

# Advances in Ultrasound in **Obstetrics and Gynecology**

**Saturday, October 15, 2016**

Omni Shoreham Hotel • Washington, DC



# TABLE OF CONTENTS

## Saturday, October 15, 2016

Liability in OB/GYN Ultrasound: Minimizing Risk and Improving Outcomes ( <i>James M. Shwayder, M.D., J.D.</i> ) .....	133
Three and Four Dimensional Ultrasound in Obstetrics ( <i>Jude P. Crino, M.D.</i> ) .....	153
Fetal Growth Restriction: Diagnosis and Management ( <i>Alfred Abuhamad, M.D.</i> ) .....	159
Case Presentations of Genetic Syndromes ( <i>Elena Sinkovskaya, M.D., Ph.D.</i> ) .....	173
Ultrasound in the Evaluation of Abnormal Uterine Bleeding ( <i>James M. Shwayder, M.D., J.D.</i> ) .....	179
Adnexal Masses: What's Benign and What's Malignant? ( <i>Alfred Abuhamad, M.D.</i> ) .....	197
Ultrasound in the Diagnosis and Management of Ectopic Pregnancy ( <i>James M. Shwayder, M.D., J.D.</i> ) .....	217
Hands On Scanning Demonstration: The Pelvic Ultrasound Examination ( <i>James M. Shwayder, M.D., J.D.</i> ) .....	239
Cardiac Imaging: Tips To Improve Diagnosis of CHD ( <i>Alfred Abuhamad, M.D.</i> ) .....	245
The Role of the 3 Vessel Trachea View in Screening and Diagnosis for Conotruncal Anomalies ( <i>Elena Sinkovskaya, M.D., Ph.D.</i> ) .....	263
Case Presentations of Fetal Cardiac Malformations ( <i>Elena Sinkovskaya, M.D., Ph.D.</i> ) .....	279
The Role of Ultrasound in the Diagnosis of Placenta Accreta ( <i>Alfred Abuhamad, M.D.</i> ) .....	285

*Symposia At Sea*

## **Practical Approach to Ultrasound in Obstetrics and Gynecology**

Book By March 26, 2017

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# **LIABILITY IN OB/GYN ULTRASOUND: MINIMIZING RISK AND IMPROVING OUTCOMES**

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## Liability in Ob-Gyn Ultrasound: Minimizing Risk and Improving Outcomes

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## Liability in Ob-Gyn Ultrasound: Minimizing Risk and Improving Outcomes

**James M. Shwayder, M.D., J.D.**

Disclosures: None

## Outline

- Malpractice, as it relates to ultrasound
- Areas that pose the greatest risk with ultrasound
- Most common errors that lead to litigation
- Practices that can help reduce your exposure to litigation
- Case examples

## Legal Concept Malpractice



### Elements of Negligence

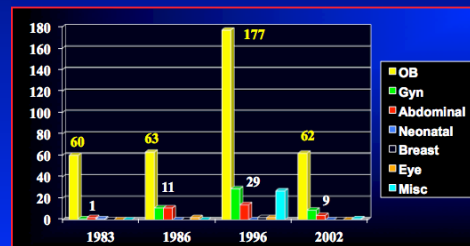
1. Duty
2. Breach of that duty
3. Proximate cause of injury
4. Damages

## Burden of Proof

### Medical malpractice

- Civil action
- Burden of proof =  
"preponderance of the evidence"
- Something > 50%

## Cases by Specialty Area



RC Sanders. J Ultrasound Med 2003; 22: 1009-15.

## Types of Errors

- Perception errors
- Interpretation errors
- Failing to suggest the next appropriate procedure
- Failure to communicate

M.M. Raskin. *Liability of Radiologists*, in *Legal Medicine*. Am College of Legal Med. 6<sup>th</sup> edition. 456-460.

## Perception Errors

The abnormality is seen in retrospect but it is missed when interpreting the initial study.

- Error rate in radiology is ~ 30%<sup>1</sup>
- Question: Was it below the standard of care for the physician not to have seen the abnormality?<sup>2</sup>
- Most suits are settled  
– 80% are lost if cases go to jury verdict

<sup>1</sup> Berlin and Hendrix. *Perceptual Errors and Negligence*. Am J Roentgenol 1996; 170: 863-67.

<sup>2</sup> L. Berlin. *Malpractice Issues in Radiology: Defending the "Missed" Radiographic Diagnosis*. Am J Roentgenol 2001; 176: 317-32.

## Missed Diagnosis New Jersey

- Four ultrasounds performed during pregnancy
- Images lacked clear anatomic landmarks, thus no accurate measurements of fetus made
- Physician reviewed one ultrasound
- Sonographer reported on three ultrasounds  
– “Structural irregularities that require further evaluation”
- Physician told the patient the “ultrasounds were completely normal”

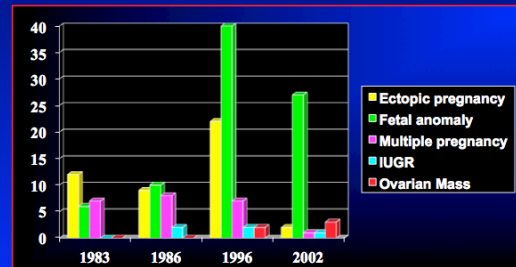
## Missed Diagnosis New Jersey

- Midline facial defect
- Cleft palate
- Club foot
- Lower-limb anomalies
- Limited cognitive and communication skills

## Missed Diagnosis New Jersey

- Suit against physician
- Suit against professional group he owned
  - Performs ultrasounds
- Settlement = \$1.98 million

## Missed Diagnosis



RC Sanders. *J Ultrasound Med* 2003; 22: 1009-15.

### Ultrasound - Liability

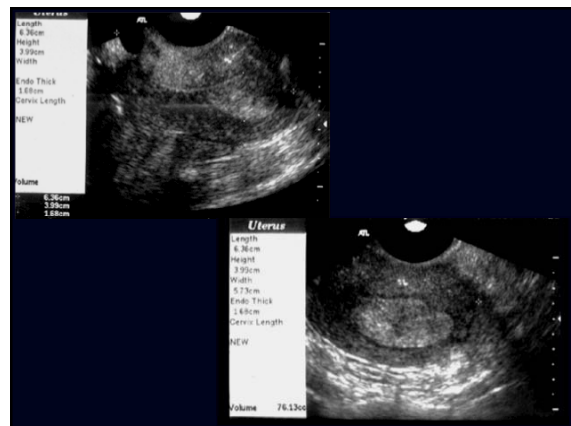
- Failure to conduct additional testing upon inability to visualize all four chambers of the heart during a routine sonogram
  - \$4,200,000
- Failure to detect meningomyelocele on ultrasound at 15 weeks. Ultrasound reported as normal. (coupled with lack of AFP testing)
  - \$4,350,000
- Failure to detect severe hydrocephalus
  - \$5,500,000

### Delay in Diagnosis North Carolina

- 46 year old patient presented with abnormal uterine bleeding
- Physician assistant saw patient
- No biopsy performed
- Ultrasound = negative
  - Subsequently could not produce photograph taken at the time of ultrasound

### Delay in Diagnosis North Carolina

- 18 months later presented with persistent bleeding
- Physician assistant again saw patient
- No biopsy performed
- Ultrasound = negative
  - Photograph for second ultrasound found: showed existence of tumor



### Delay in Diagnosis North Carolina

- After another 10 months, sought care from another physician
- Physician performed biopsy
- Endometrial carcinoma
- Patient died from disease

### Delay in Diagnosis North Carolina

- Suit filed against 1<sup>st</sup> physician
  - After defendant physician's deposition
  - No expert testimony required
- Settled for \$800,000

## Legal Concepts



- **Res ipsa loquitur**
  - But for the failure to exercise due care the injury would not have occurred
    - Delay in diagnosis and subsequent death
- **Respondeat superior**
  - An employer is liable for the wrong of an employee if it was committed within the scope of employment

## Ultrasound Examination

- Personnel
  - Training
  - Supervision
- Performance of the study
  - AIUM guidelines
  - Appropriate images

## Interpretation Errors

The abnormality is perceived but is incorrectly described

- Most often occur due to lack of knowledge or faulty judgment
  - Malignant lesion called benign
  - Normal variant is called abnormal
- The best defense is an appropriate differential diagnosis, preferably including the correct diagnosis
- Lawsuits involving interpretation errors
  - 75% are won if cases go to jury verdict

## Vaginal Bleeding

- 36 y.o. G3P2002
- Seen in ED on 5/29/10 (Saturday)
- c/o spotting on Thursday and Friday
- No LMP noted

## Vaginal Bleeding

### Examination

- VSS
- Point tenderness in the RLQ and suprapubic region
- No vaginal bleeding
- No CMT. No adnexal fullness

## Vaginal Bleeding

- hCG = 209
- H/H = 12.7/35.9



PAIN R/O ECTOPIC BETA 209

PELVIC ULTRASOUND

The uterus is normal. The endometrial canal is empty and about 1.1 cm in depth. No intrauterine gestational sac is seen.

The ovaries are normal in size. In the right ovary there is a 1.5-cm cyst/follicle.

No significant free pelvic fluid.

No abnormal pelvic mass.

IMPRESSION: Mild thickening of the endometrium. No intrauterine gestational sac is seen. In a pregnant patient the above findings are consistent with an early intrauterine gestation, an ectopic pregnancy or abortion. Correlation with quantitative beta-hCG levels as well as clinical follow-up is recommended and depending upon the clinical situation, follow up ultrasound may be helpful.

**ED visit  
6/04/10**

- ED: RLQ Pain
- Rating: 8
- No vaginal bleeding
- Exam: "Abdomen: Mild tender, no tenderness in the right inguinal area. There is no abdominal tenderness. No guarding or rebound."
- **NOTE: No pelvic performed in the ED**

**Lab**

- hCG = 2399
- H/H = 12.6/36.0







**Clinical History / Indication for Exam:**  
RLQ PAIN, R/O ECTOPIC

-Compared to the previous ultrasound report, there has been development of a small fluid collection within the endometrial cavity which may represent early gestational sac estimated to be 5 mm in diameter which is too early to determine fetal age Follow-up ultrasound is recommended  
-1.2-cm right ovarian cyst  
-No free fluid identified

**Physician's office  
6/07/10**

- 36 yo. f/u from ED
- No bleeding
- Menstrual-like cramping
- "Seen in ER for pain."
- "Last hCG – 2399"
- "RT OVARIAN CYST WAS SEEN. NO FF"
- VSS



The vagina was normal.  
 Cervix normal, the uterus was normal, and the uterine adnexae were normal.

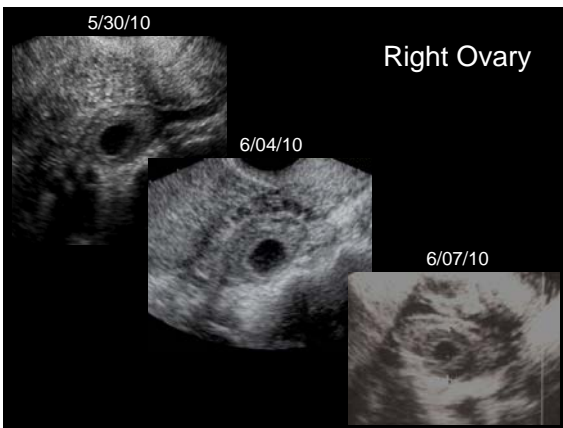
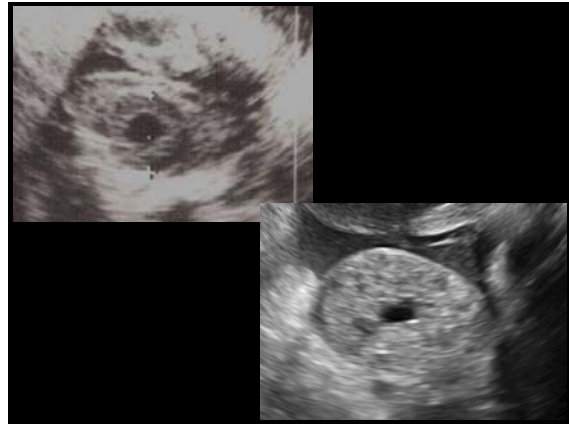
LMP: 4/27/2010.  
 U/S SHOWS NO IUP. THERE IS A DOUBLE RING LIKE STRUCTURE SEEN ON U/S TODAY <2. CM NO FF.  
 Chaperone present.

**Assessment**

- Ectopic pregnancy

**Plan**

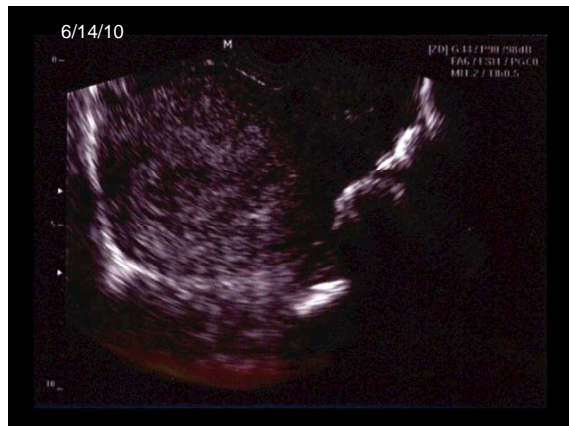
- Serum HCG, beta subunit, quantitative
- Follow-up visit 4 DAYS



**6/19/10  
hCG summary**

• 5/30/10	209
• 6/04/10	2,399
• 6/07/10	Methotrexate given
• 6/07/10	6,484

**Physician's office  
6/14/10**





**Physician's office**  
**6/14/10**

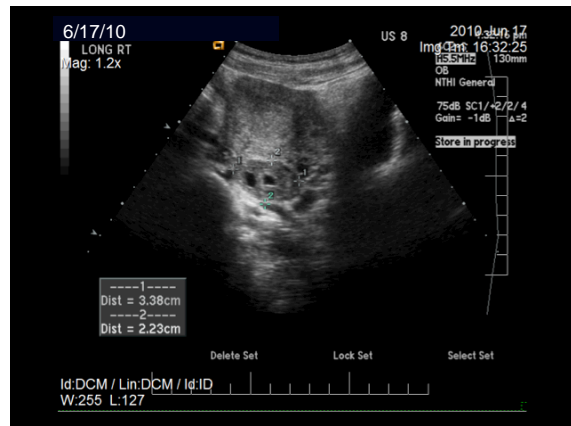
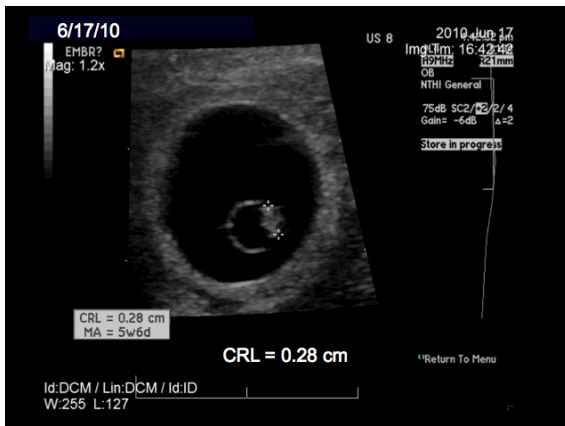
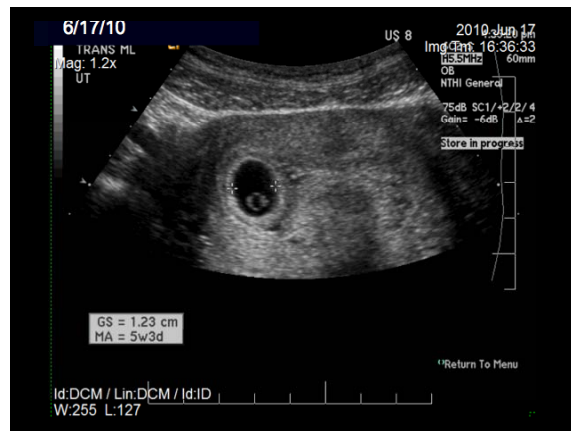
Sterile speculum exam:  
VAG US EMPTY UTERUS; NO FREE FLUID 3 CM RT CYST BUT OVARIES BILAT WNL

Impression: Postop Check

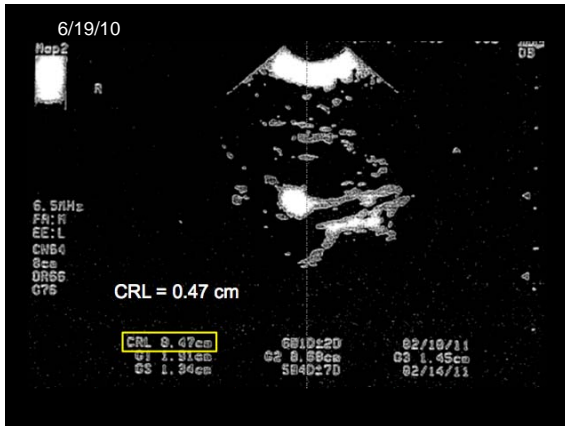
PLAN:  
Return in

7 DAYS RPT BETA CALL ON WEDS FOR RESULTS--> EXPECT ABOUT 650

Additional Notes:  
ECTOPIC PREC







## Performance

- Incomplete study
- Poor image quality

## Equipment

- Contemporary equipment
- Proper maintenance (PM)
- Image capture and retention

## Image Retention

- Preferably digital capture and retention
- Maintain for the specific SOL for your state (jurisdiction)

## Interpretation Errors

- Fluid within the endometrium
- Cyst in right ovary
- Did not review the prior images when interpreting the current study

## Interpretation Errors

- 8/01/05
- LMP = 6/09/05
  - EGA = 7w5d
  - EDD = 3/16/06
- Ultrasound
- Small fetal pole with cardiac activity
  - EGA = 5w2d
  - EDD = 3/29/06

## Interpretation Errors

9/06/05

- EGA = 12w5d (dates); 10w5d (US)
- Ultrasound
  - No images were documented
  - No formal report
  - Written note
    - “1x1 cm yolk sac. No fetal pole. No CA”

## Interpretation Errors

9/26/05

- LMP = 6/09/05
- EGA = 15w5d (dates)
- EGA = 13w4d (ultrasound)
- No physical examination documented
- “Offered expectant management vs. D&C.”
- “Rx: Cytotec”

## Interpretation Errors

9/30/05

- Passed 61 gm male fetus
- 13-16 weeks with no grossly evident congenital abnormalities

## Interpretation Errors Settlement

\$600,000

## Interpretation Errors

9/06/05

- EGA = 12w5d (dates); 10w5d (US)
- Ultrasound
  - No images were documented
  - No formal report
  - Written note
    - “1x1 cm yolk sac. No fetal pole. No CA”

## Recommendations

- Clinician
  - Was the 1x1 gestational sac a Nabothian cyst?
- Avoid “quick peeks” with the ultrasound
- Confirm findings that do not correlate with prior findings
- Document properly
- Examine patients

## Image Retention

- Preferably digital capture and retention
- Maintain for the specific SOL for your state (jurisdiction)

## Misdated Fetus

- 28 y.o. G3P2002 (Prior C/S x 2)
- LMP = 7/05/08
  - EDC = 4/12/09
  - Oligomenorrhea

## Misdated Fetus

- 10/31/08
- EGA = 16w4d
  - PE: Unable to palpate fundus due to body habitus. FHT's 160

## Misdated Fetus

- 11/02/08 Ultrasound
- Small for dates
  - EGA (dates) = 17 weeks
  - "Live, intrauterine pregnancy with a gestational age of 9w4d ± 6 days. The EDD is 4/10/09."
  - EGA (US) = 9w4d
  - EDD (US) = 6/03/09

## Misdated Fetus

- 12/14/08
- Office visit for abdominal pain
    - 15 5/7 weeks by ultrasound
    - 23 2/7 weeks by dates
  - Exam: "Uterus is normal"

## Misdated Fetus

- 4/05/09 Elective repeat C-Section
  - 39 2/7 weeks by dates
  - 31 6/7 weeks by ultrasound
- Male
  - Weight = 1710 gm
  - Apgar = 9,9
  - Ballard 31 weeks

## Newborn Course

- Prematurity
- Respiratory distress syndrome
- Necrotizing enterocolitis

## Misdated Fetus

- Deposition
- Review of records
  - FH < EGA on a consistent basis
- Settled \$980,000

## Failure to Communicate

- Final written report is considered the definitive means of communicating the results of an imaging study or procedure
- Direct or personal communication must occur in certain situations
  - Document communication
- Cause of action: Failure to communicate in a timely and clinically appropriate manner

<sup>1</sup> M.M. Raskin. *Why Radiologists Get Sued*. Applied Radiol 2001; 30: 9-13.  
<sup>2</sup> ACR Standard for Communication

## Failing to Suggest the Next Appropriate Procedure

- The prudent radiologist/physician will suggest the next appropriate study or procedure based upon the findings and the clinical information.
- The additional studies should add meaningful information to clarify, confirm or rule out the initial impression
  - The recommended study should never be for enhanced referral income
  - Generally, the radiologist is not expected to follow up on the recommendation.
    - Exception: Beware of reinterpreting images on multiple occasions <sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> *Montgomery v. South County Radiologists, Inc.*, 49 S.W.2d 191 (2001).

## Recommendations

- Sonologist
  - Make specific recommendations when appropriate
- Clinician
  - Read the entire radiology report, not just the summary diagnosis
  - Correlate the radiologic diagnosis with the clinical findings

## Failure to suggest next procedure Failure to communicate

- 33 y.o. G3P2002
- Quad screen at 15 weeks
  - Risk of Down Syndrome = 1/1100
- US performed at 19w1d in radiology
- Reported as “normal”
- No mention of subtle findings
  - UPJ = 4.3 and 4.4
  - EIF noted

## Likelihood Ratios for DS with Isolated Markers

Marker	AAURA	Nyberg	Bromley	Smith-Bindman
Nuchal fold	18.6	11	12	17
Hyperechoic bowel	5.5	6.7	NA	6.1
Short humerus	2.5	5.1	5.8	7.5
Short femur	2.2	1.5	1.2	2.7
EIF	2.0	1.8	1.4	2.8
Pyelectasis	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.9
Normal	0.4	0.36	0.22	??

## Isolated Marker

- EIF
  - LR = 1.4 – 2.8
  - Adjustment
- Risk of Down's
  - Originally 1 in 1100
  - Adjusted 1 in 392-785
- No amnio

## Pyelectasis

- 7400 patients
- 25% of patients with Down's had pyelectasis
- Incidence of Down's = 3% if pyelectasis is present
- Abnormal:
  - 15-20 weeks  $\geq 4$  mm
  - 20-30 weeks  $\geq 5$  mm
  - > 30 weeks  $\geq 7$  mm

Benacerraf et al. Obstet Gynecol 1990; 76: 58.

## Isolated Marker

- UPJ = 4.3 and 4.4
- Pyelectasis
  - LR = 1.5 – 1.9
  - Adjustment
- Risk of Down's
  - Originally 1 in 1100
  - Adjusted 1 in 579-733
- No amnio

## Prevalence of Markers and Likelihood Ratios

# Markers	DS = 164	Nml = 656	LR
0	32	575	0.2
1*	32	66	1.9
2	20	13	6.2
3	40	2	80

\* Individual LR better  
Benacerraf et al. Radiology 1994; 193: 135-140

## Failure to Communicate

- 33 y.o. G3P2002
- Quad screen at 15 weeks
  - Risk of Down Syndrome = 1/1100
- 2 markers: LR = 6.2
- Adjusted Risk for DS = 1/177



## Failure to Communicate

### Defense

- Radiologist
  - They round to the nearest whole number.
  - This patient's UPJ's were thus 4 and WNL
  - The UPJ dilation was < 5 mm, which is "normal" in their lab
  - EIF is a worthless marker and of no consequence
  - It is the obstetrician's duty to recommend amniocentesis to the patient

## Failure to Communicate

### Defense

- Obstetrician
  - The radiologist's report was "normal" with no mention of subtle markers for DS.
  - I had no reason to recommend amniocentesis
  - Had I known of the subtle findings I would have recalculated the patient's risk and would have recommended amniocentesis

## Failure to Communicate

### Radiologist

#### Defense

- The UPJ dilation was < 5 mm, which is "normal in their lab"

#### Plaintiff's cross

- The defendant radiologist had provided the syllabus from a recently attended CME course provided by the parent institution, that indicated that  $\geq 4$  mm was abnormal for < 20 weeks EGA

## Failure to Communicate

### Radiologist

#### Defense

- EIF is a worthless marker. We don't even mention it.

