

## POST RFA SYNDROME: ONE SINGLE CENTRE EXPERIENCE

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**Purpose:** To study and to evaluate prospectively post-radiofrequency ablation syndrome and to determine its impact on the quality of life in the 15 days after percutaneous radiofrequency ablation (RFA) treatment.

**Materials and Methods:** We performed an internal review board-approved prospective study of the delayed symptoms that occurred after 71 consecutive RFA sessions in 53 patients (12 women, 41 men; age range, 45-83 years; mean age, 71.6 years) with 45 primary liver tumours, 34 liver metastases, 3 renal cell carcinoma [RCC], 2 residual lesions from RCC after nephrectomy and 1 pancreatic metastases from RCC.

**Results:** Postablation symptoms occurred in 17/53 (32%) patients. Six out of 17 patients developed low-grade fever (from 37.5°C to 38.5°C). Other symptoms included delayed pain (9/17), nausea (7/17), vomiting (3/17) malaise (3/17) and myalgia (1).

**Conclusion:** Postablation syndrome is a common phenomenon after RFA of solid abdominal tumours. In our study, but also in the previous ones, the occurrence is observed in approximately one thirds of patients. Patients should be informed that these symptoms are self limiting after RFA and most patients should be able to resume near complete preprocedural levels of activity within 10 days after the procedure.