

Imaging of the Hand and Wrist in Medicine

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Image Article

Hand and wrist pathology can be evaluated and treated using a variety of imaging techniques. When it comes to diagnosing hand and wrist conditions, conventional radiography is still the most widely used imaging method. Bone scintigraphy is a useful diagnostic technique with low specificity but high sensitivity. If a ligamentous or triangular fibrocartilaginous pathology is suspected, arthrography should be



Figure 1: X-ray of wrist and hand.

performed [1]. However arthrography should be used to examine both wrists and all three major compartments. Advanced imaging methods like magnetic resonance imaging and computed tomography can be helpful in making a correct diagnosis in some situations, such as occult fractures, fracture healing, and early detection of avascular necrosis [2].

Depending on the situation, medical imaging is a subfield of biomedical engineering, medical physics or medicine: Biomedical engineering, clinical physical science and computer science typically conduct research and development in the areas of instrumentation, image acquisition (such as radiography) demonstration and measurement; Typically, radiology and the clinical sub-discipline relevant to a disease or area of clinical science (neuroscience, cardiology, psychiatry, psychology, etc.) are responsible for research into the application and translation of medical images being investigated. Many of the methods developed for medical imaging also have applications in science and industry (Figure 1).

References

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Received: 02-Jan-2023, Manuscript No. roa-23-87485; Editor assigned: 04-Jan-2023, PreQC No. roa-23-87485 (PQ); Reviewed: 18-Jan-2023, QC No. roa-23-87485; Revised: 20-Jan-2023, Manuscript No. roa-23-87485 (R); Published: 27-Jan-2023, DOI: 10.4172/2167-7964.1000420

Citation: Gupta S (2023) Imaging of the Hand and Wrist in Medicine. *OMICS J Radiol* 12: 420.

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