#### Plaintiff's expert

- As an isolated finding, EIF is a very poor marker. However, it should at least be mentioned in the report. Further, in the presence of additional markers, for example pyelectasis, EIF carries more significance.
- Both subtle findings should have been noted in the report and recommendations made to recalculate the patient's risk for DS and amniocentesis if appropriate

## Failure to Communicate

### Verdict

Obstetrician

#### Defense Verdict

Radiologist

#### Plaintiff Verdict

- Misinterpreted the images
- Duty to report the findings to the obstetrician. If he had done so, the duty for further counseling, evaluation, and treatment would have transferred to the obstetrician.

## Failure to Communicate

### Verdict

#### Plaintiff Verdict

Radiologist

- Failing to appropriately communicate the findings to the obstetrician resulted in the continuation of an abnormal pregnancy that the patient, had she known of the abnormality, would have terminated.

## Wrongful Birth

*Reed v. Campagnolo*

The court ruled that "... parents may maintain an action for wrongful birth if the physician fails to disclose the availability of tests which would have detected birth defects present in the fetus and if the woman would have had an abortion had she known the fetus's deformities"

*Reed v. Campagnolo*, 810 F.Supp. 167 (D.Md. 1993)

## Ultrasound Examination

- AIUM Accreditation
- Establishes policies and procedures
  - "Best Practices"

## Equipment

- Contemporary equipment
- Proper maintenance (PM)
- Image capture and retention

## Ultrasound Examination

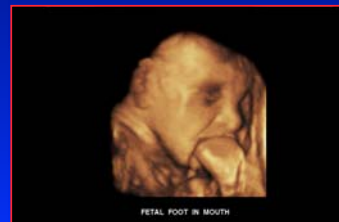
- Performance of the study
- Interpretation of the study
- Communication of results
- Documentation

## Defensibility

- If the components of a complete examination are documented, appropriately interpreted, and communicated the case is more defensible.
- The lack of any component places the case at risk.



## Keepsake Ultrasounds



## “Keepsake” Malpractice

Any malpractice claim concerning keepsake video production will be a case of first impression.

## Entertainment Ultrasound Case of First Impression

Colorado 2009

- Down’s Syndrome
- Alleged missed anomaly during “Keepsake Ultrasound” in the 3<sup>rd</sup> trimester

## Entertainment Ultrasound Case of First Impression

Colorado 2009

- Shorten femur at 31 weeks
- Termination is available up to 34 weeks in Boulder, Colorado

## Entertainment Ultrasound Case of First Impression

- Entertainment ultrasound is not an approved medical practice
- Question
  - Was this medical malpractice?
  - Was this a case of commercial negligence?
  - Was this a breach of an entertainment agreement?

## COPIC Insurance Co. Coverage Limitations

“Your professional liability policy covers acts of negligence in the course of providing medical care. This type of activity may fall outside this definition; *therefore you may be denied coverage.*”

Copiscope, No. 114, July 2003.

## Entertainment Ultrasound

- Settled for undisclosed amount, rumored to be \$1 M



## Liability Risks Different scenarios

Least

- Untrained technician-no physician oversight
- RDMS sonographer-no physician oversight
- RDMS sonographer-physician oversight
  - No prior physician-patient relationship
- RDMS sonographer-physician oversight
  - Current patient

Most

## Outline

- Malpractice
- Most common errors that lead to litigation
- Practices that can help reduce your exposure to litigation



Thank You





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# THREE AND FOUR DIMENSIONAL ULTRASOUND IN OBSTETRICS

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*Contribution Not Received in Time for Inclusion.*













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# **FETAL GROWTH RESTRICTION: DIAGNOSIS AND MANAGEMENT**

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Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology  
Vice Dean for Clinical Affairs  
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Norfolk, VA



## Fetal Growth Restriction: Diagnosis & Management



EVMS  
Fetal  
Cardiovascular  
Center

Alfred Abuhamad, MD.  
Eastern Virginia Medical School

## Fetal Growth Restriction

### *Complex Problem:*

- Various published definitions
- Poor detection rates
- Limited preventive or treatment options
- Multiple associated morbidities
- Increased likelihood of perinatal mortality

## FGR

### *Treatment:*

- Bed rest
- Aspirin
- Nutrient supplements with Calcium/Zinc
- Maternal oxygenation
- Heparin
- Plasma volume expansion
- Calcium channel blockers
- Hormonal therapy
- Smoking cessation

No Benefit

ACOG IUGR bulletin 2000. Reaffirmed 2010

## Fetal Growth Restriction

*NICHD Fetal Imaging Forum 2  
May 2015*

- Multisociety representation

To develop a consensus on the diagnosis and optimal management of the singleton pregnancy with fetal growth restriction (FGR).

## Definition

- Fetal Growth Restriction (FGR) is sonographically estimated fetal weight (SEFW) <10% for GA (PRENATAL STATUS)
- Small for gestational age (SGA) is actual birth weight (BW) < 10% for GA (POSTNATAL STATUS)

ACOG PB 2013; RCOG GG 2013; SOGC 2013; RCPI 2014

## Definition

### Other diagnostic criteria:

- SEFW < 5%
- SEFW < 3%
- AC < 10%
- AC < 5%
- Ac < 3%

## Risk Factors for FGR

Maternal	Fetal
Advanced maternal age	Multiple gestation
Chronic medical diseases	Infection
Hypertension	Rubella
Chronic hypertension	Cytomegalovirus
Gestational hypertension	Herpes
Pregnational diabetes mellitus of advanced classes	Toxoplasmosis
Renal disease	Malaria
Hyperthyroidism	Syphilis
Hemoglobinopathies	Chagas disease
Autoimmune disease	Anomalies
Systemic lupus erythematosus	Chromosomal and genetic
Cyanotic cardiac disease	Trisomy 13
Antiphospholipid antibody syndrome	Trisomy 18
Inadequate nutrition, malabsorption, and poor weight gain	Congenital heart defects
Medication exposure	Gastrochisis
Phenytoin	
Valproic acid	<b>Placental</b>
Trimethoprim	Single umbilical artery
Warfarin	Abnormal cord insertion
Cyclophosphamide	Velamentous
Substance abuse	Bilobed or circumvallate placenta
Tobacco	Small placenta
Alcohol	Confined placental mosaicism
Cocaine	
Methylphenidates	
Narcotics	

ACOG PB 134, 2013

## Screening – ACOG Opinion

- All pregnant women should be screened for risk factors (medical and obstetric history)
- Fundal height measured at each visit > 24 weeks
  - If fundus cannot be palpated, e.g. obesity, multiple gestation, sonography is preferred
- Sonographic screening may be used in the presence of risk factors
- No evidence that routine sonography, serum analytes, or uterine artery Doppler improve outcomes

ACOG PB 134, 2013

DOI: 10.1111/1471-0528.13148  
www.bjog.org

### General obstetrics

## Poor effectiveness of antenatal detection of fetal growth restriction and consequences for obstetric management and neonatal outcomes: a French national study

I Monier,<sup>a</sup> B Blondel,<sup>a</sup> A Ego,<sup>a,b</sup> M Kaminiski,<sup>c</sup> F Goffinet,<sup>a,c</sup> J Zeitlin<sup>a</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Inserm UMR 1153, Obstetrical, Perinatal and Pediatric Epidemiology Research Team (Epopet), Center for Epidemiology and Statistics Sorbonne Paris Cité, DREI (Data in pregnancy), Paris Descartes University, Paris, France; <sup>b</sup> Clinical Research Center (CERES), Grenoble University Hospital, Grenoble, France; <sup>c</sup> Paris Saclay Maternity Unit, Department of Obstetric and Gynaecology, Cochin University Hospital, Assistance Publique-Hôpitaux de Paris, Paris, France

Correspondence: J Monier, Center for Epidemiology and Statistics Sorbonne Paris Cité, Inserm UMR 1153, Obstetrical, Perinatal and Pediatric Epidemiology Research Team (Epopet), DREI (Data in Pregnancy), Paris Descartes University, Paris, and Paris Royal Maternity Unit, 59 Avenue de l'Observatoire, 75013 Paris, France. Email: julia.monier@inserm.fr

Accepted 18 September 2014; Published Online 17 October 2014

- Singleton births, all French maternity units in 2010, over 1 week period
- Routine US between 30 and 35 weeks
- 22% of SGA infants were suspected of FGR (but outcome was not better if FGR was suspected)
- 50% of infants suspected of FGR were not SGA (increased risk of provider-initiated early delivery in this group)

## Fetal Growth Restriction

### Prenatal detection:

- Undetected in 30 - 50% of cases
- Incorrectly diagnosed in 50% of cases

ACOG IUGR bulletin 2000. Reaffirmed 2010  
Acta Obstet Gynecol Scand 1998;77:643  
J Obstet Gynecol 1996;16:77

## Fetal Growth Restriction

- FGR vs. SGA, single or distinct entity?
- Should we rethink approach to FGR?
  - Small EFW
  - Small EFW with abnormalities

NICHD-Fetal Imaging Forum 2 – May 2015

## Diagnosis

- Fetal biometry
  - BPD, HC, AC, FL
  - Transverse cerebellar diameter between 14 and 24 weeks correlates with GA in weeks (it is unchanged in FGR)
  - Fetuses with abdominal wall defect are often over-diagnosed with FGR

Goldstein I, Am J Obstet Gynecol, 1987

## Formulas for SEFW

*Ultrasound Obstet Gynecol* 2005; 25: 80–89  
Published online 26 October 2004 in Wiley InterScience (www.interscience.wiley.com). DOI: 10.1002/uog.1751

### A systematic review of the ultrasound estimation of fetal weight

N. J. DUDLEY

Medical Physics Department, Nottingham City Hospital, Nottingham, UK

- Review of studies employing 7 different regression equations for EFW

## Formulas for SEFW

- No consistently superior method of assessment emerged
- Similar systematic and random errors between formulas
- Wide intra and inter-observer variability identified
- Use average of multiple measurements
- Improvement in image quality
- Uniform calibration of equipment
- Regular audits for quality assurance

Dudley N, UOG 2005

## Weight Percentiles

### Population Norms

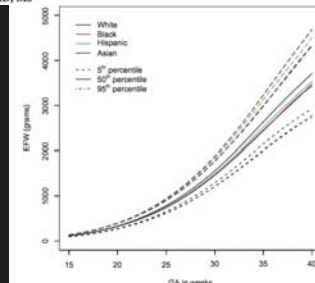
- “one size fits all”
- Unadjusted for factors that affect fetal size

### Customized Norms

- “one size does not fit all”
- Adjusted for factors that affect fetal size (fetal gender, ethnicity, parity, parental size, altitude, maternal co-morbidity)

### Racial/ethnic standards for fetal growth: the NICHD Fetal Growth Studies

Germaine M. Buck Louis, PhD, MS; Jagdishwar Grewal, PhD, MPH; Paul S. Albert, PhD; Anthony Sciscione, DO; Deborah A. Wing, MD; William A. Grobman, MD, MBA; Roger B. Newman, MD; Ronald Wapner, MD; Mary E. D'Alton, MD; Daniel Skupski, MD; Michael P. Nagotte, MD; Angela C. Ranzini, MD; John Owen, MD, MSPH; Edward K. Chien, MD; Sabrina Craigo, MD; Mary L. Hediger, PhD; Sungduk Kim, PhD; Cullin Zhang, MD, MPH, PhD; Katherine L. Grantz, MD, MS



Am J Obstet Gynecol 2015;213:449.e1-41.

## Intergrowth-21

- Multicenter international study – 7 countries
- Longitudinal growth 4321 low-risk pregnant women from 14 weeks to 42 weeks
- Biometric charts for BPD, HC, OFD, AC and FL were developed
- Goal is to describe how fetuses SHOULD grow, as opposed to traditional charts that describe how fetuses DO grow
- Question: outcome studies to confirm superiority over current existing charts

Papageorgiou AT, Lancet, 2014

## Fetal Growth Restriction

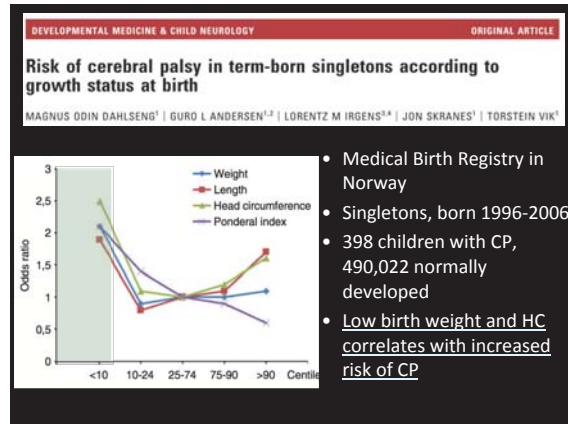
### Outcome:

- Low Apgar scores & cord pH < 7.0
- Increased NICU admissions & sepsis
- Increased stillbirth and neonatal mortality
- Increased learning disabilities
- Increased adult onset cardiovascular disease

ACOG IUGR bulletin 2000. Reaffirmed 2010

## SGA: Morbidity and Mortality

- Hypoglycemia
- Cerebral Palsy
- Hyperbilirubinemia
- Neonatal death
- Hypothermia
- IVH
- NEC
- Seizures
- Sepsis
- RDS



## Fetal Assessment

Non-invasive tests:

- Fetal kick counts
- Non-stress test
- Biophysical profile
- Doppler assessment

Invasive tests:

- Amniocentesis
- Cordocentesis

No ideal test for all growth restricted fetuses.

## Cardiovascular Adaptation of FGR

## Early Changes / FGR

### Arterial Redistribution

Brain Sparing Reflex

- ↑ impedance in UA (↑ S/D)
- ↓ impedance in MCA (↓ PI)

Value of CPR

## Fetal Hypoxemia

### Blood Flow Redistribution

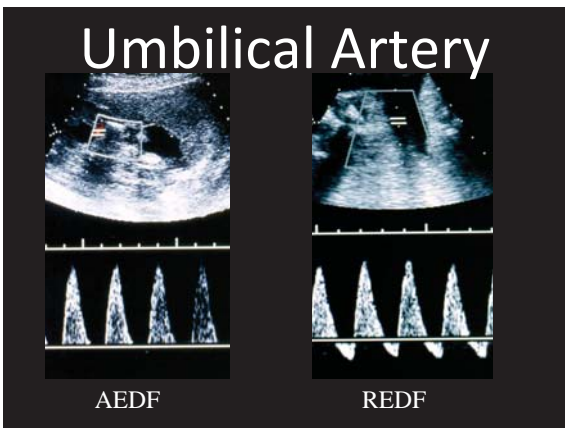
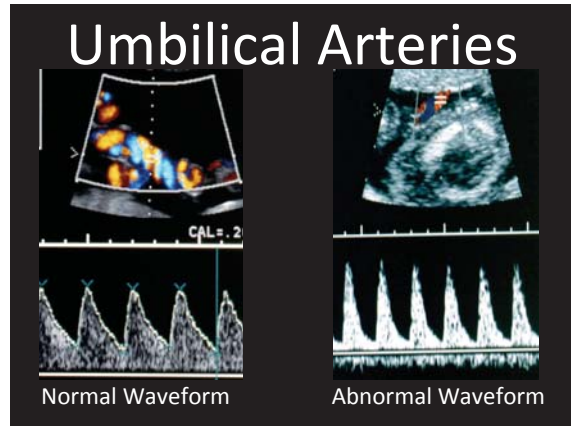
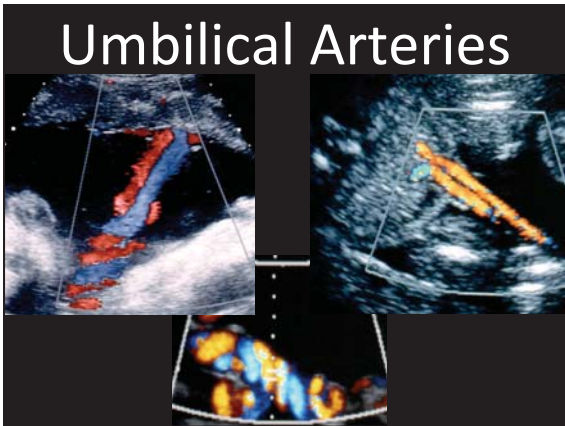
Brain Sparing Reflex

#### Increased

- Heart
- Brain
- Adrenal
- Spleen

#### Decreased

- Lungs
- GI
- Skeletal
- Other



## Fetal Hypoxemia / FGR

**UA ↑ Impedance**

- Obliteration of small muscular arteries in tertiary stem villi
- For A/REDF, need > 70 % placental obliteration

Ultrasound Obstet Gynecol 1997;9:271  
AJOG 1989;161:1055

## Fetal Hypoxemia / FGR

**UA ↑ Impedance**

- Meta-analysis of 18 trials (> 10,000 women), concluded that use of UA Doppler in high-risk women reduced perinatal death & obstetric interventions

Syst Rev 2010;(1):CD007529

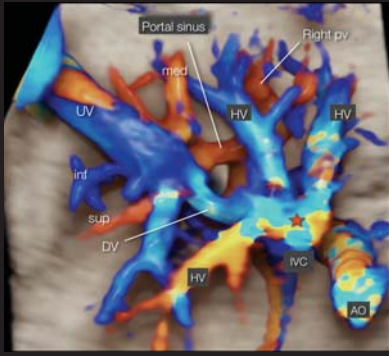
Should Doppler be performed in low-risk women as a screening test?

Meta-analysis of 4 trials found no difference in outcome

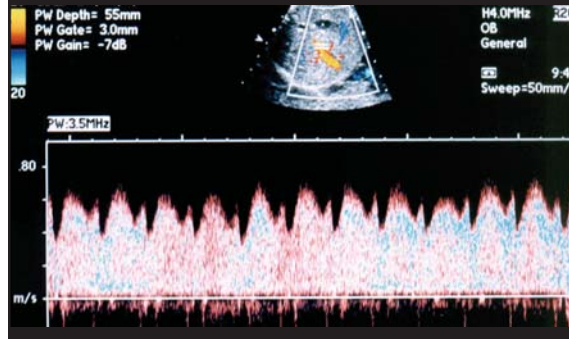




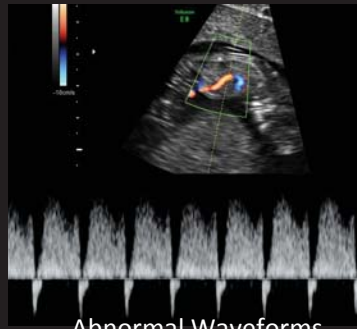
# Ductus Venosus



# Ductus Venosus



# Ductus Venosus



Abnormal Waveforms

## FGR

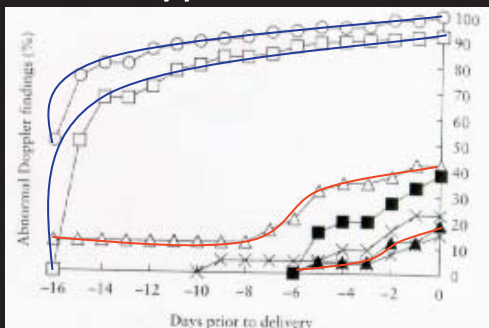
### Early Changes

- Biometric changes
- Arterial Doppler

### Late Changes

- Venous Doppler
- Heart rate tracing

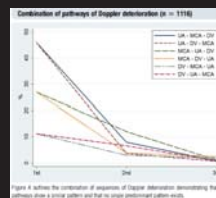
# Fetal Hypoxemia / FGR



Ultrasound Obstet Gynecol 2002;19:140

## RESEARCH www.AJOG.org

### OBSTETRICS Predictable progressive Doppler deterioration in IUGR: does it really exist?



- Multiple potential pathways of Doppler deterioration in IUGR
- UA → MCA → DV is no more common than other pathways
- Abnormal UA and MCA Doppler are strongest predictors of adverse perinatal outcome
- Only marginal added benefit to DV and cardiac indices

Unterscheider J, Am J Obstet Gynecol, 2013

SMFM CLINICAL GUIDELINE [www.AJOG.org](http://www.AJOG.org)

**Doppler assessment of the fetus with intrauterine growth restriction**

Society for Maternal-Fetal Medicine Publications Committee, with the assistance of Eliza Berkley, MD; Suneet P. Chauhan, MD; and Alfred Abuhamad, MD

- In high-risk pregnancies with suspected FGR UA Doppler assessment significantly decreases likelihood of IOL, cesarean delivery and perinatal death
- UA Doppler surveillance should be started when fetus is viable and FGR suspected
- DV, MCA and other vessels Dopplers have some prognostic value for FGR fetuses, but currently lack of RCT showing benefit and they should be reserved for research protocols

# Cardiac Function & FGR

OBSTETRICS

**Cardiac dysfunction is associated with altered sarcomere ultrastructure in intrauterine growth restriction**

Jesus Igor Iruetagoiena, MD; Anna Gonzalez-Tendero, MSc; Patricia Garcia-Canadilla, MSc; Ivan Amat-Roldan, PhD; Itatxe Torre, PhD; Alfonso Nadal, MD; Fatima Crispi, MD; Eduard Gratacos, MD

Am J Obstet Gynecol 2014;210:550.e1-7

Cardiac function in early onset small for gestational age and growth restricted fetuses

Wassim A. Hassan<sup>a</sup>, Jeremy Brockelsby<sup>a</sup>, Medhat Alberry<sup>a</sup>, Tiziana Fanelli<sup>a</sup>, Yuriy Wladimiroff<sup>a</sup>, Christoph C. Lees<sup>a,b,c,d,e</sup>

Importantly, the myocardial performance index is raised in small for gestational age fetuses before the arterial and venous Doppler abnormalities that characterize hypoxia are evident.

SGA: AC < 5<sup>th</sup>%  
IUGR: AC < 5<sup>th</sup>% + Abnormal UA Doppler

European Journal of Obstet & Gynecol and Reproductive Biology 171 (2013) 262

# Neonatal Outcome in FGR?

**Perinatal morbidity and mortality in early-onset fetal growth restriction: cohort outcomes of the trial of randomized umbilical and fetal flow in Europe (TRUFFLE)**

- Fetal outcome was better than expected
- Perinatal death was uncommon (8%)
- 70% survived without severe neonatal morbidity.

