

Benefits of CEUS Using SonoVue in HCC

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Contrast-enhanced ultrasound (CEUS) uses microbubbles as a contrast agent, which are metabolized by the lungs. CEUS has the advantage of being safe for patients with renal dysfunction, no radiation exposure, no interference with thyroid function, and lower incidence of contrast agent hypersensitivity reactions than iodine-based contrast agents. In addition, hemodynamic data can be evaluated in real-time, minimizing errors due to the time lag between image acquisition and the actual arterial and venous phases in CT or MRI scans.

SonoVue (Bracco) is the most widely used pure-vascular agent in CEUS. The bubbles of SonoVue are similar in size to red blood cells and do not pass through the vascular endothelium, creating a pure vascular image. It has been proven to be beneficial in HCC diagnosis in terms of surveillance, non-invasive diagnosis, and hepatic procedure. In this lecture, we will discuss the benefits of SonoVue in HCC.