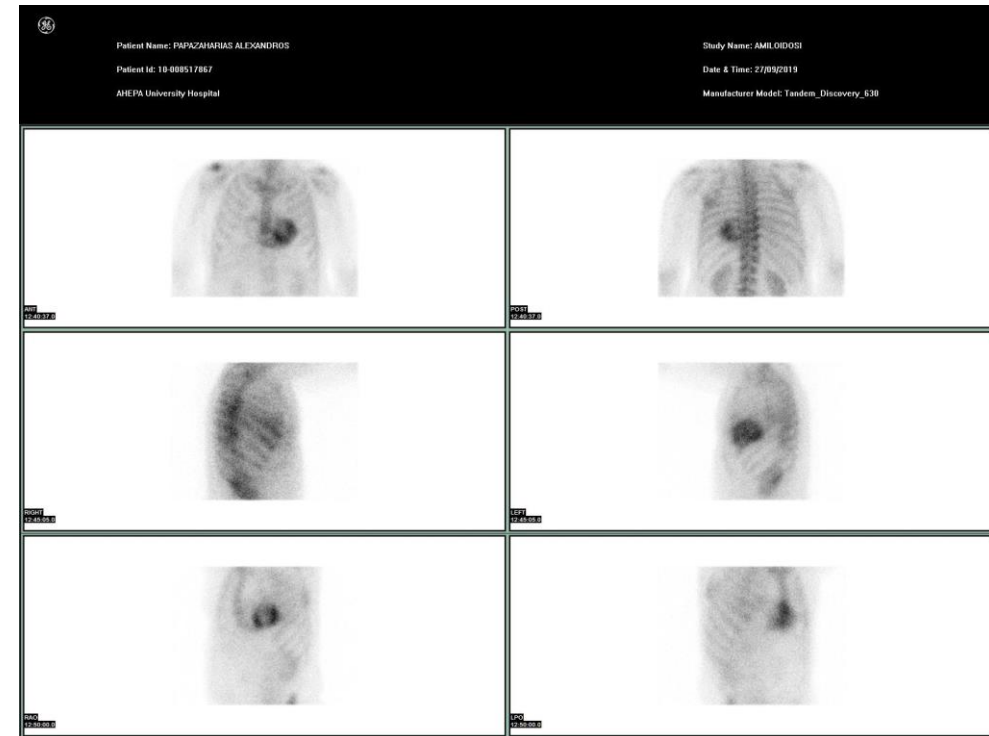
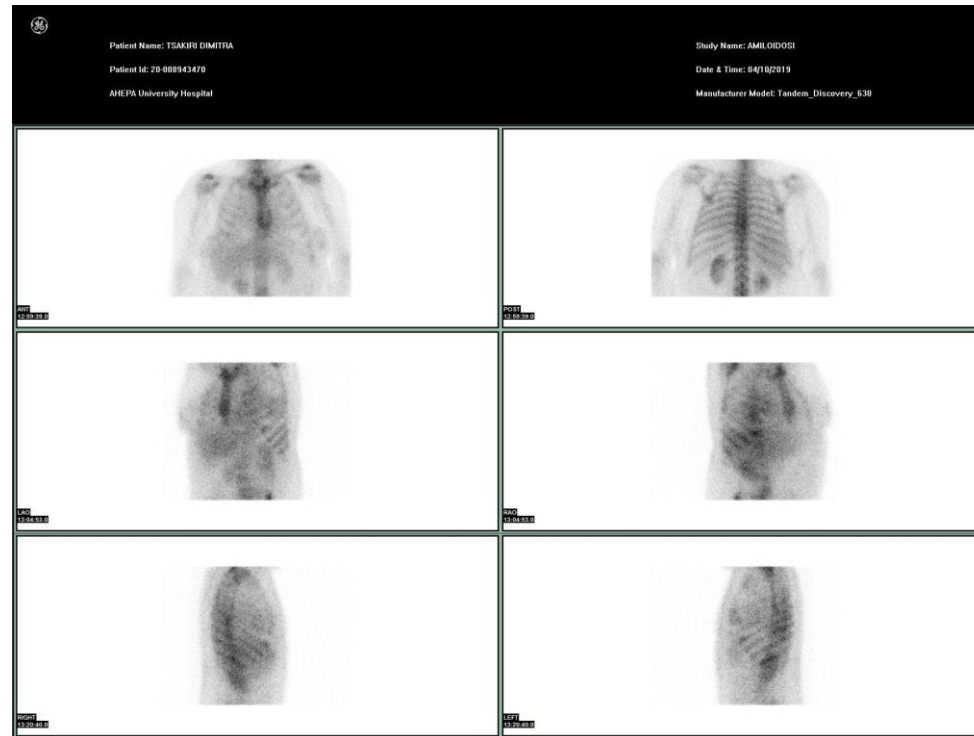
**Aim:** To describe our experience using  $^{99m}\text{Tc}$ -DPD in our daily scintigraphic bone imaging, in patients who come for the exclusion of metastatic bone disease or for various orthopedic reasons.