Ultrasound Obstet Gynecol 2013; 42: 400–408

**Perinatal morbidity and mortality in early-onset fetal growth restriction: cohort outcomes of the trial of randomized umbilical and fetal flow in Europe (TRUFFLE)**

**Poor Prognostic Factors:**

- \_ Presence and severity of maternal hypertensive conditions
- \_ Gestational age at diagnosis
- \_ Gestational age at delivery

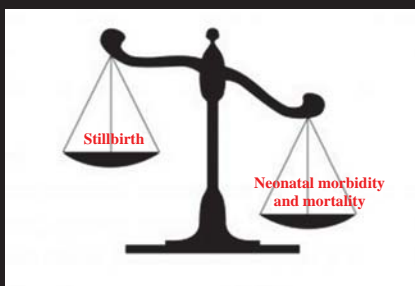
Ultrasound Obstet Gynecol 2013; 42: 400-408

**PORTO vs. ULTRA TOT**

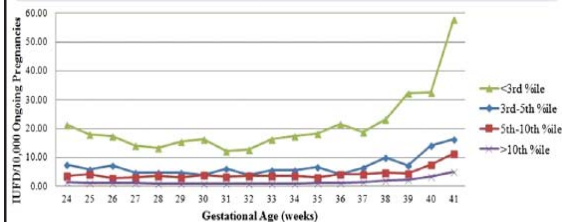
	PORTO	ULTRA TOT
Hypertensive diseases/ preeclampsia	12% (134)	28% (232)
GA at enrollment	30.1±3.9	31.3±5.7
GA at delivery	37.8 ± 3.0	35.7±3.6
Birth weight (grams)	2495 ± 671	2039 ± 675
NICU admission	28% (321)	24% (196)
Apgar<7 at 5 min.	1% (13)	7.4% (62)
Stillbirth	4 (1:280)	N/A
Neonatal death	4 (1:280)	19 (1:44)

Unterscheider et al 2013 – EVMS 2015

**Timing of Delivery?**



**FIGURE Risk of IUFD by gestational age**

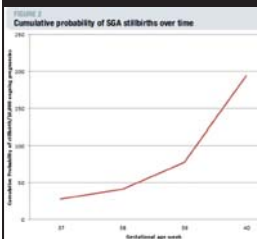


IUFD, intrauterine fetal death. *Placenta. The risk of intrauterine fetal death in the SGA fetus. Am J Obstet Gynecol 2012.*

Pilliod R, AJOG, 2012

**Risk of stillbirth after 37 weeks in pregnancies complicated by small-for-gestational-age fetuses**

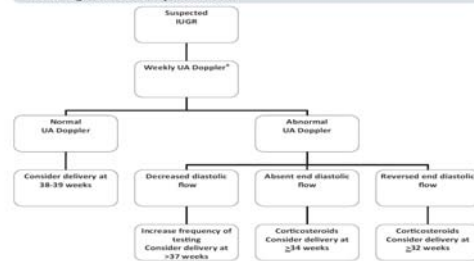
Amanda S. Trudell, DO; Alison G. Cahill, MD, MSCI; Methodios G. Tsoulis, MD, MPH; George A. Macones, MD, MSCI; Anthony O. Odibo, MD, MSCI



- Cumulative risk of stillbirth increases for each week after 37 weeks
- The increased risk becomes significant at 39 weeks for FGR < 10%
- FGR <5% there is a significant over 2-fold risk of stillbirth at 38 weeks compared to 37 weeks

**Delivery Timing with Abnormal Dopplers**

**FIGURE 5 Algorithm for clinical use of Doppler ultrasound in management of suspected IUGR**



IUGR, intrauterine growth restriction; UA, uterine artery. \*In conjunction with antenatal testing. *SMFM. Doppler assessment of fetus with IUGR. Am J Obstet Gynecol 2012.*

## Induction of Labor vs. Expectant Management in FGR?



- The Disproportionate Intrauterine Growth Intervention Trial at Term
- Randomized trial (650 women randomized to IOL or expectant management)
- 36+0 weeks to 41+0 weeks
  - Singleton, cephalic, suspected IUGR
  - Included normal and abnormal Dopplers

## DIGITAT Trial

- No significant differences
  - Primary composite adverse neonatal outcome
  - Rate of operative delivery or cesarean
  - MAIN scores
- No fetal or neonatal deaths in either group
- No difference in developmental or behavioral outcomes at 2-year follow up
- IOL before 38 weeks associated with > NICU admit
- Either strategy acceptable

Boers KE, AJOG, 2012  
Van Wyk L, AJOG, 2012

## Summary: Delivery Timing

Uncomplicated FGR (nl UA Dopplers)

1. EFW 5 -10% - delivery at 39 weeks
2. EFW < 5% - delivery at 37 weeks

Complicated FGR (abnormal UA Dopplers)

1. Elevated UA Dopplers (DEDF) - 37 weeks
2. AEDF: corticosteroids → delivery if  $\geq$  34 weeks
3. REDF: corticosteroids → delivery if  $\geq$  32 weeks

## FGR – Mode of Delivery

- No RCTs for MOD for FGR
- Several small observational studies
  - Demonstrate that FGR is a risk factor for cesarean
- No evidence to suggest VD (or IOL) is contra-indicated for FGR
- Even with abnormal UA Dopplers, a reasonable chance for VD

Horowitz, KM et al. J MFNM 2014  
Li, H et al. Acta Obstet Gynecol Scand 2003  
Chavakula, PR et al. Int J Gynecol Obstet 2015  
Maslovitz, S et al. Arch Gyn Obstet 2009  
Ben-Haroush, A et al. Acta Obstet Gynecol Scand 2004  
Visentin, S et al. J U Med 2014

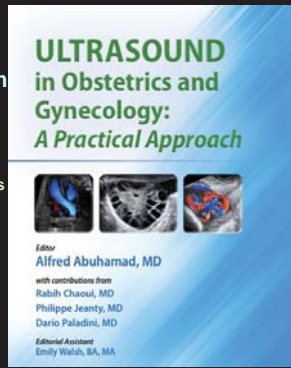
## Conclusion

- FGR is poorly detected & Incorrectly diagnosed
- FGR is associated with increased neonatal morbidity & mortality
- Abnormal arterial Doppler substantially increases adverse outcomes in FGR
- Abnormal cardiac function is seen before conventional Doppler abnormalities in FGR
- Presence of hypertensive conditions increases adverse outcomes in FGR

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# **CASE PRESENTATIONS OF GENETIC SYNDROMES**

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**Elena Sinkovskaya, M.D., Ph.D.**

Assistant Professor

Director of Research

Division of Maternal-Fetal Medicine

Department of Obstetrics & Gynecology

Eastern Virginia Medical School

Norfolk, VA













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# **ULTRASOUND IN THE EVALUATION OF ABNORMAL UTERINE BLEEDING**

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**James M. Shwayder, M.D., J.D.**

Professor and Chair

Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology

University of Mississippi Medical Center

Jackson, MS



## Ultrasound in the Evaluation of Abnormal Uterine Bleeding

**James M. Shwayder, M.D., J.D.**  
 Professor and Chair  
 Obstetrics and Gynecology  
 University of Mississippi School of Medicine  
 Jackson, Mississippi

## Ultrasound in the Evaluation of Abnormal Uterine Bleeding

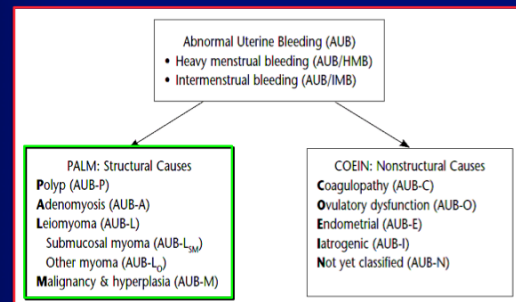
**James M. Shwayder, M.D., J.D.**

Disclosures: None

## Learning Objectives

- Understand the relative value of different methods of evaluating the endometrium in patients with abnormal uterine bleeding
- Be able to better predict the presence of significant pathology in different age groups
- Be able to describe the unique capabilities of ultrasound
- Take home pearls in the evaluation of AUB with ultrasound

## PALM-COEIN



ACOG Practice Bulletin. Diagnosis of Abnormal Uterine Bleeding in Reproductive-Aged Women. Number 128, July 2012

## Endometrial Evaluation Histologic Evaluation

- **Options**
  - Endometrial biopsy
  - Dilatation and curettage
- **Diagnosis best made by tissue biopsy**
  - Hormonal dysregulation
  - Endometritis
  - Endometrial hyperplasia
  - Diffuse malignancy

## Endometrial Evaluation Visual Evaluation

- **Options**
  - Hysteroscopy
  - Transvaginal sonography (TVS)
  - Saline-infusion sonohysterography (SIS)
  - 3D Ultrasound/SIS
- **Diagnosis best made by visualizing the endometrial cavity for focal anatomic causes**
  - Polyps
  - Submucous myomas
  - Focal malignancy

Does age affect the likelihood that the cause of AUB is amenable to a sonographic diagnosis?

### Age-Based Findings at Hysteroscopy

Age Group (#)		Normal		Abnormal	
		%	#	%	#
≤ 29	14	64%	9	36%	5
30–39	58	45%	36	55%	22
40–49	105	42%	44	58%	61
50–59	43	28%	12	76%	31
> 60	18	33%	6	67%	12
<b>Total</b>	<b>238</b>	<b>45%</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>55%</b>	<b>131</b>

Indman PD, J Reprod Med 1995; 40: 545-548

### Age-Based Findings at SIS (filling defects)

Age	(#)	Normal		Abnormal	
		%	#	%	#
≤ 29	38	68.4%	26	31.6%	12
30–39	80	62.5%	50	37.5%	30
40–49	152	68.4%	104	31.6%	48
50–59	43	60.4%	26	39.6%	17
> 60	28	60.7%	17	39.3%	11
<b>Total</b>	<b>341</b>	<b>65.4%</b>	<b>223</b>	<b>34.6%</b>	<b>118</b>

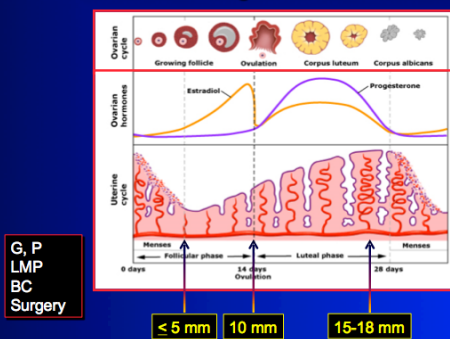
Brown and Shwayder, AIUM Annual Meeting 2007

### Age-Based Findings at Surgery (filling defects)

Age	(#)	Normal		Abnormal	
		%	#	%	#
≤ 29	38	73.7%	28	26.3%	10
30–39	80	67.5%	54	32.5%	26
40–49	152	70.4%	107	29.6%	45
50–59	43	67.4%	29	32.6%	14
> 60	28	64.3%	18	35.7%	10
<b>Total</b>	<b>341</b>	<b>69.2%</b>	<b>236</b>	<b>30.8%</b>	<b>105</b>

Brown and Shwayder, AIUM Annual Meeting 2007

### Timing of Studies



### 13 y.o. GO with AUB

- Began menses age 11
- Heavy bleeding x 10 months
- hCG = negative



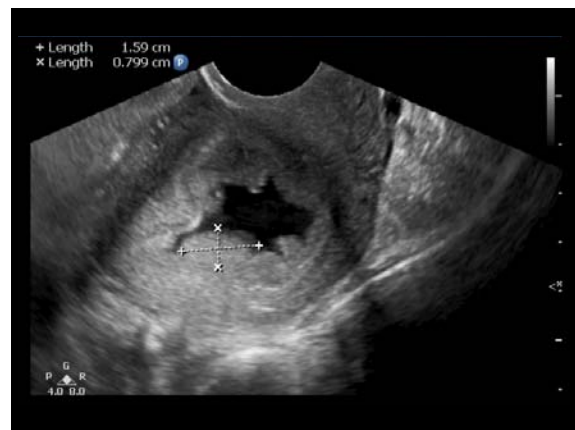
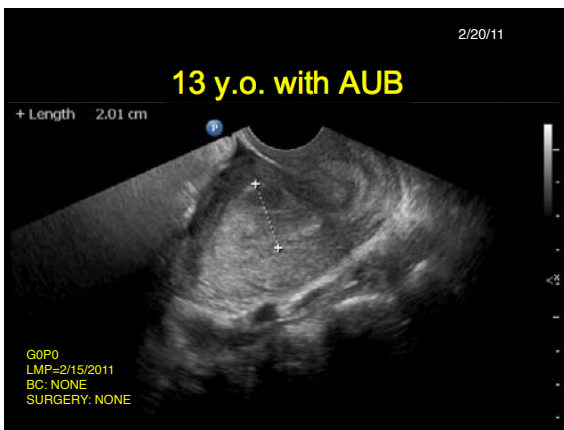
## Adolescent Females

- “Immature” pituitary-hypothalamic axis
  - First 2 - 3 years following menarche
- Coagulation Disorders
  - 19% of adolescent patients with AUB
    - 25% if initial Hb < 10 gm/dL
    - 50% if hospitalization required

Claessens and Cowell, Am J Obstet Gynecol 1981; 139: 277-280

## 13 y.o. GO with AUB

- Coagulation evaluation: WNL
- Minimal response to oral contraceptives
- hCG = negative
- Referred for ultrasound

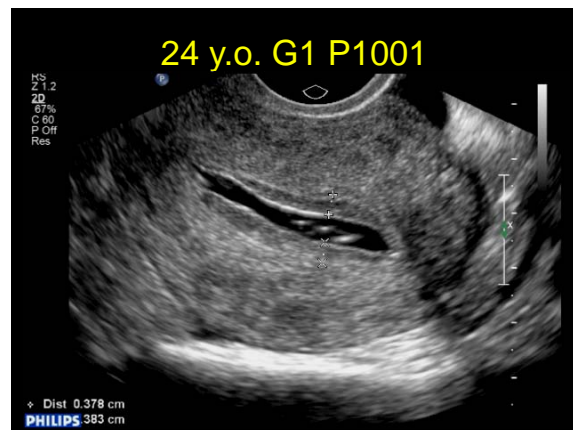
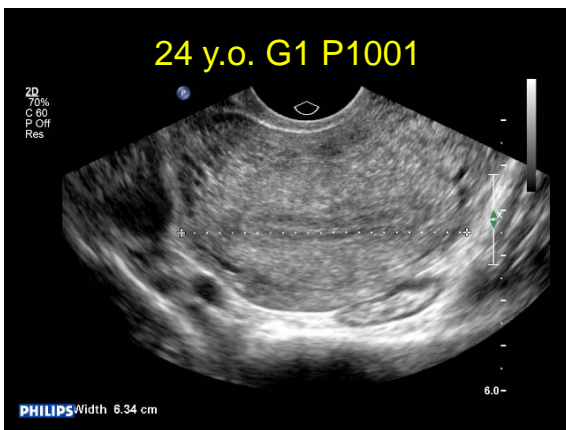
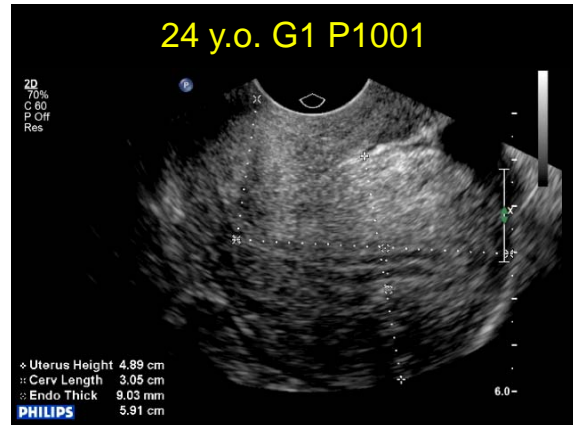


## Advantage

- Preop diagnosis
- Preparation for surgery
  - Appropriate equipment
  - Preop medications

### 24 y.o. G1 P1001

- Presents with irregular, heavy bleeding for 8 months
- Delivered 1 year previously
- Breast fed x 2 months
- On oral contraceptives before pregnancy
- hCG: negative



### 24 y.o. G1 P1001

#### Additional history

- Finds bruises on her thighs frequently
- Has bloody noses ~ 2 x a month
- Her mother had a hysterectomy for heavy bleeding

### Pathogenesis of AUB

#### Coagulopathies – Who to Evaluate?

#### History of 2 or more of the following:

- Bruising of > 5 cm 1-2 times/month
- Epistaxis 1-2 times per month
- Frequent gum bleeding with flossing or brushing teeth
- Family history of bleeding symptoms

Kouides et al. Fertil Steril 2005; 84: 1345-51.

The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists  
WOMEN'S HEALTH CARE PHYSICIANS

## COMMITTEE OPINION

Number 500 • December 2013 (Replaces No. 451, December 2009)

### Von Willebrand Disease in Women

- Heavy menstrual bleeding since menarche
- One of the following conditions:
  - Postpartum hemorrhage
  - Surgery-related bleeding
  - Bleeding associated with dental work
- Two or more of the following conditions:
  - Epistaxis, 1 to 2 times per month
  - Frequent gum bleeding
  - Family history of bleeding symptoms

## Age and Menorrhagia

- 115 women with menorrhagia
- Age 35.4 ± 11.9 years (13-53)
- Age
 

	#	%
• < 19	25	21.8%
• 20-44	65	56.5%
• > 45	25	21.7%

Philipp et al. Obstet Gynecol 2005;105:61-66.

## Age and Menorrhagia

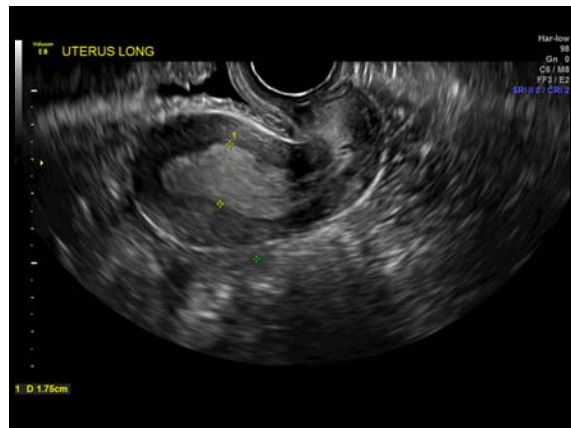
Abnormality	Total	≤ 19	20-44	≥ 45	p
Platelet aggregation	44	44	48	32	.48
Von Willebrand's factor	7	4	8	8	.78
Coagulation factor	5	8	6	0	.34
Any abnormality	47	48	52	32	.32

Values are percentages

Philipp et al. Obstet Gynecol 2005;105:61-66.

## 28 y.o. - Menometrorrhagia

- LMP = 9/01/15 (Study on 9/08/15)
- BC: Pills
- Surgery: None
- BMI = 69





## Pathology

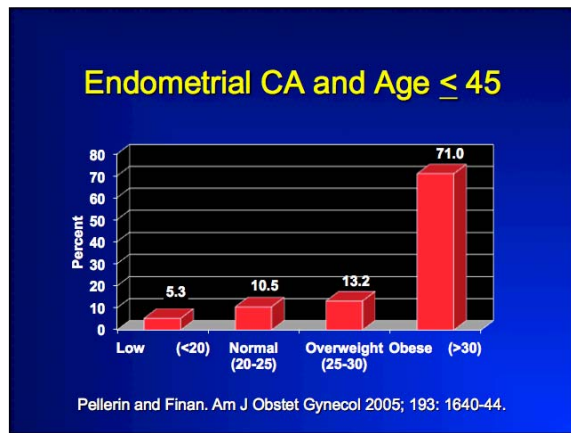
**ENDOMETRIUM, BIOPSY:**

- Simple glandular hyperplasia without cytologic atypia.

## PCO and Endometrial Cancer

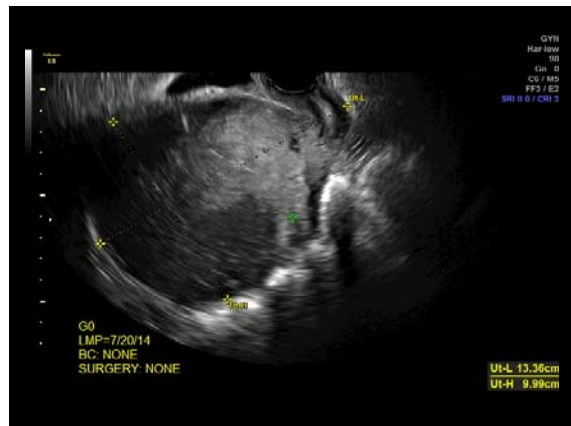
- Chronic anovulation
  - RR = 3.1 (1.1 – 7.3)<sup>1</sup>
- Obesity
  - RR = 2.6 to 3.0<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Coulam et al. Obstet Gynecol 1983; 61: 403-407.  
<sup>2</sup>Hardiman et al. Lancet 2003; 361: 1810-1812.

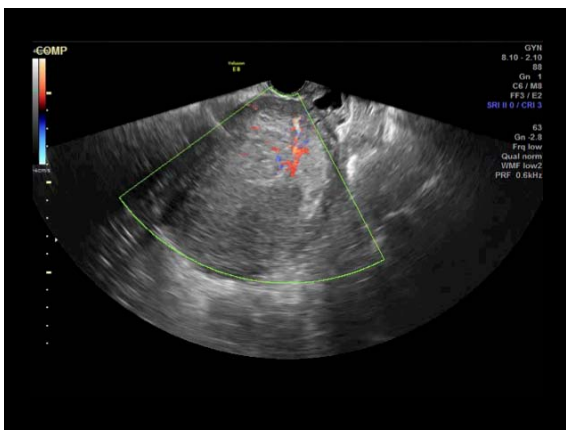
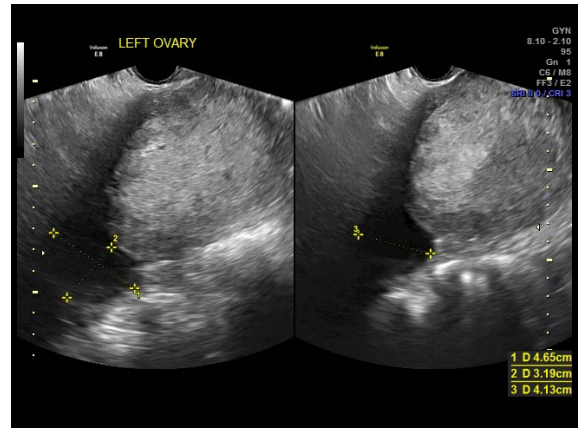
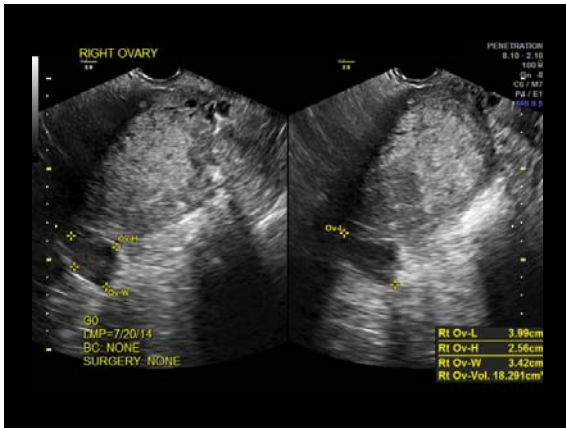


## 24 y.o. with Oligomenorrhea/ Menorrhagia

- G0
- Long-standing oligomenorrhea, now with menorrhagia
- BMI 73.2 kg/m<sup>2</sup>







## Endometrial Biopsy

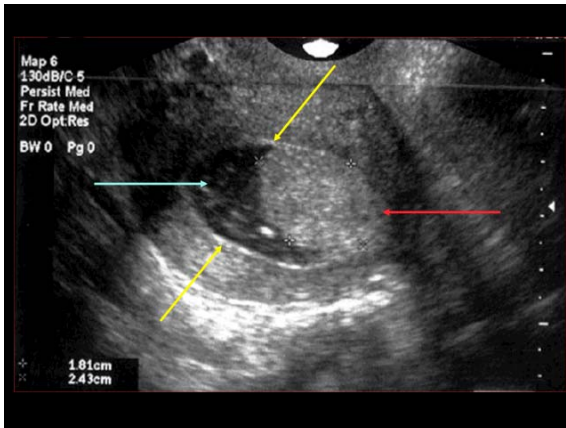
- Well-differentiated adenocarcinoma of the endometrium

## Endometrial Evaluation Histologic Evaluation

- **Options**
  - Endometrial biopsy
  - Dilatation and curettage
- **Diagnosis best made by tissue biopsy**
  - Hormonal dysregulation
  - Endometritis
  - Endometrial hyperplasia
  - Diffuse malignancy

## Postmenopausal Bleeding

- 58 yo G1P1001 with persistent postmenopausal bleeding
- Endometrial biopsy x 3
  - Tissue insufficient for diagnosis



Endometrial Carcinoma

**Pipelle endometrial sampling. Sensitivity in the detection of endometrial cancer.**

Author	Year	#	Sens	Journal
Zorlu	1994	26	95%	Gyn Ob Invest
Stovall	1991	40	97.5%	Obstet Gyn
Guido	1995	65	83%	J Reprod Med
Van den Bosch	1995	140	44.6%	Obstet Gyn

Evidence: II-1

**Pipelle endometrial sampling. Sensitivity in the detection of endometrial cancer.**

**65 Patients with known endometrial cancer**

- Endometrial biopsy prior to hysterectomy
- Adequate for analysis 63 of 65 97%
- Malignancy detected 54 of 65 83%
  - Missed: 5 on polyp
    - 3 disease < 5% of surface area
    - All < 50% of the surface

Guido et al. J Reprod Med 1995;40:553-555.

**A comparison of Pipelle device and the Vabra aspirator**

**25 Patients scheduled for hysterectomy**

- Percent surface area sampled
- Pipelle 4.2% ± 0.92%
- Vabra Aspirator 41.6% ± 5.7% (p<0.0001)
- Mean number of quadrants sampled (4 ant/4 post)
- Pipelle 2.4 ± 0.41
- Vabra aspirator 7.4 ± 0.42 (p < 0.0001)

Rodriguez, Yaqub, and King. Am J Obstet Gynecol 1993;168: 55-59.



Vabra Aspirator

Novak Curette

PIPELLE DE CORNIER®

## A comparison of Pipelle device and the Vabra aspirator

### 25 Patients scheduled for hysterectomy

Percent surface area sampled		
Pipelle	4.2% ± 0.92%	
Vabra Aspirator	41.6% ± 5.7%	(p<0.0001)
Mean number of quadrants sampled (4 ant/4 post)		
Pipelle	2.4 ± 0.41	
Vabra aspirator	7.4 ± 0.42	(p < 0.0001)

Rodriguez, Yaqub, and King. Am J Obstet Gynecol 1993;168: 55-59.

## How should we investigate women with postmenopausal bleeding?

### 76 Postmenopausal women

- Pipelle in outpatient clinic
- TVS prior to outpatient hysteroscopy/D&C
  - Abnormal: Endometrial thickness > 5 mm
- Hysteroscopy and Curettage

Gupta et al, Acta Obstet Gynecol Scand 1996;75:475-479.

