# Chelation and Gadolinium: How Effective is it?

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**Abstract**

Gadolinium-Based Contrast Agents (GBCA) are intravenous drugs used in diagnostic imaging procedures to enhance the quality of magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) or magnetic resonance angiography (MRA). Recent FDA alerts concerning potential side effects increased patient and medical concerns. We checked if gadolinium remains in the body system longer than pharmaceutical information states and since a growing number of chelation therapists uses chelating agents to remove gadolinium that may have been stored in the body, we checked how effective chelation agents are. Our studies indicate that in the case of gadolinium, chelation does not seem to be an option.

**Keywords:** Gadolinium; Gadolinium-based contrast agents; GBCA; Chelation; DMPS; DTPA; EDTA

## Introduction

According to the FDA, "Gadolinium-Based Contrast Agents (GBCA) are intravenous drugs used in diagnostic imaging procedures to enhance the quality of magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) or magnetic resonance angiography (MRA)." These contrasting agents have long been considered a harmless alternative to X-rays as tumors and inflammation are detected without radiation. Now, the FDA is warning doctors and issued a statement on July 27, 2017 concerning data "evaluating the risk of brain deposits with repeated use of gadolinium-based contrast agents." Apparently, all GBCAs are associated with higher retention of gadolinium (Gd) in the brain and other body tissues and are considered harmful. Thus, a rising number of medical doctors are using chelation in an effort to reduce the body's Gd-burden.

| | |
|---|---|
| 18.2 | 350.3 |
| 19.5 | 175.2 |
| 20.8 | 87.6 |
| 22.1 | 43.8 |
| 23.4 | 21.9 |
| 24.7 | 10.9 |
| 26.0 | 5.5 |
| 27.3 | 2.7 |
| 28.6 | 1.4 |
| 29.9 | 0.7 |
| 31.2 | 0.3 |
| 32.5 | 0.2 |

## Competing Interests

T e authors declare no competing interests.

## Consent for Publication

Not applicable.

## References

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