**Patients/Methods:** patients for bone scan from August to December 2020



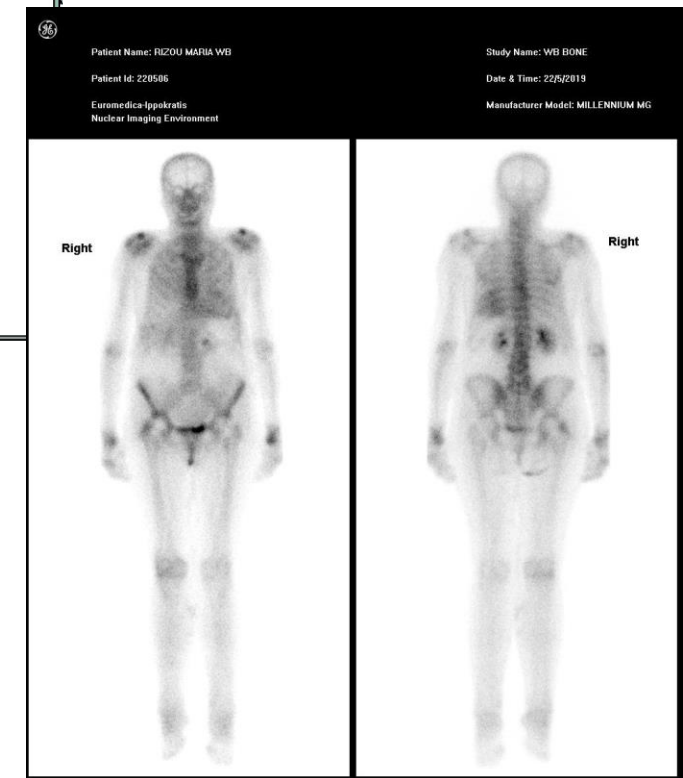
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**Results:** Of the 23 patients investigated for cardiac amyloidosis 7 (30%) actually had increased uptake at the myocardial area, (5 patients assessed as Grade 2 or 3 and 2 patients as Grade 1).



Additionally, in other 4 (1.2%) patients, cardiac uptake also appeared as an incidental finding. These patients were all men and over 78 years.

Another interesting finding is the uptake of  $^{99m}\text{Tc}$ -DPD at the liver or spleen in 14 (4%) patients, uptake at the soft tissue of the thighs in 9 patients and finally at the periarticular areas of the shoulders, carpal joints in a large percentage of patients. This finding was attributed to degenerative osteoarthritis, but amyloid deposition at the above mentioned areas cannot be excluded.



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## In conclusion:

- ✓  $^{99m}\text{Tc}$ -DPD is considered to be a suitable radiopharmaceutical for the everyday bone scintigraphy use.
  - ✓ Additionally, it may provide useful information in detecting unsuspected cardiac amyloidosis, possible localization of amyloid at the soft tissue and joints, whilst it is not inferior in bone uptake quality, as in the case of PYP.
  - ✓ Therefore, it is highly recommended for the entire bone scintigraphic workup in nuclear medicine laboratories, and not only for the confirmation or exclusion of cardiac amyloidosis.
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