Type II-1

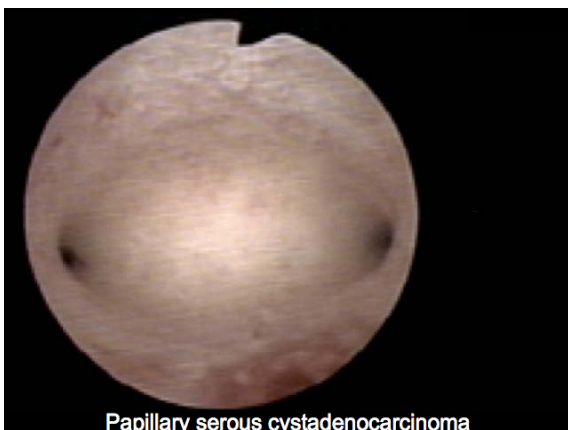
## How should we investigate women with postmenopausal bleeding?

- Pipelle
  - Successful: 70%
  - Sensitivity: 70%
- TVS
  - Sensitivity: 83%
  - Specificity: 77%
  - Positive predictive value: 54%
  - Detected 5 ovarian tumors
    - (3 missed on pelvic exam, 2 malignant)

Gupta et al, Acta Obstet Gynecol Scand 1996;75:475-479.

## Postmenopausal Bleeding

- 61 yo G3P1021 with postmenopausal bleeding
- Spotting x 2 months



Papillary serous cystadenocarcinoma

## Postmenopausal Bleeding

- 63 yo G2P1011 with postmenopausal bleeding
  - For 3 days
  - 3 weeks ago





**ACOG COMMITTEE OPINION**  
 Number 440 • August 2009

**The Role of Transvaginal Ultrasonography in the Evaluation of Postmenopausal Bleeding**

- Endometrial thickness < 5 mm
  - 82% could have a biopsy performed
  - 27% had adequate tissue
  - 73% had TIFD

ACOG Committee Opinion, Number 440, August 2009

**ACOG COMMITTEE OPINION**  
 Number 440 • August 2009

**The Role of Transvaginal Ultrasonography in the Evaluation of Postmenopausal Bleeding**

- Initial evaluation may be with either EMB or TVS
- Endometrial thickness > 4 mm should trigger further evaluation
  - EMB
  - Sonohysterography
  - Hysteroscopy
- EMB with TIFD requires additional evaluation

**Endometrial Thickness and Postmenopausal Bleeding**

Reference	ET (mm)	#	# CA	NPV (%)
Karlsson 1995	≤ 4	1168	0	100

**Risk of Cancer = 1/917**

Epstein 2001	≤ 5	97	0	100
Gull 2003	≤ 4	394	0	100

**Postmenopausal Bleeding**

- Endometrium = 3.9 mm
- Option A
  - No further bleeding
- Option B
  - Repeat episode of bleeding 8 months later

**Can Ultrasound Replace D&C?**

- 394 postmenopausal women referred for PMB (1987-1990)
- Menopausal if > 1 year w/o bleeding
- Ultrasound and D&C
- 10 year follow-up (n = 339)

Gull et al. Am J Obstet Gynecol 2003; 188: 401-08. Göteborg, Sweden



### Recurrent PMB - None

Endometrial Thickness	#	CA
≤ 4 mm	134	0
5-7 mm	31	0
≥ 8 mm	22	0
Unmeasurable	4	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>191</b>	<b>0</b>

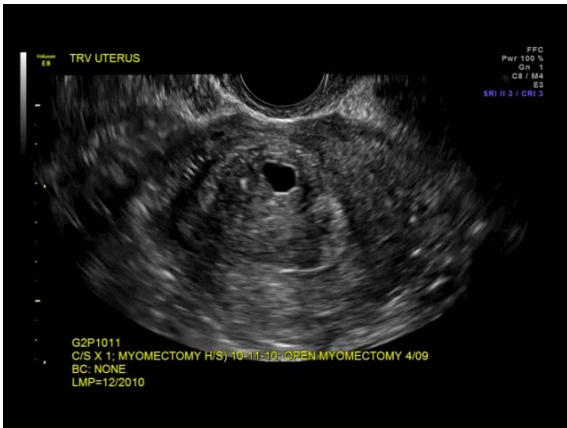
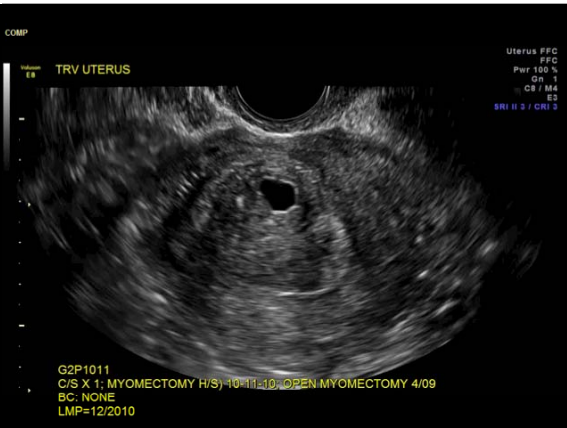
Gull et al. Am J Obstet Gynecol 2003; 188: 401-08.  
Göteborg, Sweden

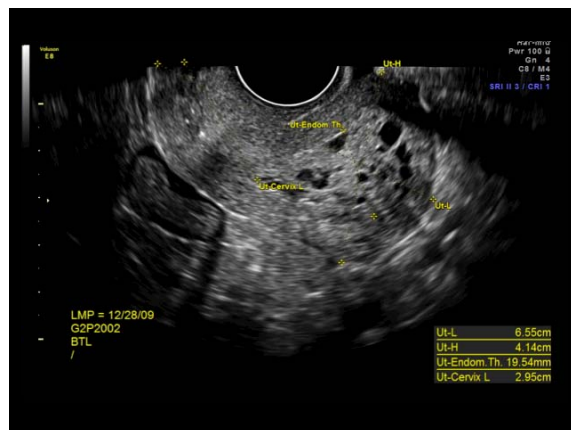
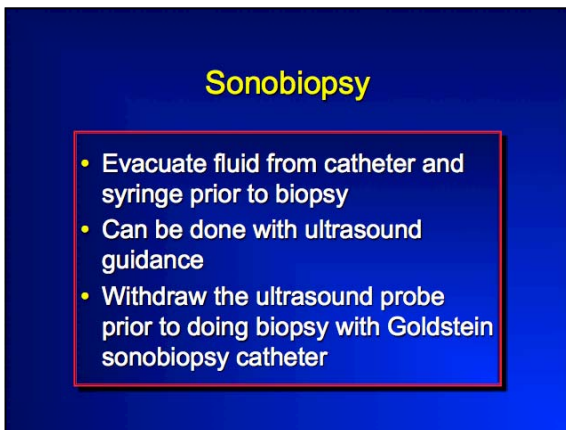
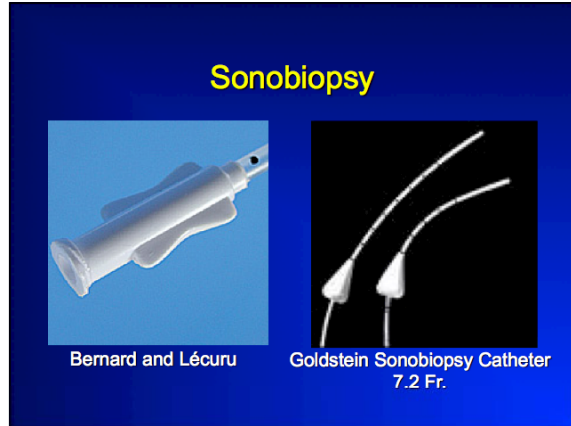
### Recurrent PMB - Yes

Endometrial Thickness	#	CA	Hyper	CA or Hyperp
≤ 4 mm	28	0	2 7.1%	2 7.1%
5-7 mm	9	3 33.3%	1 11.1%	4 44.4%
≥ 8 mm	28	4 14.3%	5 17.9%	9 32.1%
Unmeasurable	1	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>7 10.6%</b>	<b>8 12.1%</b>	<b>15 22.7%</b>

## Sonohysterography

- ### 38 y.o. G2P1011
- c/o of irregular and heavy bleeding
  - Myomectomy 2009
  - Hysteroscopic myomectomy 10/11/10
  - C-section x 1





## Endometrial Aspiration at SIS Age > 50

- 603 patients
- Indication
  - PMB 73.8%
  - Thickened endometrium 15.3%
  - Suspected polyp 9.3%
  - Abnormal Pap 1.7%

Rotenberg et al. Obstet Gynecol 2015;125(2):414-23.

## Endometrial Aspiration at SIS

- **Simultaneous**
  - Endometrial aspiration in all cases
- **Sequential**
  - Endometrial aspiration only if SIS is abnormal
    - Polyps
    - Focal lesion
    - Thickened endometrium

Rotenberg et al. Obstet Gynecol 2015;125(2):414-23.

## Endometrial Aspiration at SIS

- |  |       |
|--|-------|
| <b>If proliferative endometrium = Normal</b>   |       |
| • Screen positive = surgery                    | 4.5%  |
| • Missed hyperplasia or cancer                 | 13.3% |
| <b>If proliferative endometrium = Abnormal</b> |       |
| • Screen positive = surgery                    | 13%   |
| • No missed hyperplasia or cancer              |       |

Rotenberg et al. Obstet Gynecol 2015;125(2):414-23.

## Conclusions

- Ultrasound is a reasonable first step in evaluation in patients with AUB
- ~ 1/3 will have an endometrial polyp or submucous myoma regardless of age

## Conclusions

- Consider coagulopathies in patients based on historical information
- Consider endometrial biopsy as first-line evaluation in obese patients with long-standing oligo/amenorrhea

## Conclusions: Endometrial Thickness $\leq 4$

- TVS endometrial thickness  $\leq 4$  mm is a reasonable threshold to avoid initial endometrial biopsy or SIS
- Recurrent abnormal vaginal bleeding requires further evaluation

**Conclusions:  
Proliferative Endometrium**

- Postmenopausal bleeding
- Proliferative endometrium on EMB may be abnormal
- May warrant further evaluation

**Thank You**

James Shwayder, MD, JD

**Professor and Chair  
Obstetrics and Gynecology  
University of Mississippi  
Jackson, Mississippi**



Wisner Hospital for Women and Infants





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# **ADNEXAL MASSES: WHAT'S BENIGN AND WHAT'S MALIGNANT?**

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**Alfred Abuhamad, M.D.**  
Professor and Chairman  
Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology  
Vice Dean for Clinical Affairs  
Eastern Virginia Medical School  
Norfolk, VA

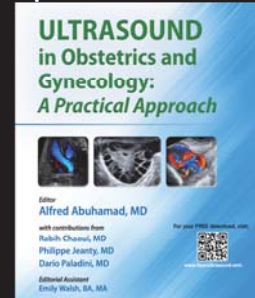




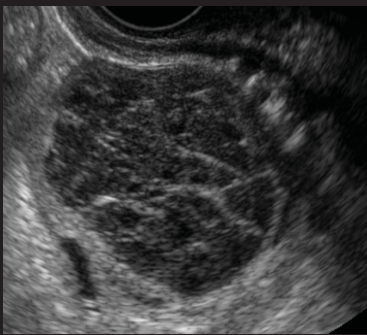
# Adnexal Masses: What's benign & What's Malignant?

Alfred Abuhamad, MD  
Eastern Virginia Medical School

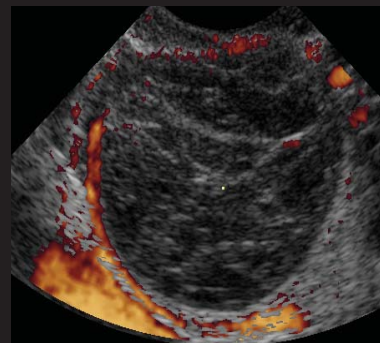
[www.openultrasound.com](http://www.openultrasound.com)



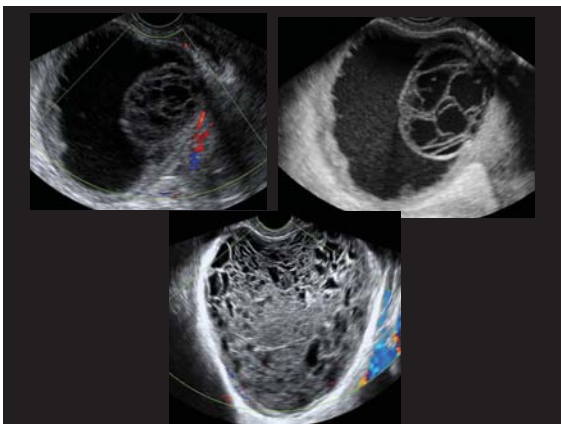
Free download – open access



25 year old, referred with left pelvic pain, US of left adnexa

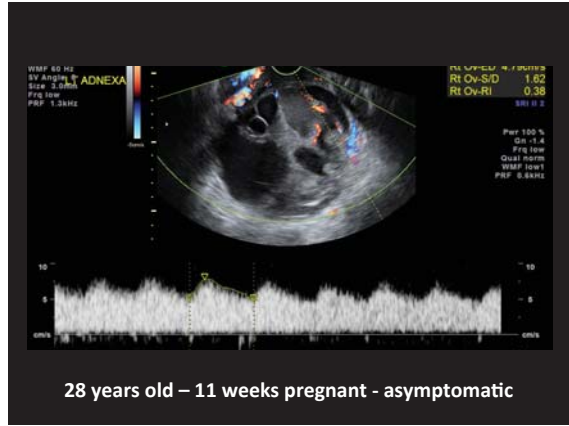


25 year old, referred with left pelvic pain, US of left adnexa

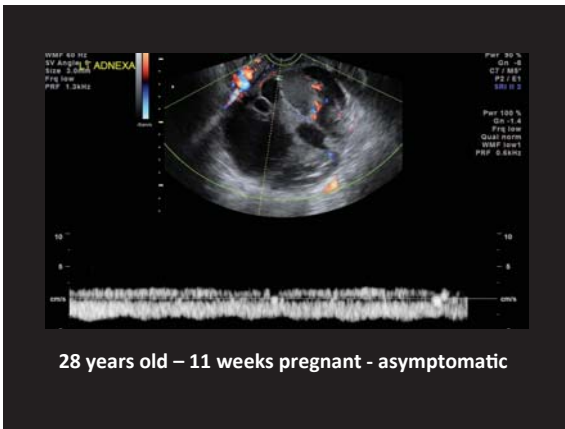




28 years old – 11 weeks pregnant - asymptomatic



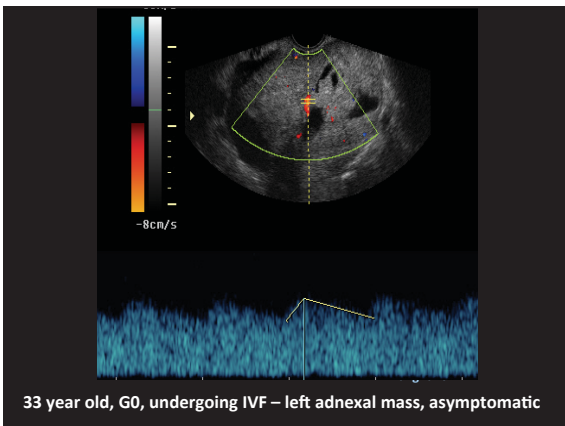
28 years old – 11 weeks pregnant - asymptomatic



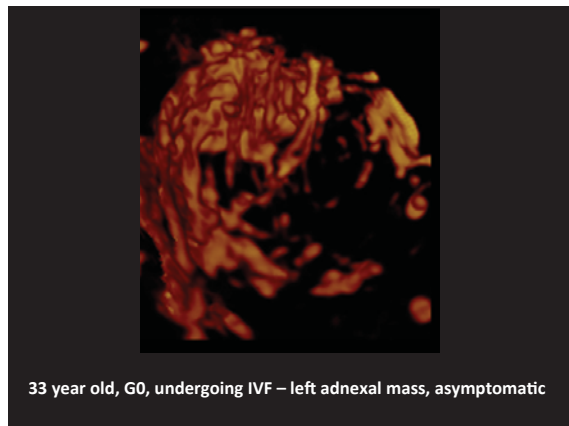
28 years old – 11 weeks pregnant - asymptomatic



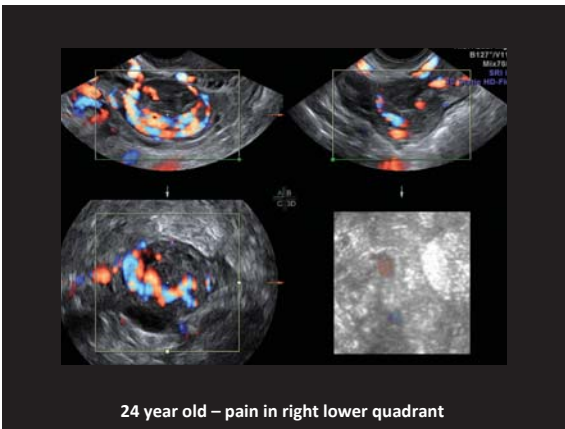
33 year old, G0, undergoing IVF – left adnexal mass, asymptomatic

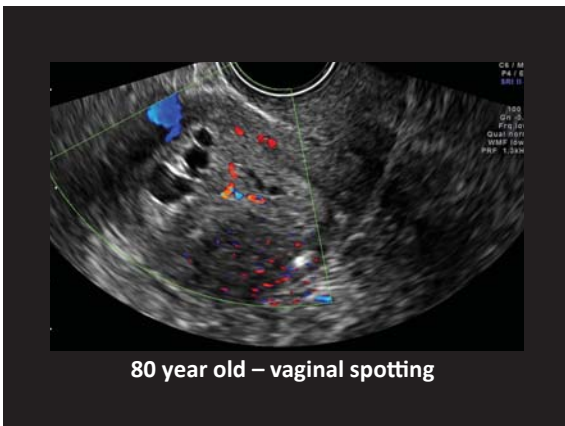
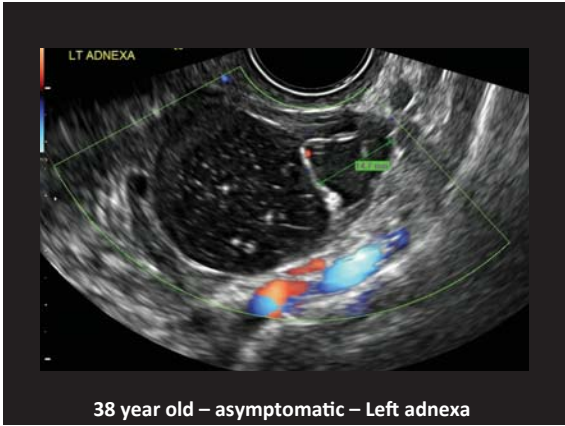


33 year old, G0, undergoing IVF – left adnexal mass, asymptomatic

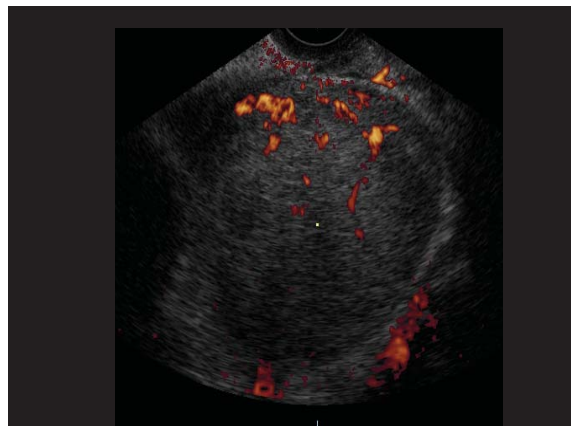
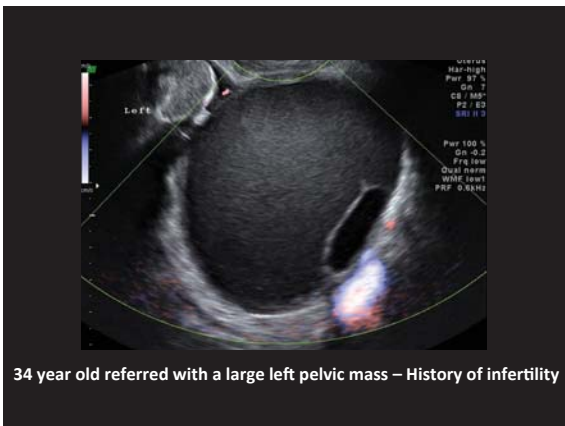
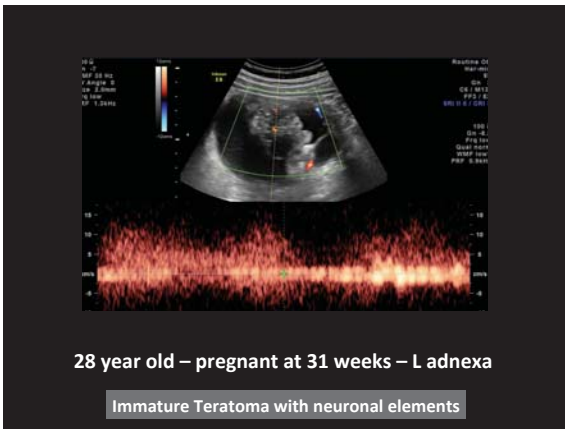


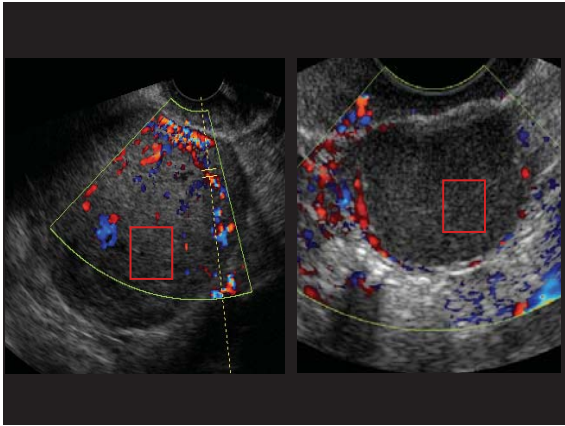
33 year old, G0, undergoing IVF – left adnexal mass, asymptomatic











53 year old referred for pelvic pain, S/P TAH, LSO



53 year old referred for pelvic pain, S/P TAH, LSO



53 year old referred for pelvic pain, S/P TAH, LSO



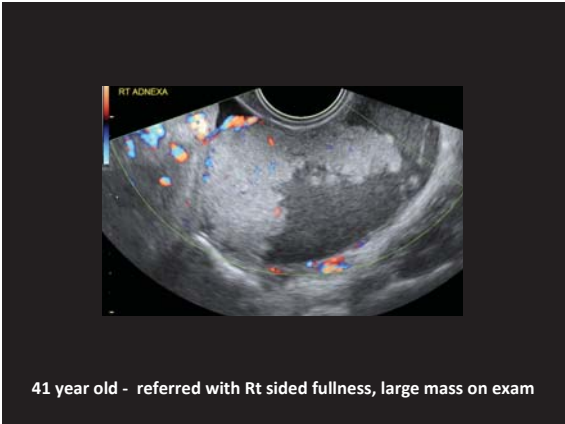
53 year old referred for pelvic pain, S/P TAH, LSO



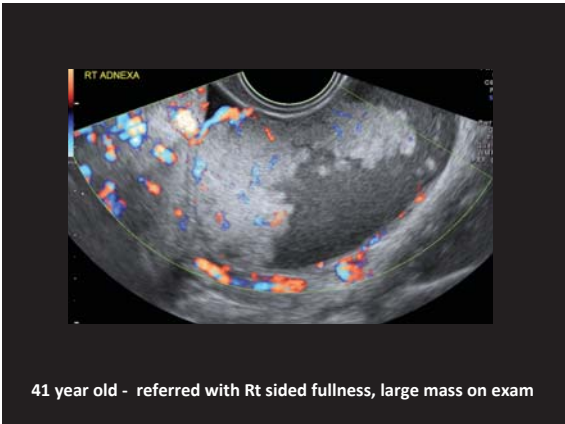
31 year old – 12 weeks pregnant



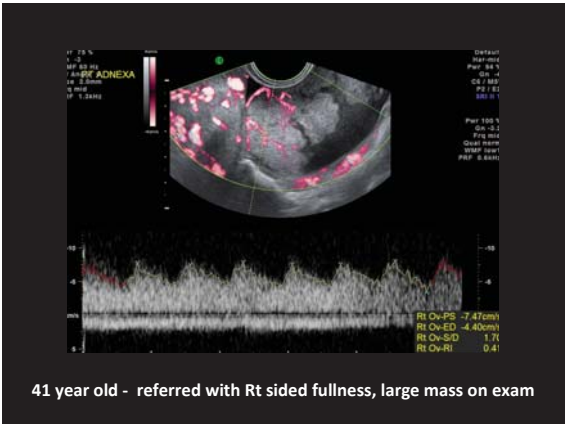
31 year old – 12 weeks pregnant



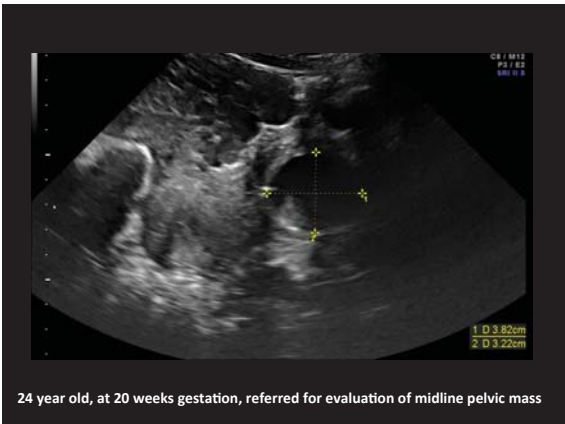
41 year old - referred with Rt sided fullness, large mass on exam



