SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

The role of magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) in the assessment of spinal injuries is continuing to evolve. MRI allows direct visualization of the soft tissues of the spine, which previously could be evaluated only via secondary or indirect signs.

The primary goal of MR imaging in patients with trauma to the spine and spinal cord is to search for a spinal cord lesion and to demonstrate the presence and location of spinal cord compression. In addition, bone, joints, ligaments and soft tissues should be examined.

The aim of this work is to assess the role of MRI in evaluation of spinal trauma.

In conclusion, MR imaging is essential for the accurate understanding, documentation, and depiction of osseous and soft-tissue injuries that occur in different type of spinal injuries. MRI is ideally suited to assessment of the patient with acute spinal injury. Careful attention to technique and imaging of the whole spine will allow a complete evaluation of injury to the vertebral column, ligaments, discs and cord.