41 year old - referred with Rt sided fullness, large mass on exam



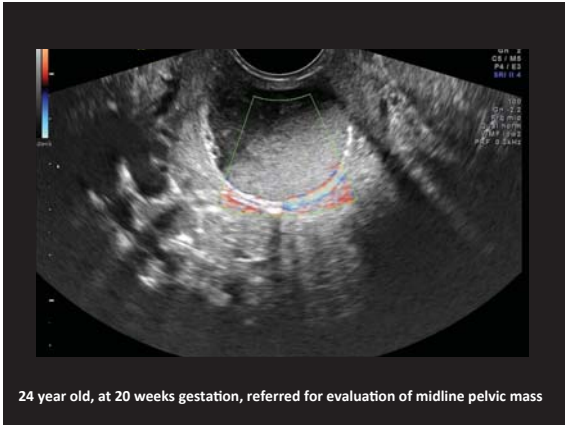
41 year old - referred with Rt sided fullness, large mass on exam



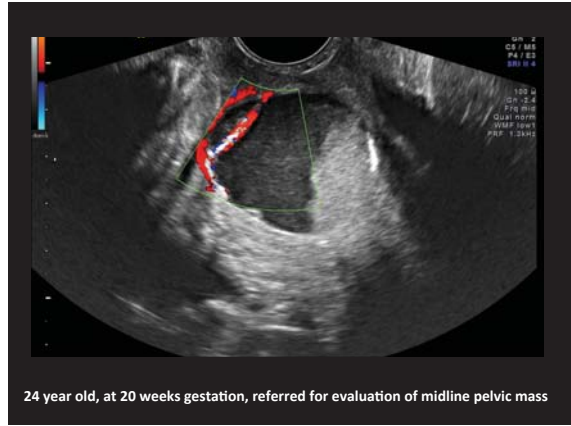
24 year old, at 20 weeks gestation, referred for evaluation of midline pelvic mass



24 year old, at 20 weeks gestation, referred for evaluation of midline pelvic mass



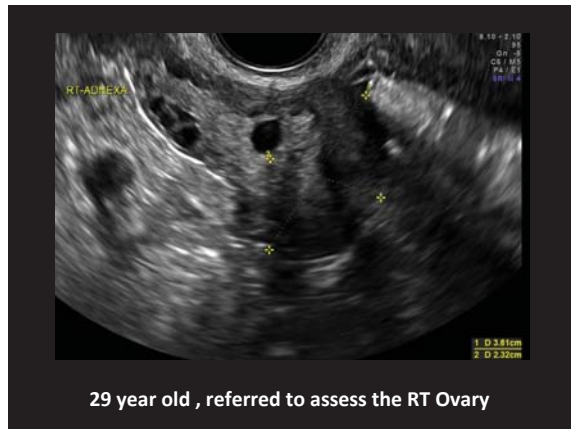
24 year old, at 20 weeks gestation, referred for evaluation of midline pelvic mass



24 year old, at 20 weeks gestation, referred for evaluation of midline pelvic mass



24 year old, at 20 weeks gestation, referred for evaluation of midline pelvic mass



29 year old, referred to assess the RT Ovary



29 year old, referred to assess the RT Ovary



29 year old, referred to assess the RT Ovary

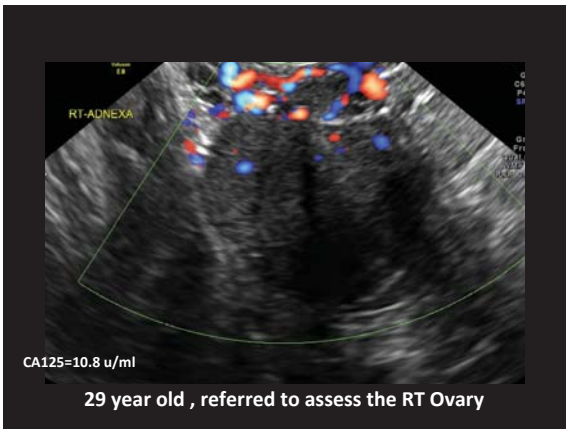




29 year old , referred to assess the RT Ovary



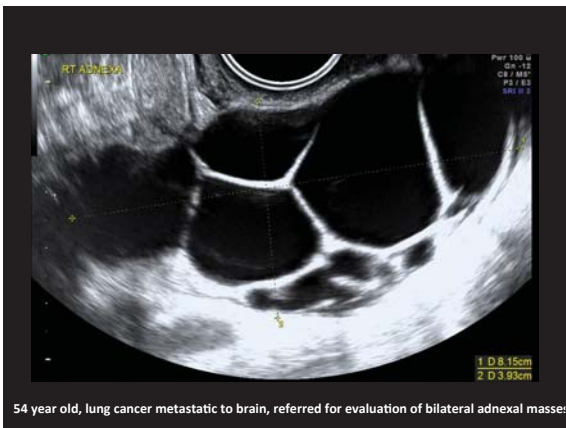
29 year old , referred to assess the RT Ovary



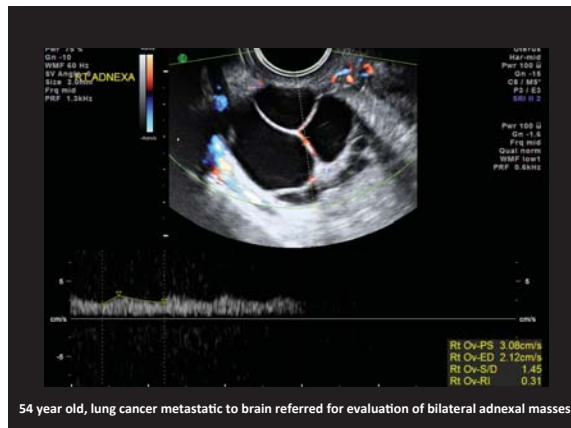
29 year old , referred to assess the RT Ovary



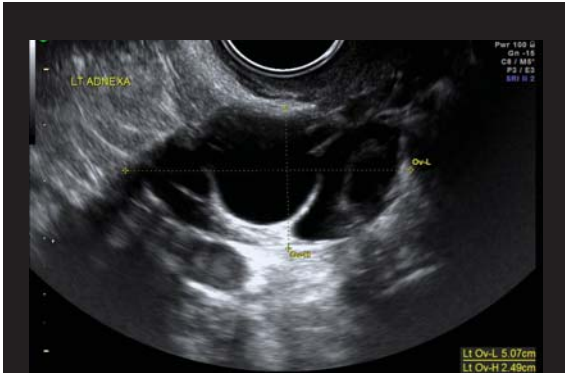
29 year old , referred to assess the RT Ovary



54 year old, lung cancer metastatic to brain, referred for evaluation of bilateral adnexal masses



54 year old, lung cancer metastatic to brain referred for evaluation of bilateral adnexal masses



54 year old, lung cancer metastatic to brain, referred for evaluation of bilateral adnexal masses



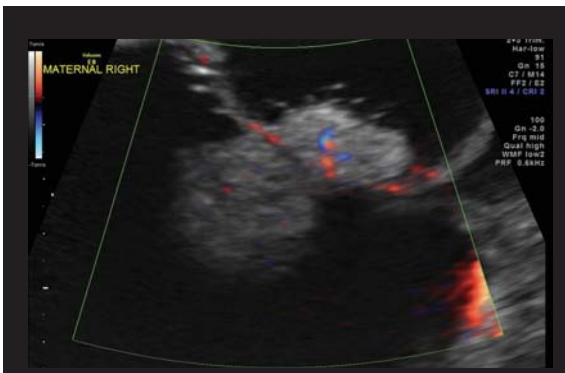
54 year old, lung cancer metastatic to brain, referred for evaluation of bilateral adnexal masses



34 year old, G4, P3 at 21 weeks gestation, Right adnexal mass



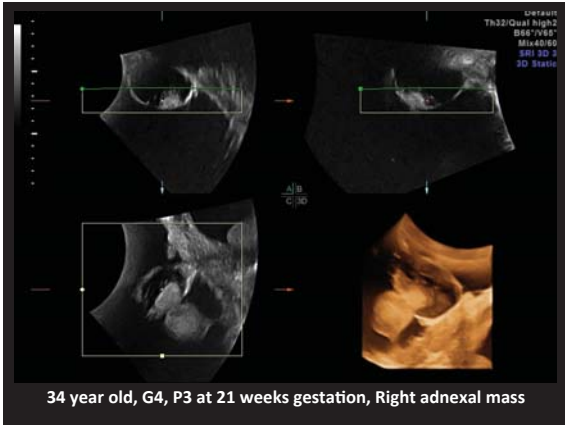
34 year old, G4, P3 at 21 weeks gestation, Right adnexal mass



34 year old, G4, P3 at 21 weeks gestation, Right adnexal mass



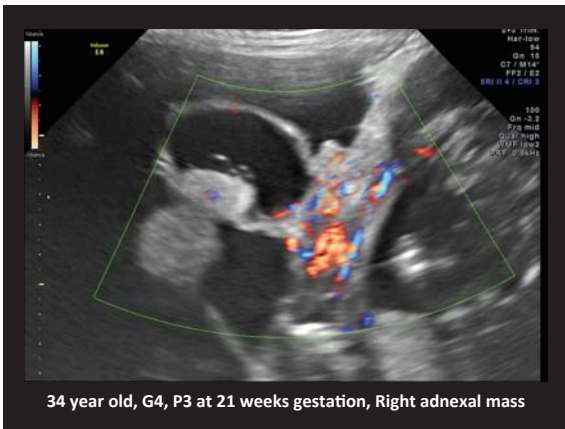
34 year old, G4, P3 at 21 weeks gestation, Right adnexal mass



34 year old, G4, P3 at 21 weeks gestation, Right adnexal mass



34 year old, G4, P3 at 21 weeks gestation, Right adnexal mass



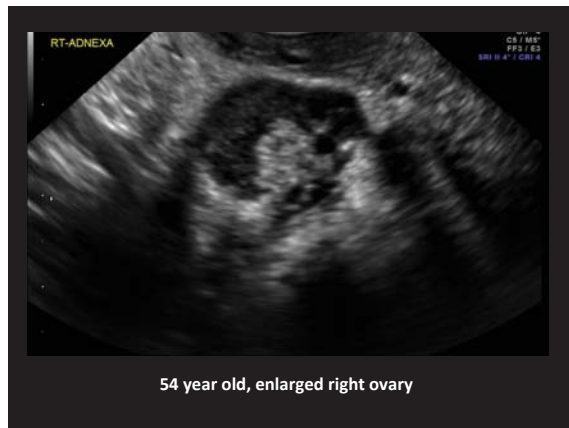
34 year old, G4, P3 at 21 weeks gestation, Right adnexal mass



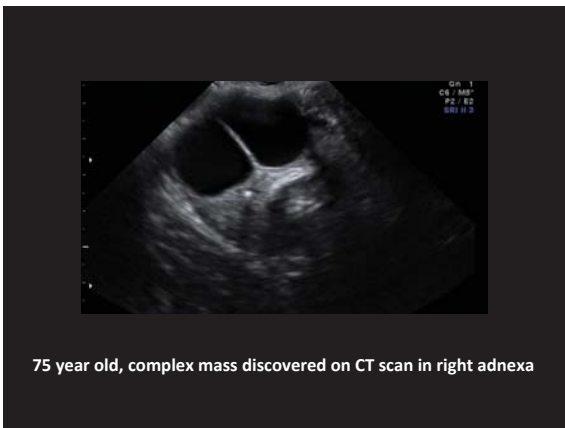
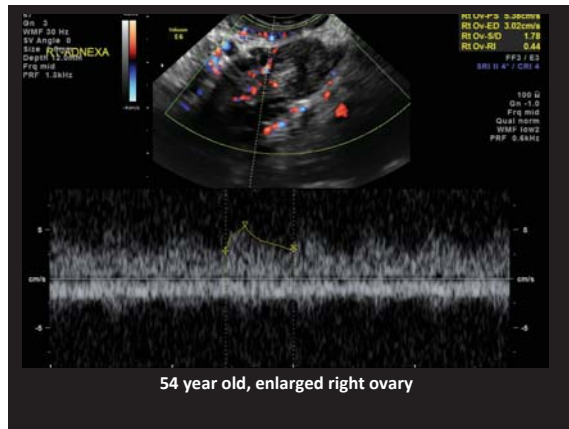
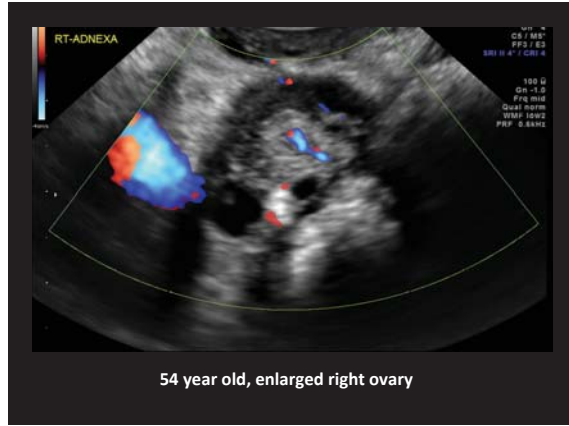
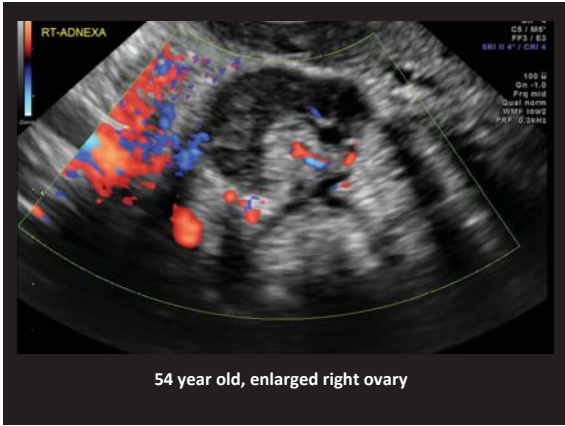
34 year old, G4, P3 at 21 weeks gestation, Right adnexal mass



54 year old, enlarged right ovary



54 year old, enlarged right ovary



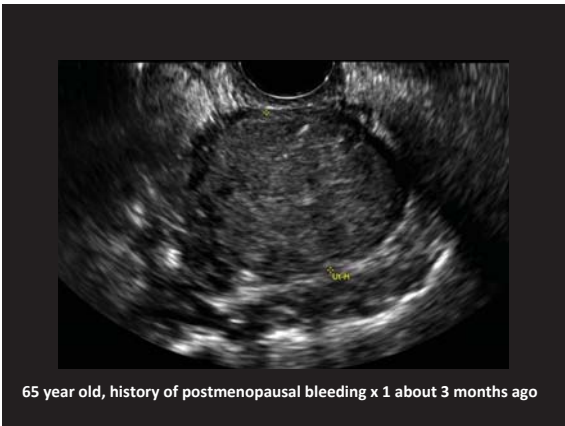




65 year old, history of postmenopausal bleeding x 1 about 3 months ago



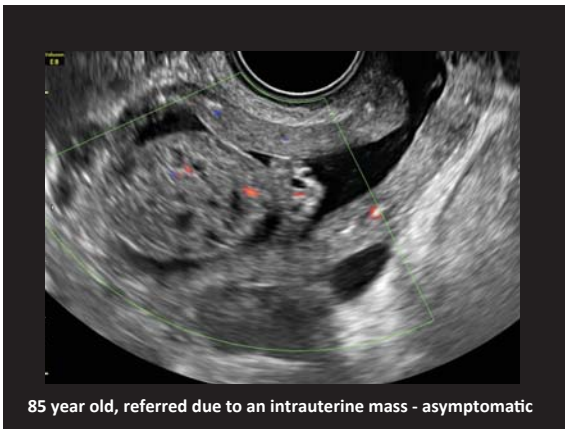
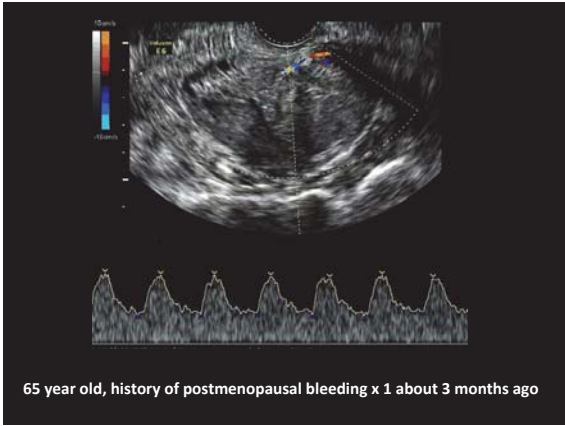
65 year old, history of postmenopausal bleeding x 1 about 3 months ago

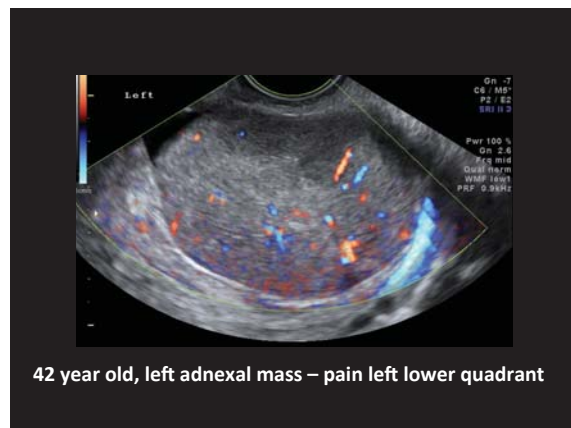
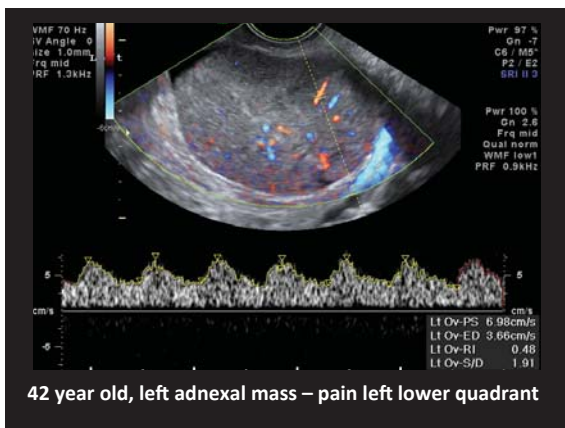
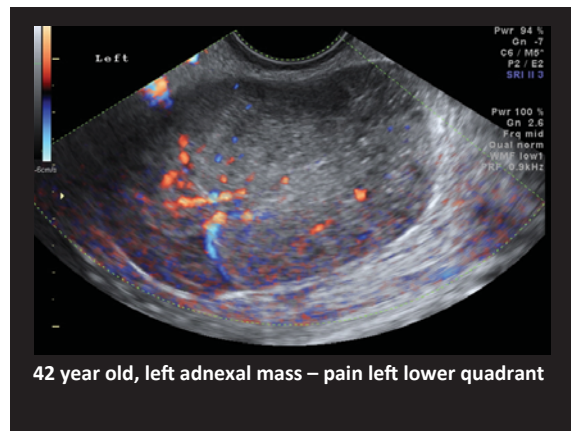
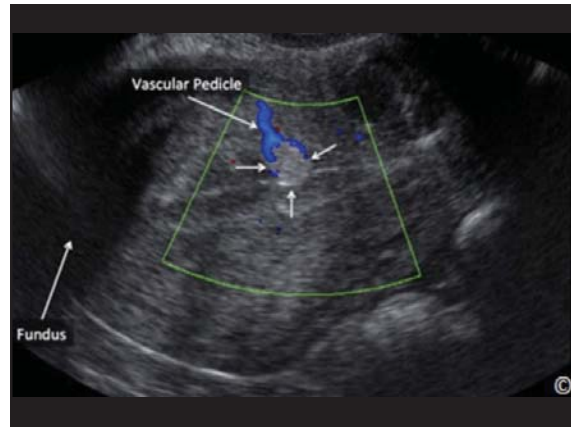
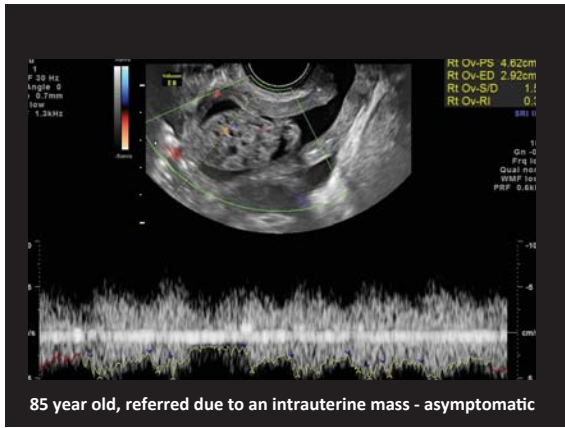


65 year old, history of postmenopausal bleeding x 1 about 3 months ago



65 year old, history of postmenopausal bleeding x 1 about 3 months ago













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# **ULTRASOUND IN THE DIAGNOSIS AND MANAGEMENT OF ECTOPIC PREGNANCY**

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**James M. Shwayder, M.D., J.D.**

Professor and Chair

Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology

University of Mississippi Medical Center

Jackson, MS



## Ultrasound in the Evaluation of Ectopic Pregnancy and PUL

James M. Shwayder, M.D., J.D.  
Professor and Chair  
Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology  
University of Mississippi School of Medicine  
Jackson, Mississippi

## Ultrasound in the Evaluation of Ectopic Pregnancy and PUL

James M. Shwayder, M.D., J.D.

Disclosures: None

## Learning Objectives

- Nomenclature regarding pregnancy of unknown location (PUL)
- Alternative approaches the diagnostic dilemma of evaluating a patient with a possible ectopic pregnancy.
- Understand the value of various diagnostic tests.
- Gain insight into the ultrasound findings in patients with an ectopic pregnancy

## Consensus Nomenclature

1. Definite ectopic pregnancy (EP)
2. Probable EP
3. PUL
4. Probable intrauterine pregnancy
5. Definite IUP

Barnhart et al. Fertil Steril 2011; 95: 857-866

## Consensus Nomenclature

- Definite ectopic pregnancy (EP)
  - Extrauterine gestational sac with yolk sac and/or embryo (with or without cardiac activity)
- Probable EP
  - Inhomogeneous adnexal mass or extrauterine sac-like structure

Barnhart et al. Fertil Steril 2011; 95: 857-866

## Consensus Nomenclature

- Probable intrauterine pregnancy
  - Intrauterine echogenic sac-like structure
- Definite IUP
  - Intrauterine gestational sac with yolk sac and/or embryo (with or without cardiac activity)

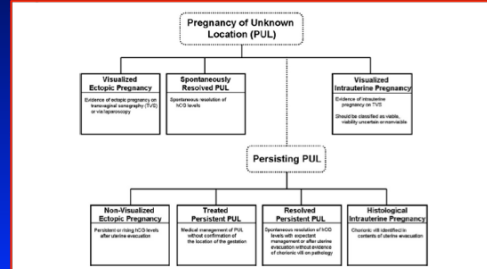
Barnhart et al. Fertil Steril 2011; 95: 857-866

## Consensus Nomenclature

- PUL
  - no signs of either EP or IUP

Barnhart et al. Fertil Steril 2011; 95: 857-866

## Pregnancy of Unknown Location



Barnhart et al. Fertil Steril 2011; 95: 857-866

CP 1

## Case Presentation

- 28 y.o. G1P0 presents with pelvic pain and scant vaginal spotting.
- LMP ~ 4-5 weeks ago
- + UPT at home
- Exam: VSS
  - Uterus AV, NT, TNS
  - Adnexa: NT, without masses
- hCG = 874 IU/L

## Increase in hCG in early pregnancy

Sampling Interval (days)	% Increase
1	29
2	66
3	114
4	175
5	255

Kadar et. al. Obstet Gynecol 1981; 58: 162 (Yale)

## Increase in hCG in early pregnancy

- Doubling time = 2.98 days
- 15% of normal pregnancies had abnormal  $\beta$ -hCG increases

Kadar et. al. Obstet Gynecol 1981; 58: 162 (Yale)

## Increase in hCG in early pregnancy

Days	Range	Median
1	1.24 – 1.81	1.50
2	1.53 – 3.28	2.24
3	1.88 – 5.94	3.35
4	2.33 – 10.76	5.00
7	4.38 – 63.88	16.73

Barnhart et al. Obstet Gynecol 2004; 104: 50-55.

### Case Presentation

Day 1	hCG = 874 IU/ml
Day 3	hCG = 1,056 IU/ml
Day 5	hCG = 1,110 IU/ml

### Threshold vs. Discriminatory Levels

**Threshold level**

- Lowest  $\beta$ -hCG level at which a normal intrauterine pregnancy can be detected

**Discriminatory level**

- The level of  $\beta$ -hCG above which all normal intrauterine pregnancies should be seen

### Threshold vs. Discriminatory Levels

**Threshold level**

- $\beta$ -hCG = 400-500 mIU/mL (1st IRP)

**Discriminatory level**

- $\beta$ -hCG = 1000-1500 mIU/mL (1st IRP)

**Dependencies**

- Transducer frequency, uterine position, body habitus, operator experience/ability

### Evidence Against the hCG Discriminatory Level

- January 1, 2000 - December 31, 2010
- TVS and  $\beta$ -hCG on same day
- No intrauterine fluid collection
- Subsequent embryonic or fetal cardiac activity

Doubilet and Benson, J Ultrasound Med 2011; 30:1637-1642

### Evidence Against the hCG Discriminatory Level

hCG (3-4 <sup>th</sup> IS)	# (202)	%
<1000	162	80.2
1000-1499	19	9.4
1500-1999	12	5.9
2000	9	4.5

Doubilet and Benson, J Ultrasound Med 2011; 30:1637-1642

### Reevaluation of Discriminatory and Threshold Levels

- 651 patients
- TVS and  $\beta$ -hCG within 6 hours of each other
- Known intrauterine pregnancies
- Findings visualized 99% of the time
- 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, or 4<sup>th</sup> International Standard
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> I.S. ~ 1/2 that of others

Connolly et al. Obstet Gynecol 2013;121:65-70.

## Reevaluation of Discriminatory and Threshold Levels

hCG = mIU/mL	Gestational Sac	Yolk Sac	Embryo
Threshold level	390	1094	1394
Discriminatory level	3510	17,716	47,685

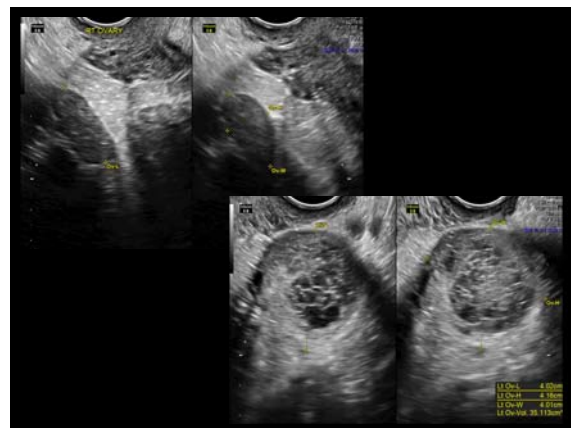
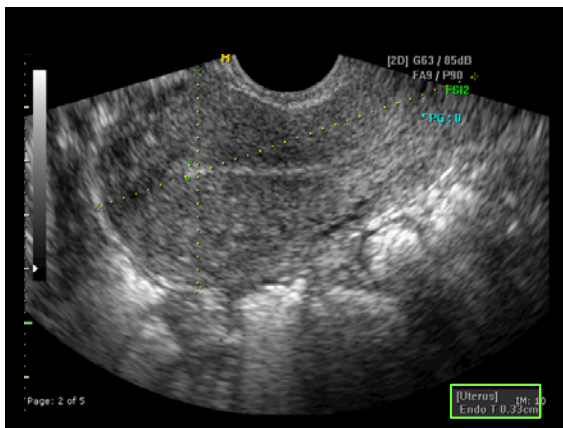
Connolly et al. Obstet Gynecol 2013;121:65-70.

## Reevaluation of Discriminatory and Threshold Levels

Table 2. Discriminatory and Threshold Values: Serum  $\beta$ -Human Chorionic Gonadotropin Levels

	Current Study (99% Predicted Probability of Detection, Mill-International Units/mL, Reported as Third International Standard)	Prior Studies <sup>1-3</sup> (Mill-International Units/mL, Reported as First International Reference Preparation or Third International Standard)
Discriminatory values		
Gestational sac	3,510	1,000-2,000
Yolk sac	17,716	7,200
Fetal pole	47,685	5,100-10,800
Threshold values		
Gestational sac	390	500-1,000
Yolk sac	1,094	5,600
Fetal pole	1,394	24,000

Connolly et al. Obstet Gynecol 2013;121:65-70.



CP 1

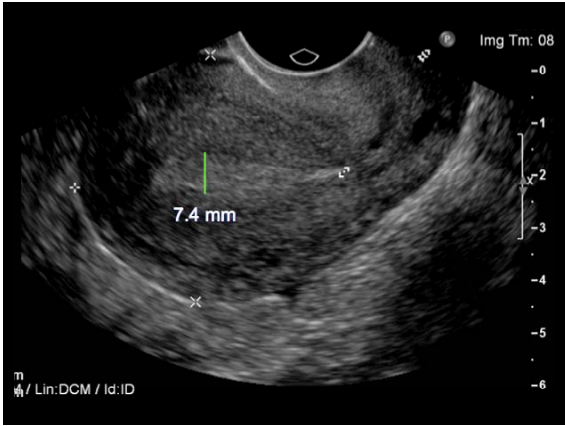
## Case Presentation

- **TVS**
  - Uterus
    - No evidence of IUP
  - Ovaries
    - Corpus luteum - left
  - Adnexa
    - No definite adnexal pathology
- **Current terminology** PUL
- **Treatment** MTX 50 mg/m<sup>2</sup>

## Case Presentation

- 24 y.o. G2P0010 presents with scant vaginal spotting and pain
- LMP ~ 5 weeks ago
- Exam: VSS
  - Uterus NSSC, NT; Adnexa: NT
- Initial: hCG = 710 IU/L
- Repeat in 2 days: hCG = 980 IU/L

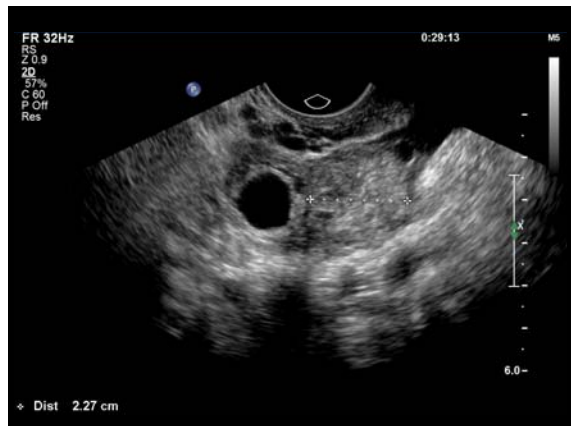
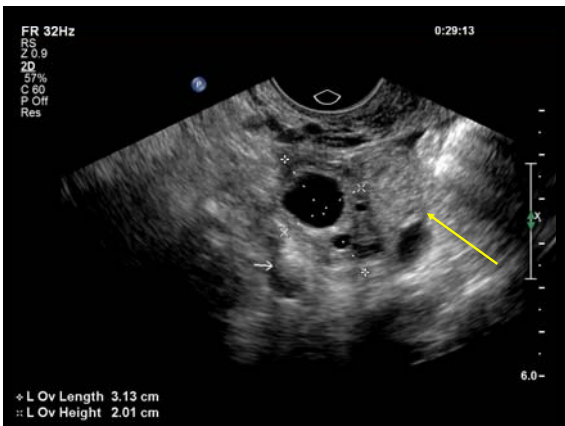
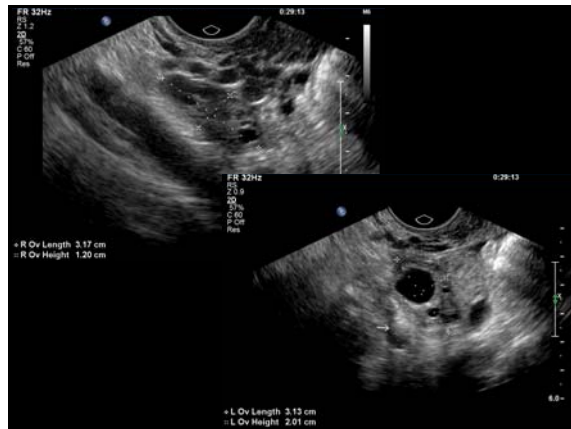
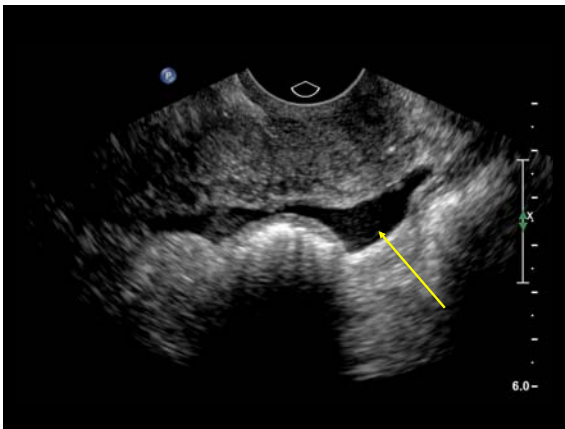


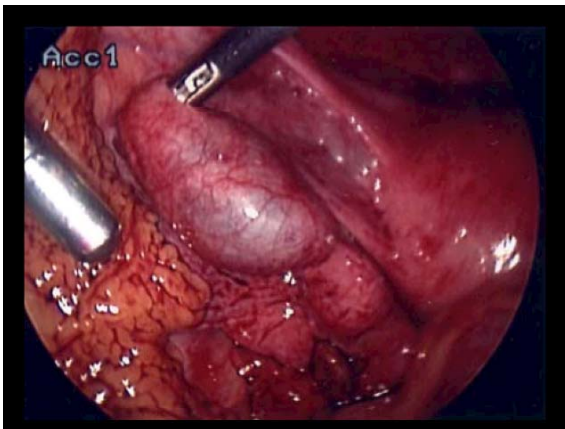
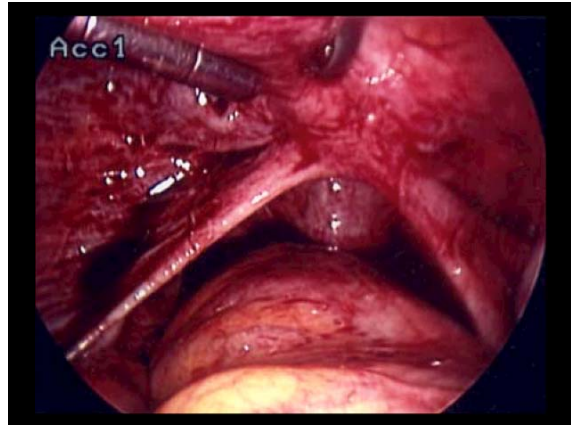
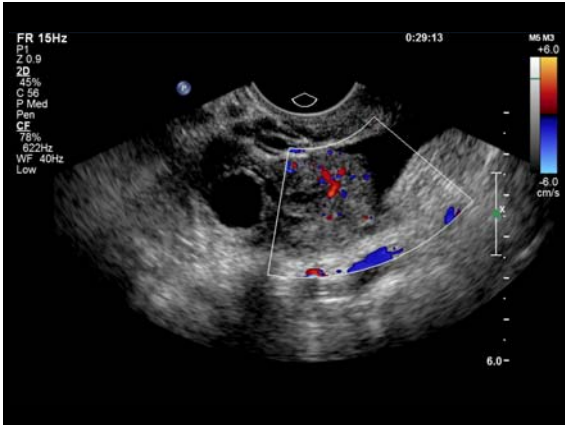


### Endometrial Thickness in Ectopic Pregnancy when hCG < Discriminatory Zone

Outcome	Mean (mm)	Range (mm)
Intrauterine pregnancy	13.42	± 0.68
Spontaneous abortion	9.28	± 0.88
Ectopic pregnancy	5.95	± 0.35
Abnormal pregnancy (97%)	≤ 8	

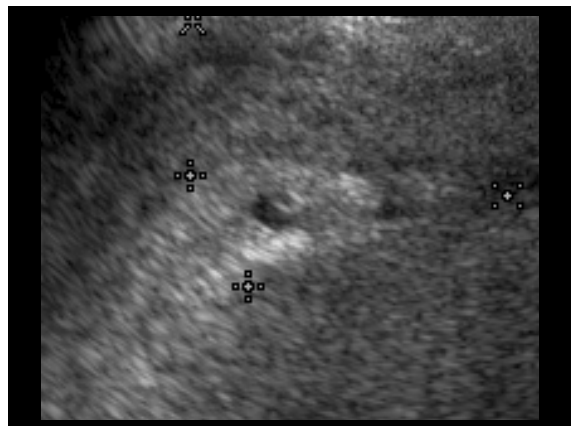
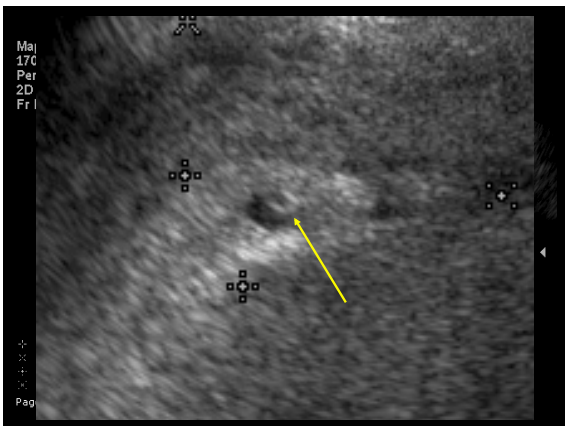
Spandorfer and Barnhart, Fertil Steril 1996; 474-47.





### Case Presentation - #3

- 28 y.o. G1P0 presents with pelvic pain and scant vaginal spotting.
- LMP ~ 7 weeks ago
- Exam: VSS
  - Uterus TNS;
  - Mild adnexal discomfort
- hCG = 4,634 IU/L





## Intrauterine Fluid with Ectopic Pregnancy

229 patients with ectopic	#	%
• No intrauterine fluid	191	83.4
• Intrauterine fluid	38	16.6
– Adnexal mass	33	86.8

Benson et al. J Ultrasound Med 2013;32:389-393.

## Intrauterine Fluid with Ectopic Pregnancy

38 patients	#	%
• Type A	31	81.6
– Pointy edged	30	78.9
– Echoes	28	73.7
– Located with the cavity	21	55.3
• Type B	7	18.4
– Smooth walled		
– Located in decidua or uncertain		

Benson et al. J Ultrasound Med 2013;32:389-393.

Type A

Benson et al. J Ultrasound Med 2013;32:389-393.

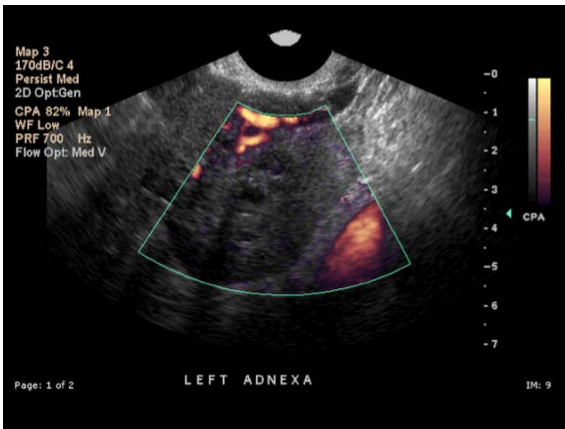
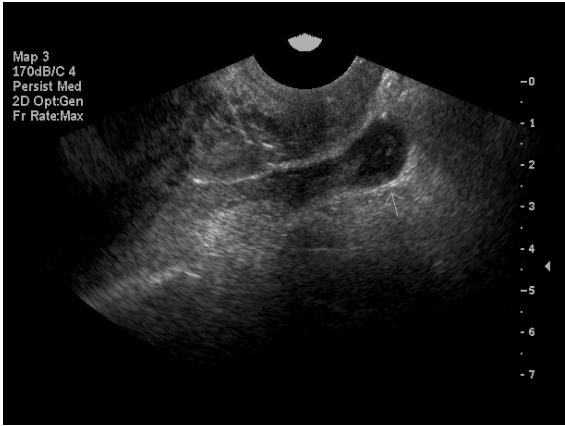
## Type B

Ectopic Pregnancy      Intrauterine Pregnancy

Benson et al. J Ultrasound Med 2013;32:389-393.

## Conclusions

• Findings	
– A smooth-walled anechoic intrauterine cystic structure	
– No adnexal mass	
• Probability	
– Intrauterine pregnancy	99.8%
– Ectopic pregnancy	0.02%



TVS for Diagnosing Ectopics

**Reviewed 10 studies**

- 2216 patients
- Ectopic = 565 **25.5%**
- No ectopic = 1651 **74.5%**

Brown and Doubilet, J Ultrasound Med 1994; 13: 259 (Harvard)

TVS for Diagnosing Ectopics

**Inclusion criteria**

- Clinical suspicion of ectopic pregnancy
- All patients underwent TVS
- All cases of EP were surgically confirmed
- No adnexal masses were excluded, except simple cysts

Brown and Doubilet, J Ultrasound Med 1994; 13: 259 (Harvard)



## TVS for Diagnosing Ectopics

### Criteria for ectopic pregnancy

- A: Adnexal embryo with heartbeat
- B: Adnexal mass containing yolk sac or embryo
- C: Adnexal mass with central anechoic area and hyperechoic rim ("tubal ring")
- D: Any adnexal mass other than a simple cyst or an intraovarian lesion

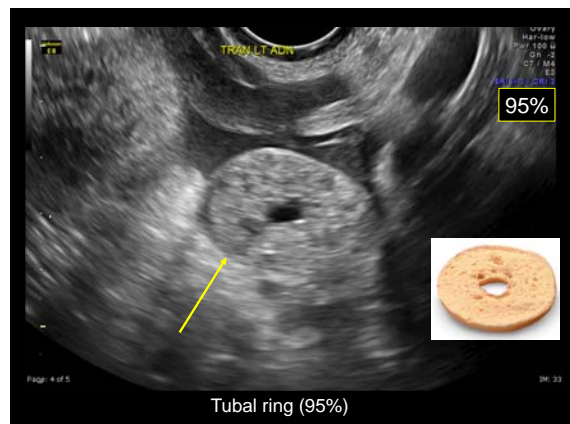
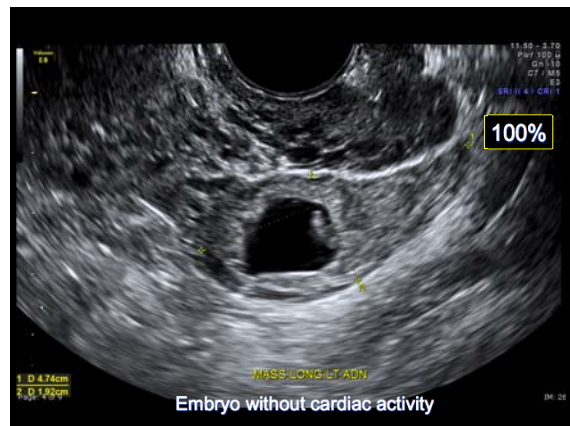
Brown and Doubilet, J Ultrasound Med 1994; 13: 259

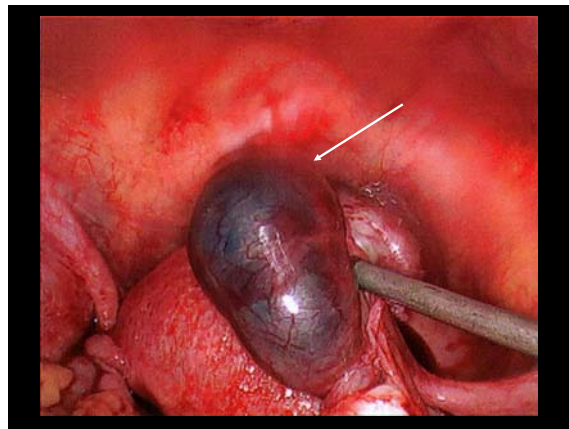
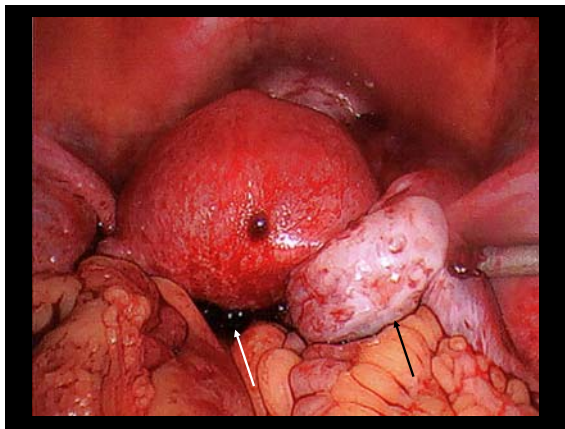
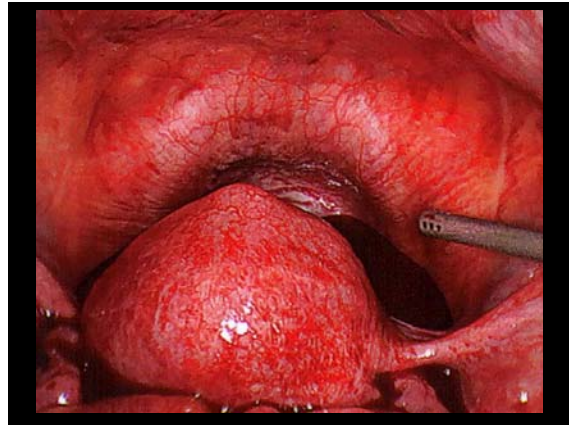
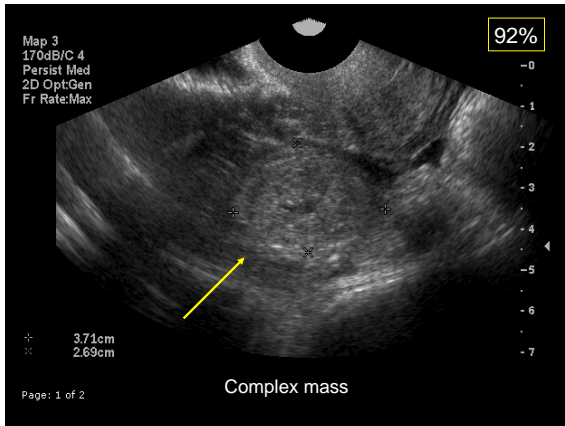
### Adnexal Findings

## TVS Criteria for Ectopic Pregnancy

TVS Finding	Likelihood of Ectopic
Extrauterine embryo + heartbeat	100%
Adnexal mass with yolk sac or embryo without heartbeat	100%
Tubal ring	95%
Complex or solid adnexal mass No tubal ring, yolk sac, embryo	92%

Brown and Doubilet, J Ultrasound Med 1994; 13: 259





### Diagnosing Ectopic Pregnancy Six Strategies

- Ultrasound followed by quantitative hCG
- Quantitative hCG followed by ultrasound
- Progesterone followed by ultrasound and quantitative hCG
- Progesterone followed by quantitative hCG and ultrasound
- Ultrasound followed by repeat ultrasound
- Clinical examination

Garcia and Barnhart. Obstet Gynecol 2001; 97: 464-70 (U. of Penn)

### Diagnosing Ectopic Pregnancy Six Strategies-Outcomes

Strategy	Missed EP/ 10,000	Interrupted IUP/10,000
US → hCG	0	70
hCG → US	0	122
P → US → hCG	24	25
P → hCG → US	24	39
US → US	0	121
Clinical Exam	940	0

Garcia and Barnhart. Obstet Gynecol 2001; 97: 464-70

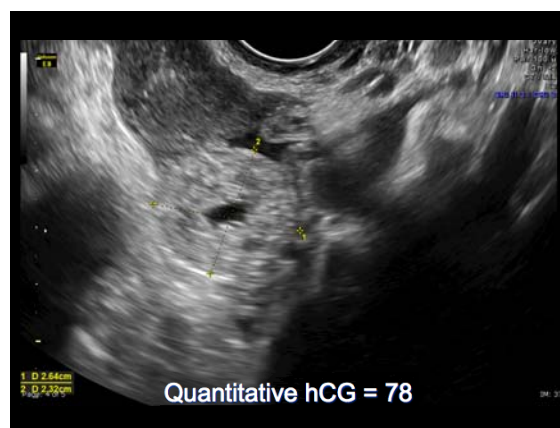
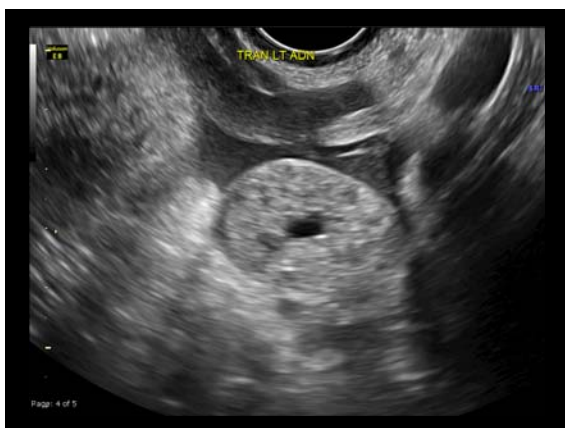
## Diagnosing Ectopic Pregnancy Six Strategies-Recommendations

- Ultrasound followed by hCG
- hCG followed by ultrasound
- Either progesterone protocol
  - More missed ectopic pregnancies
- Ultrasound followed by repeat ultrasound
  - May be applicable in poorly compliant patient
- Clinical exam only – NOT recommended

Garcia and Barnhart. Obstet Gynecol 2001; 97: 464-70

## Case Presentation

- 41 G2P0010 with LMP 3 weeks ago
- c/o vaginal bleeding and abdominal pain
- Unprotected intercourse x 10 years
- + UCG



### Ectopic Pregnancy

#### hCG Dynamics with Spontaneous Resolution of Ectopic

##### Helsinki, Finland

118 patients

##### Entry criteria

- Decreasing or stable hCG
- No signs of rupture/intraperitoneal hemorrhage
- Adnexal mass < 4 cm
- No cardiac activity

Korhonen, Stenman, Ylostalo. Fertil Steril 1994; 61: 632-36 (Finland)

### Ectopic Pregnancy

#### hCG Dynamics with Spontaneous Resolution of Ectopic

##### Helsinki, Finland

- TVS q 1-3 days
- Serial hCG until < 10 IU/L (3<sup>rd</sup> IS)
- Laparoscopy
  - Increasing hCG levels
  - Increasing abdominal pain
  - Intra-abdominal hemorrhage on TVS

Korhonen, Stenman, Ylostalo. Fertil Steril 1994; 61: 632-36



Ectopic Pregnancy

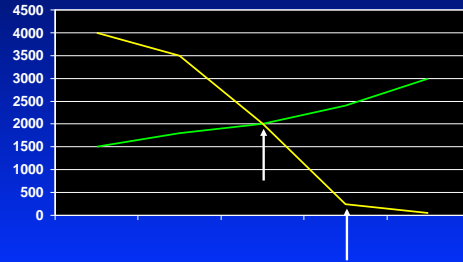
**hCG Dynamics with Spontaneous Resolution of Ectopic**

**Rate of Spontaneous Resolution**

hCG < 200 IU/L	88%
hCG > 2000 IU/L	25%

Korhonen, Stenman, Ylostalo. Fertil Steril 1994; 61: 632-36

**Initial hCG**

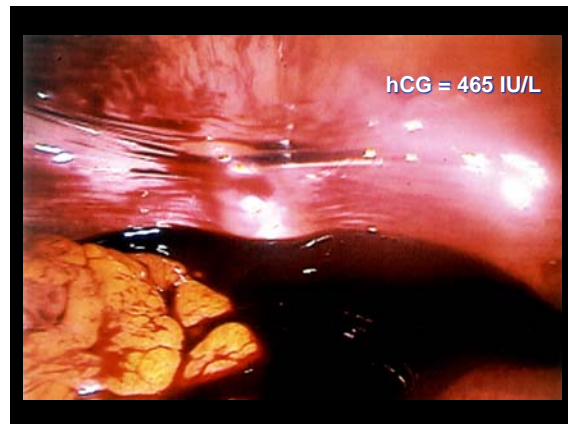


**Case Presentation**

- 36 y.o. G3P0020 seen in ER with c/o slight spotting and mild abdominal discomfort
- Uterus: Mid-position, TNS
- Adnexa: No definite masses
- hCG = 357 IU/L
- Hct = 36.4
- D/C home with F/U 2 days in WCC

**Case Presentation**

- **WCC**  
–c/o increasing pain and weakness





## Serum hCG and Tubal Rupture

$\beta$ -hCG (IU/L)	Unruptured	Ruptured
< 100	9.2%	11.4%
100 – 999	47.3%	38.6%
1000 - 9,999	38.2%	38.6%
> 10,000	5.3%	11.4%

Saxon et al. Obstet Gynecol 1997; 90: 46  
(McGill, Cleveland Clinic)



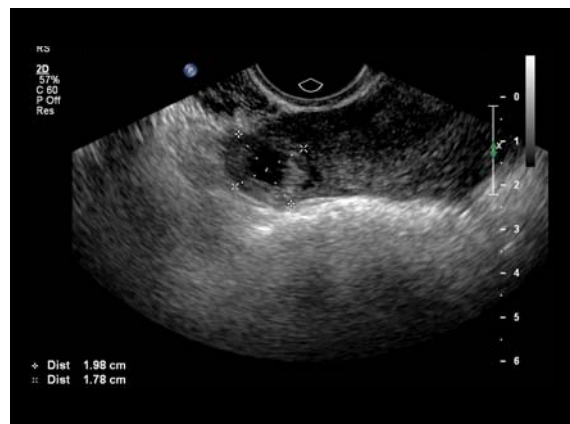
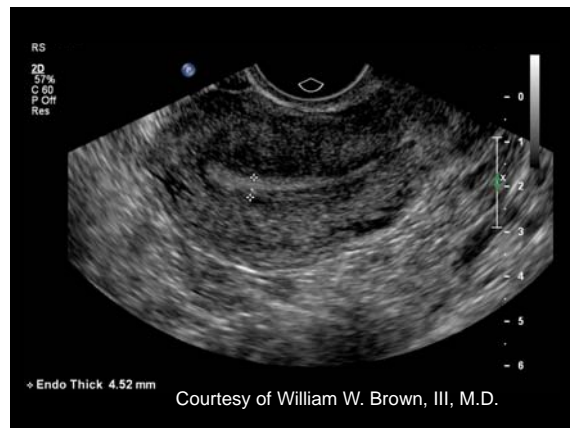
## Serum hCG and Tubal Rupture

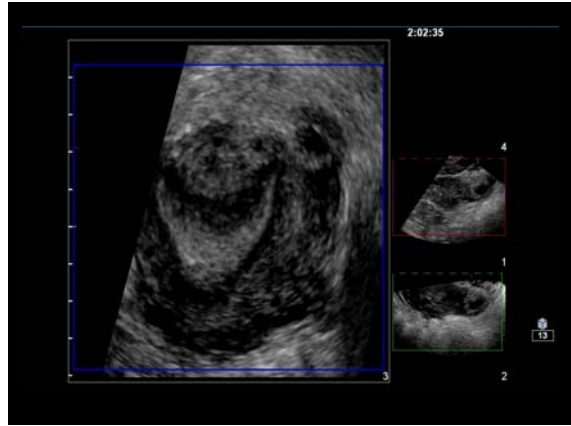
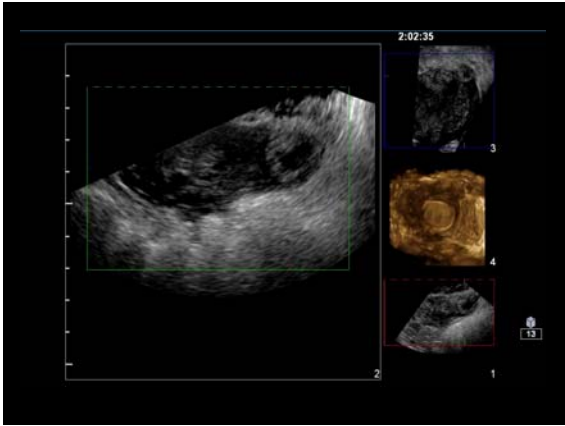
hCG, mIU/mL	Unruptured	Ruptured	Rupture Rate %
< 1000	53	14 (41.2%)	20.9
1000-1999	14	6 (17.6%)	30.0
> 2000	38	14 (41.2%)	26.9

Frates et al. J Ultrasound Med 2014; 33:697-703.


## Case presentation

- 28 y.o. G2P0010
- Presents with pelvic pain and vaginal spotting
- LMP = 7 weeks ago
- hCG: positive



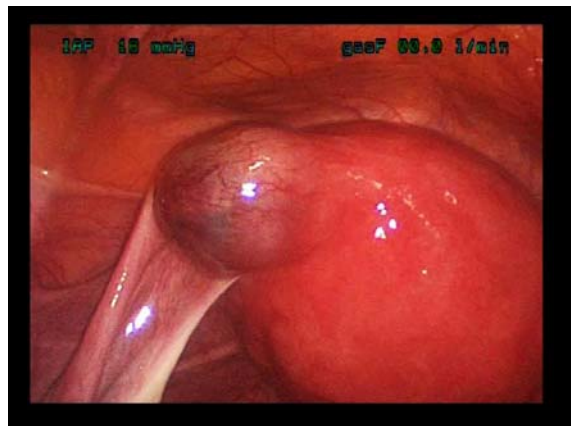
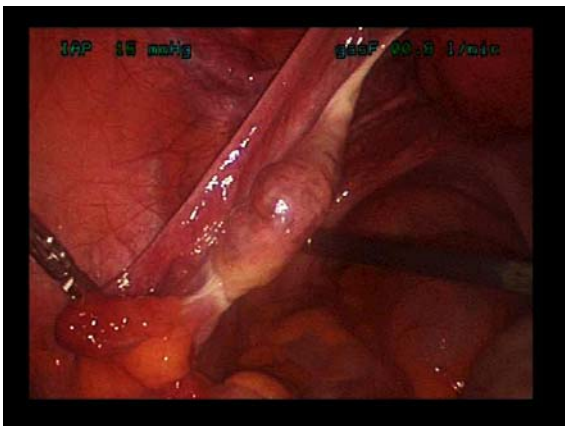


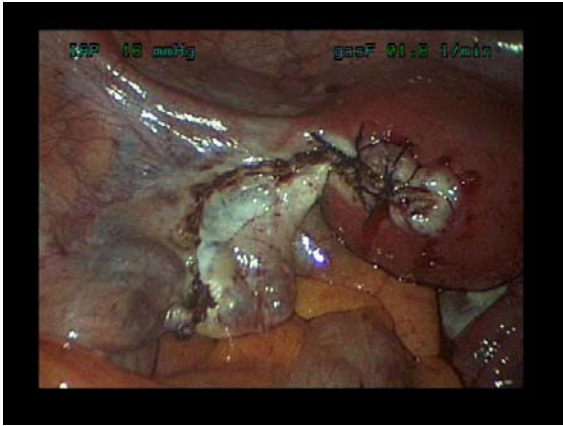
### Ultrasound Diagnosis of Interstitial Pregnancy



- Empty uterine cavity
- Chorionic sac > 1 cm from the lateral edge of the uterine cavity (endometrium)
- Thin (<5 mm) layer of myometrium surrounding the chorionic sac

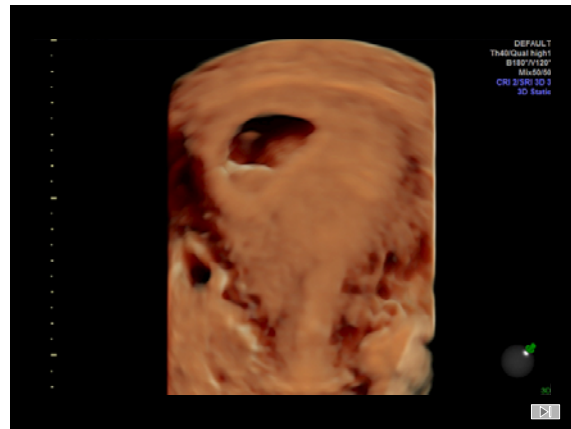
Timor et al. Obstet Gynecol 1992;79:1044





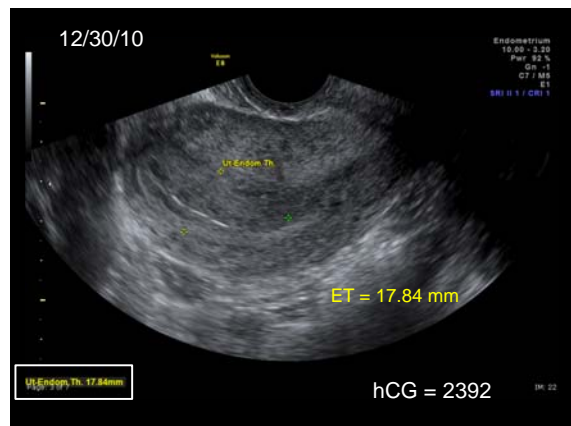
## Terminology

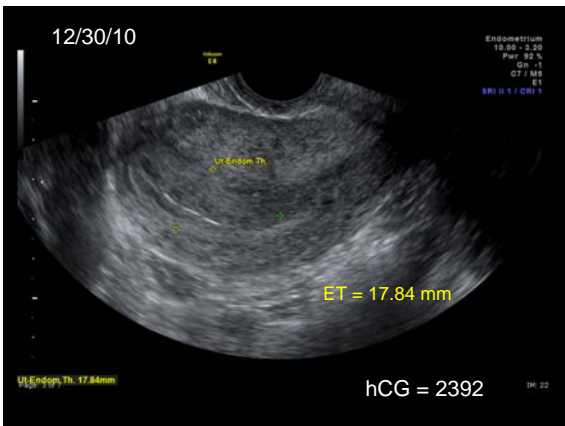
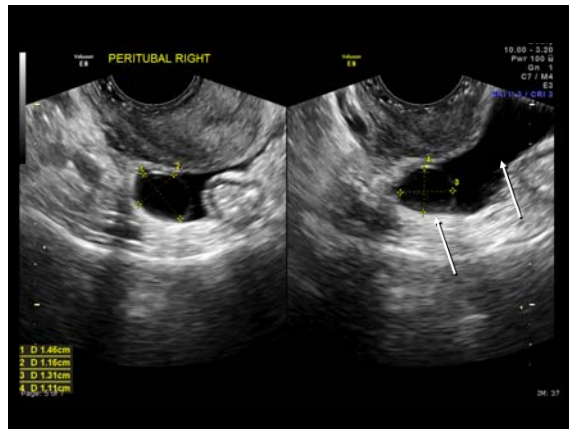
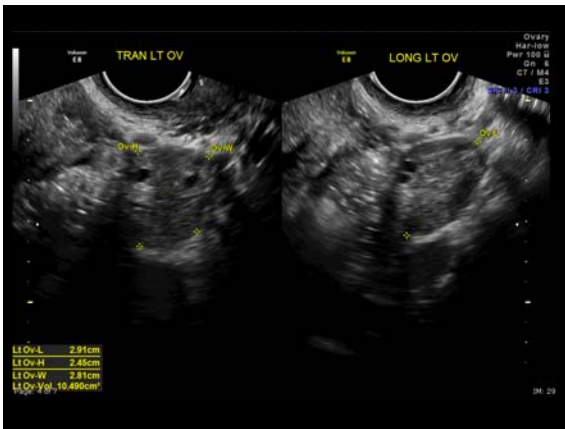
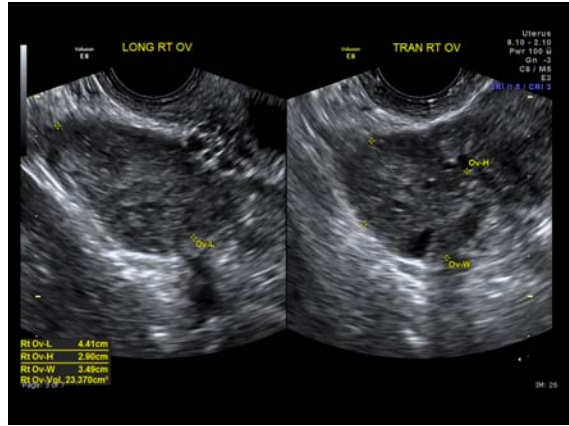
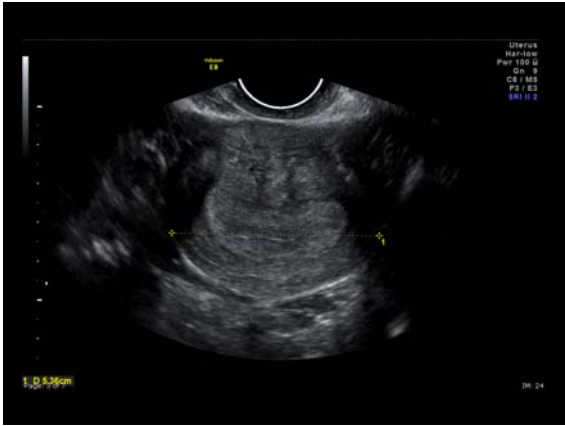
- **Interstitial pregnancy**
  - Embryo implants in the interstitial or intramural portion of the Fallopian tube
- **Cornual pregnancy**
  - Pregnancies that occur in a rudimentary horn, unicornuate uterus, cornual region of a septate uterus, a bicornuate uterus, or a uterus didelphys
- **Angular pregnancy**
  - Embryo implants in one of the lateral angles of the uterine cavity, medial to the utero-tubal junction



## Case Presentation

- 23 y.o. G2P1001
- Enters c/o slight spotting and cramping
- LMP = Unknown
- UCG = positive
- hCG = 2,392





## Consensus Nomenclature

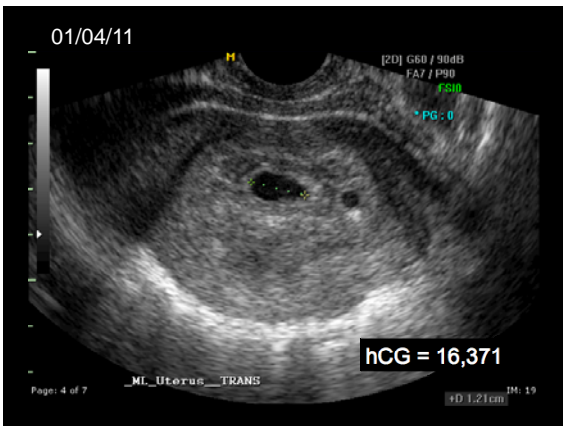
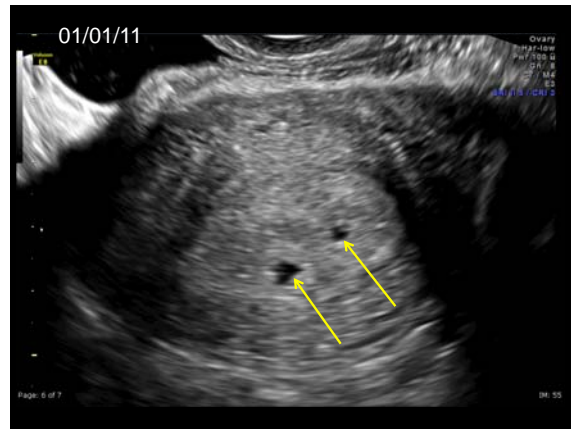
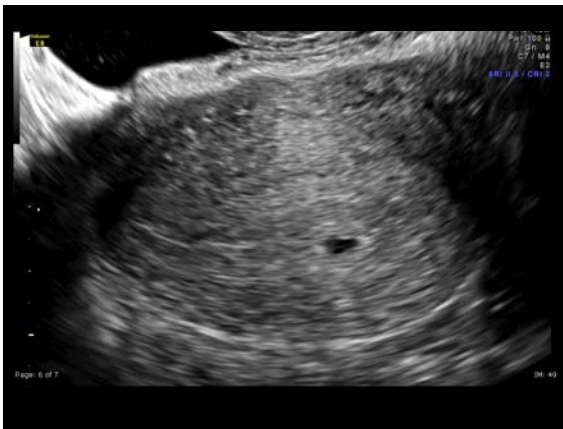
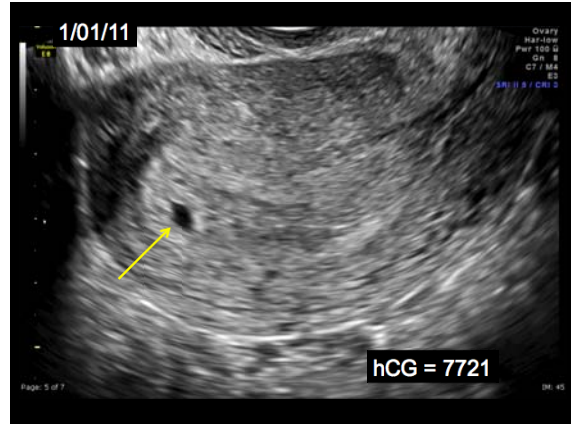
- Pregnancy of unknown location (PUL)
  - Possible IUP
    - Increased endometrial thickness

Barnhart et al. Fertil Steril 2011; 95: 857-866



## Quantitative hCG

12/30/10	2392
1/01/11	7721



## Ectopic Pregnancy-Summary

- **Ultrasound can be justified prior to obtaining a quantitative hCG**
  - ~ 50% of ruptured ectopics had hCG levels below the discriminatory zone (<1000 IU)
- **Endometrial thickness when hCG < discriminatory level**
  - An endometrial thickness  $\leq 8$  mm is associated with an abnormal pregnancy 97% of the time

## Ectopic Pregnancy-Summary

- **The discriminatory level has changed**
  - It may be as high as 2500-3500 IU/L
- **A cystic structure within the endometrium, in the absence of an adnexal mass**
  - Is associated with an IUP in > 99% of patients

## Ectopic Pregnancy-Summary

- **Finding an IUP r/o ectopic pregnancy**
  - Exception: heterotopic pregnancy
    - (1:667-1:30,000)
- **Finding of embryo  $\pm$  heart beat or yolk sac in adnexa**
  - Diagnostic of ectopic pregnancy
- **No IUP. Complex/solid mass, sep from ovary**
  - 92% likelihood of ectopic









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# **HANDS ON SCANNING DEMONSTRATION: THE PELVIC ULTRASOUND EXAMINATION**

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**James M. Shwayder, M.D., J.D.**

Professor and Chair

Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology

University of Mississippi Medical Center

Jackson, MS













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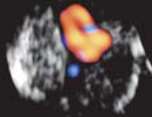
# **CARDIAC IMAGING: TIPS TO IMPROVE DIAGNOSIS OF CHD**

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**Alfred Abuhamad, M.D.**  
Professor and Chairman  
Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology  
Vice Dean for Clinical Affairs  
Eastern Virginia Medical School  
Norfolk, VA



# The Approach to Fetal Cardiac Imaging in Early Gestation



Alfred Abuhamad M D

## Chronology of Cardiac Development

Feature	Weeks of development (from fertilization)
Angiogenic clusters	Early 3
Formation of heart tubes	Early 3
Cardiac pumping	Early 3
Fusion of heart tubes	Early 3
Looping of heart tube	Mid 3
Appearance of intraventricular septum	Mid 3/late 3
Septum primum	End 3/early 4
Appearance of endocardial cushions	End 4
Conotruncal ridges	Late 4/early 5
Conotruncal septum	Early 5/mid 5
Septum secundum	Late 5/early 6
Fusion of endocardial cushions	Early 6
Obliteration of membranous septum	Mid 7/end 7 → <b>End of 9<sup>th</sup> menstrual week</b>

(Adapted from O'Rahilly R, Müller F. *Human embryology and teratology*. New York: Wiley-Liss, 1992;107-117, with permission.)

From Practical Guide To Fetal Echocardiography – Abuhamad, Chaoui – 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition

## Cardiac Imaging in Early Gestation

- Caution in detailed anatomic cardiac evaluation at less than 10 weeks gestation

9 Weeks

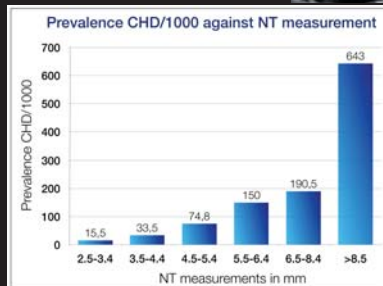


## 9 Weeks Gestation



Color Doppler helps but still

## NT and CHD



Bahado-Singh, AJOG 2005  
Clur. Prenatal Diagnosis 2009

## Cardiac Imaging in Early Gestation

### Approach to Examination

- Transvaginal
- Transabdominal

## Cardiac Imaging in Early Gestation

### *Transvaginal*

- Better resolution of probe
- Inconvenience to patients
- Limited probe range of motion
- Requires expertise

## Cardiac Imaging in Early Gestation

### *Transvaginal*

- Most optimal < 13 weeks
- Fetus in transverse lie

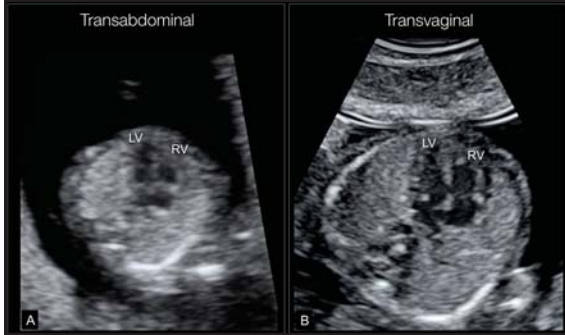
## Cardiac Imaging in Early Gestation

### *Transvaginal*



## Cardiac Imaging in Early Gestation

13 Weeks



## Transabdominal Approach

13 Weeks

- 4CV
- PV

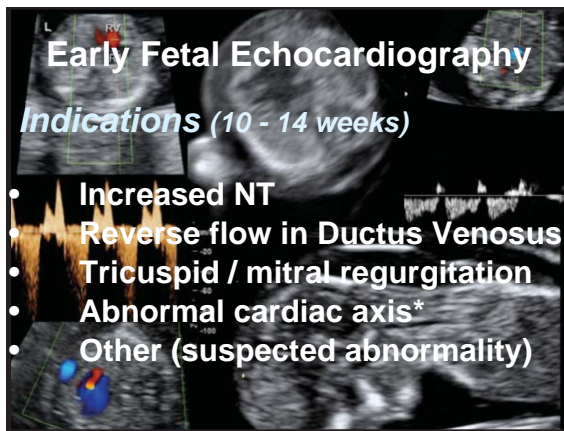


## Transabdominal Approach

13 Weeks

- 4CV
- Cardiac axis
- Left PV





### Early Fetal Cardiac Imaging

**TABLE 16.1 Optimization of Grayscale Examination in Early Cardiac Scan**

- Fetus in dorsoposterior position (NT position)
- Magnify image
- Narrow sector width
- Fetal thorax to occupy one-third of ultrasound screen
- Use high-contrast image setting
- Use mid-to-high-resolution transducer
- Insonate from apical to right lateral of fetal heart

From Practical Guide To Fetal Echocardiography – Abuhamad, Chaoui – 3rd Edition - Oct 2015

16

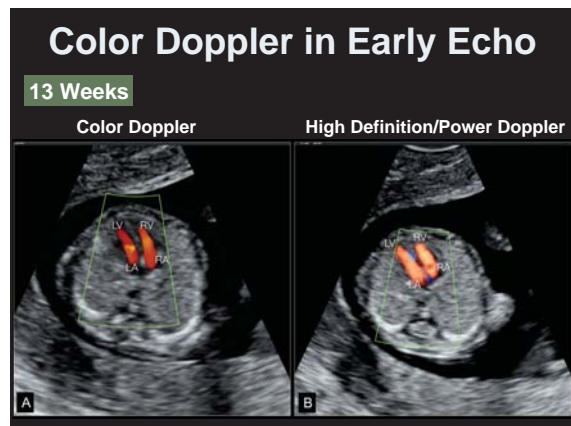
### Early Fetal Cardiac Imaging

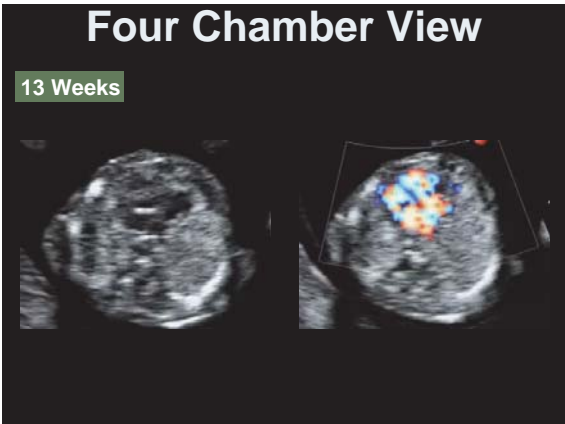
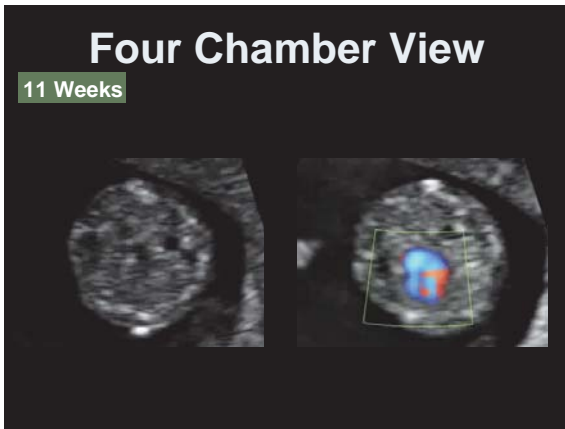
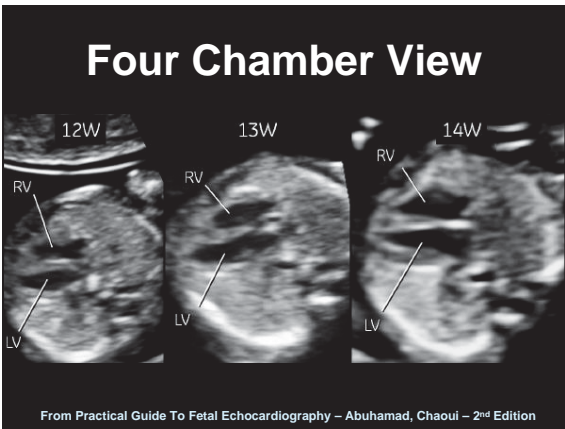
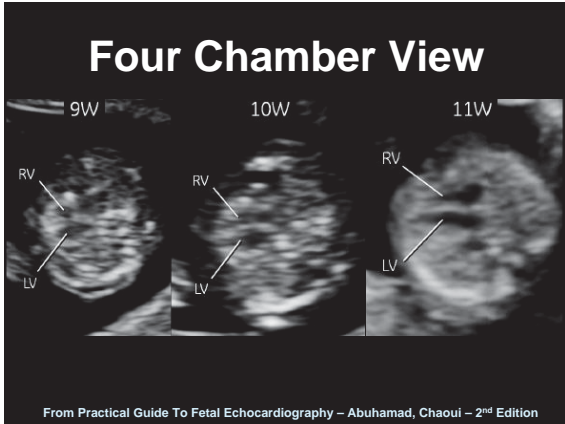
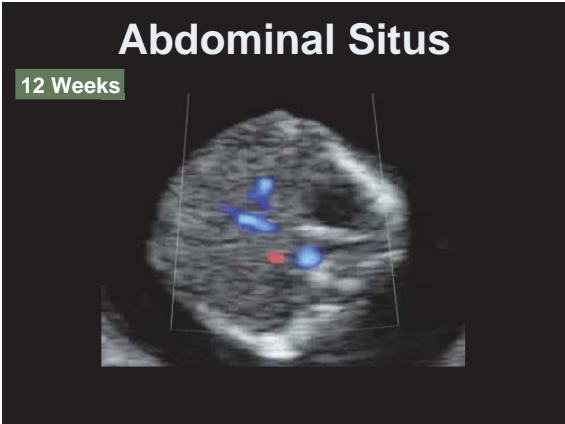
**TABLE 16.2 Optimization of Color Doppler Examination in Early Cardiac Scan**

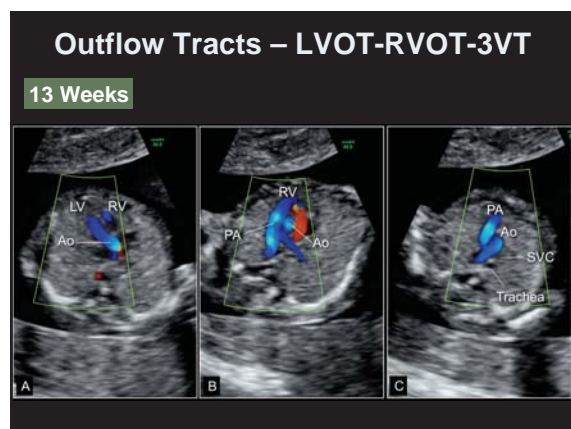
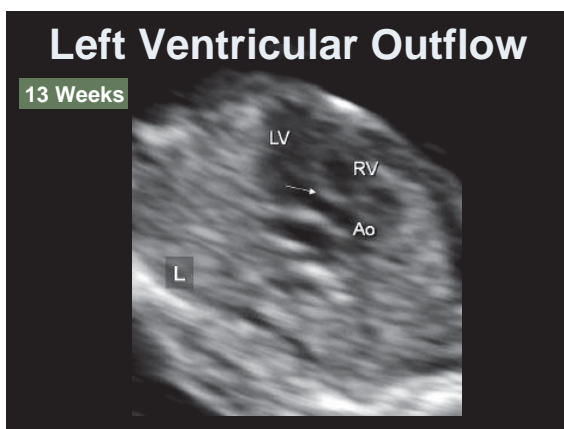
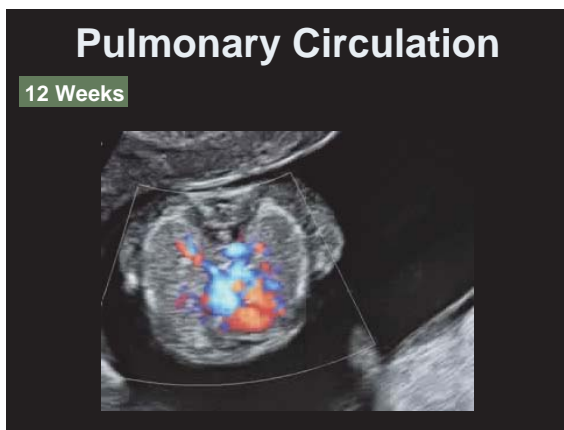
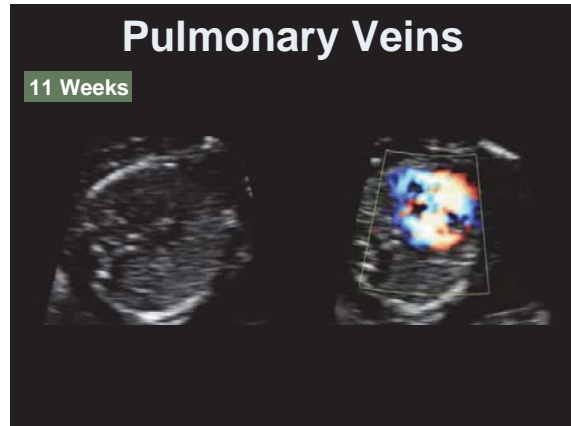
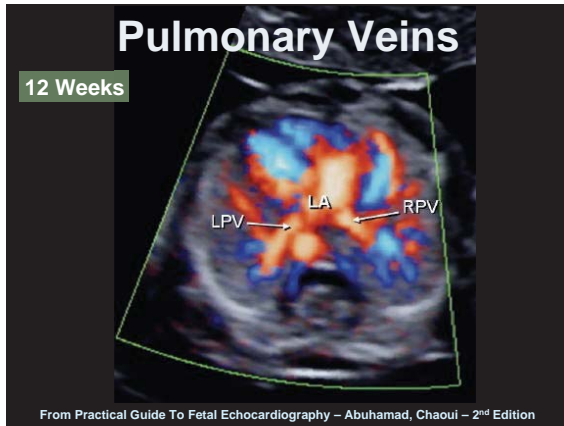
- Start with grayscale optimization before activating color Doppler
- Use a narrow color Doppler box
- Use mid velocity color Doppler range
- Use mid filter levels
- Use mid-to-high persistence
- Use low color Doppler gain
- Use low power output
- Use bidirectional Doppler if available

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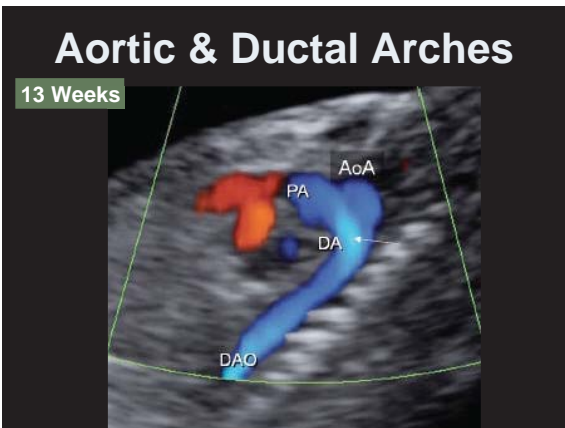
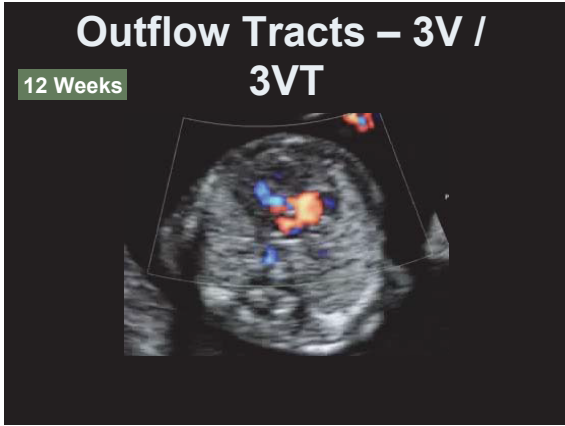
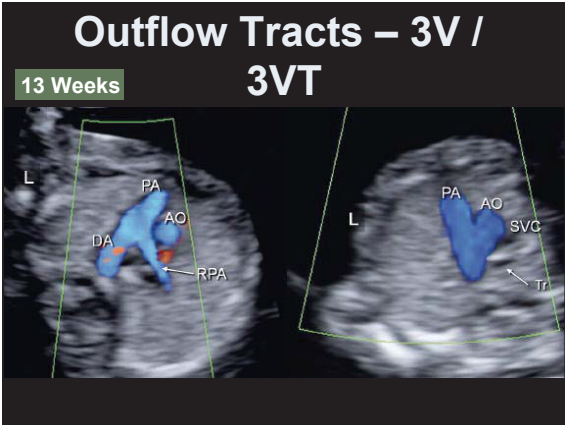
17



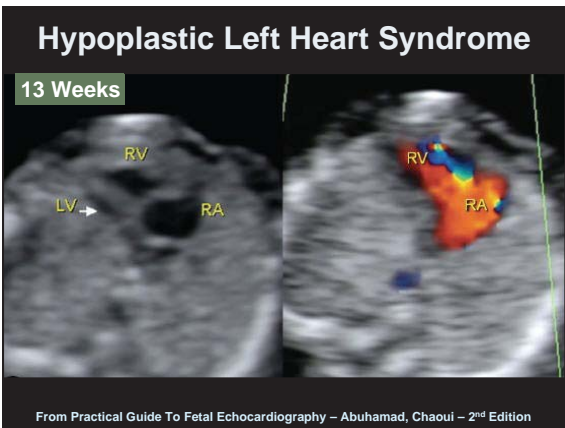
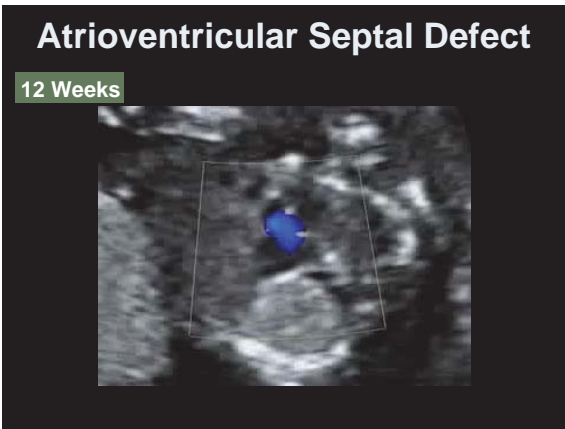
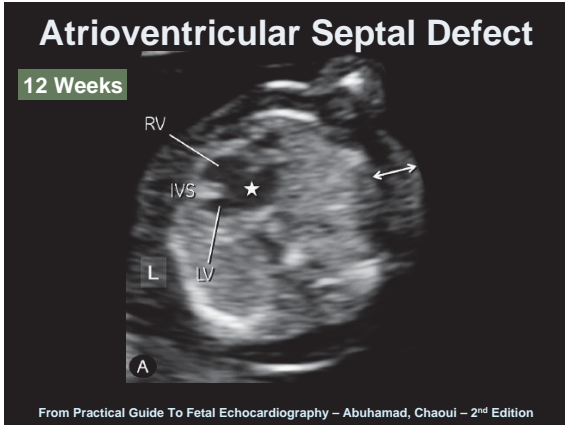






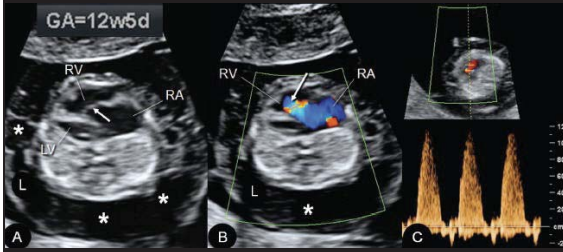


**Abnormal Anatomy**



# Ebstein Anomaly

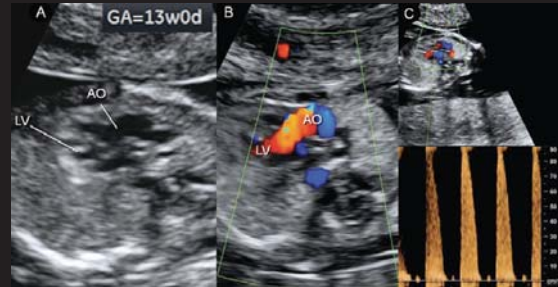
13 Weeks



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# Aortic Stenosis

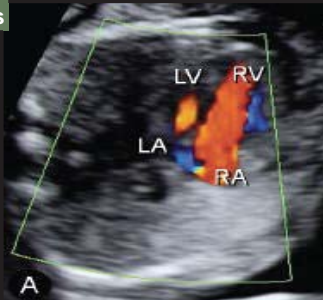
13 Weeks



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# Coarctation of Aorta

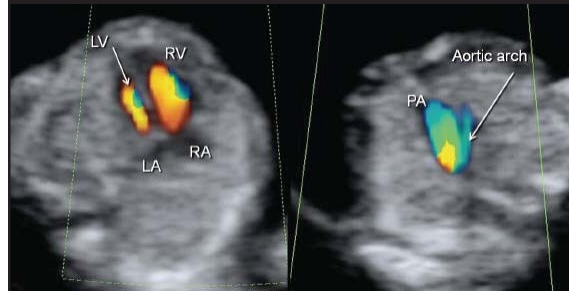
13 Weeks



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# Coarctation Aorta

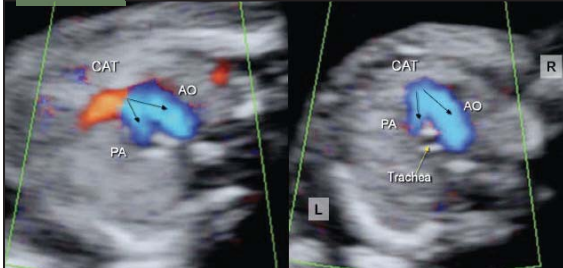
14 Weeks



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# Common Arterial Trunk

13 Weeks



From Practical Guide To Fetal Echocardiography – Abuhamad, Chaoui – 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition

# Tetralogy of Fallot

13 Weeks



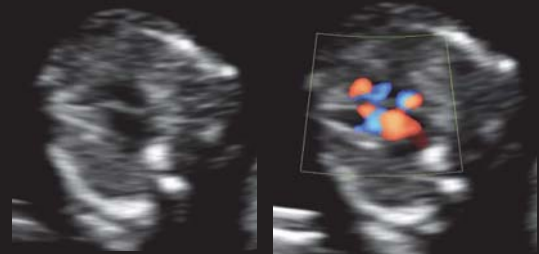
## Ventricular Septal Defect

13 Weeks

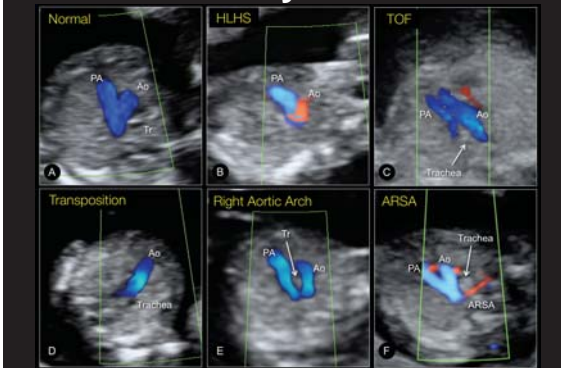


## Ventricular Septal Defect

12 Weeks



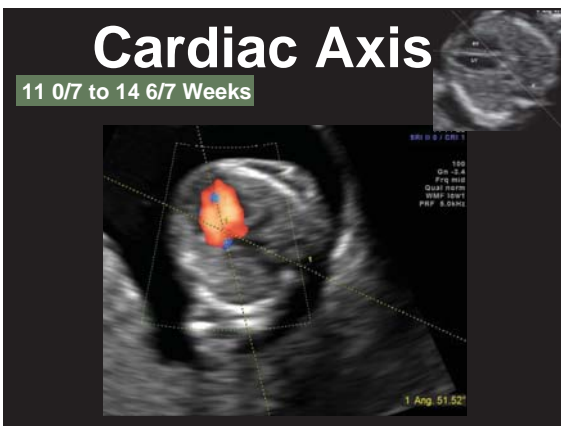
## 3VT in Early Gestation



## Cardiac Axis in the First Trimester

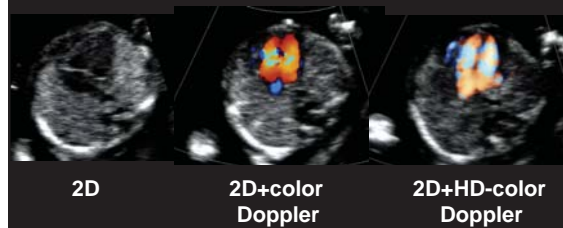
## Cardiac Axis

11 0/7 to 14 6/7 Weeks

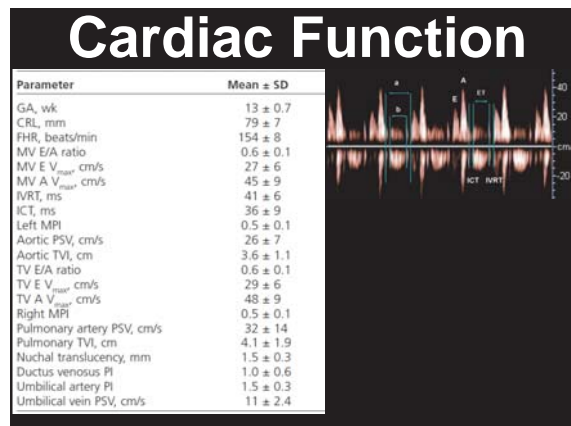
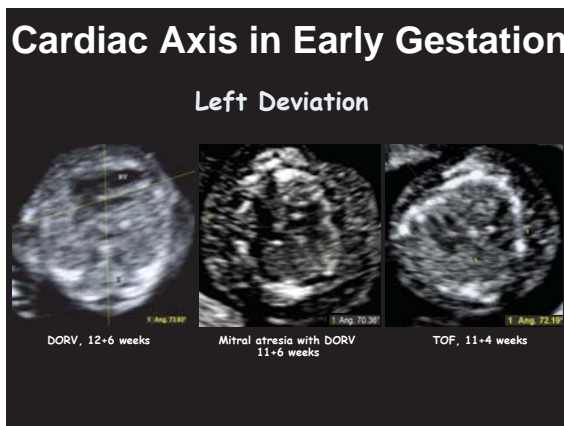
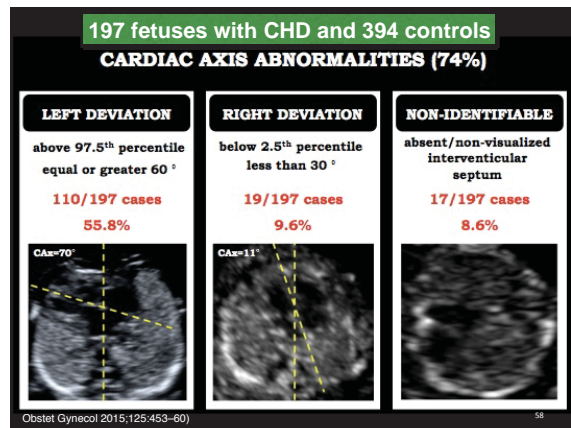
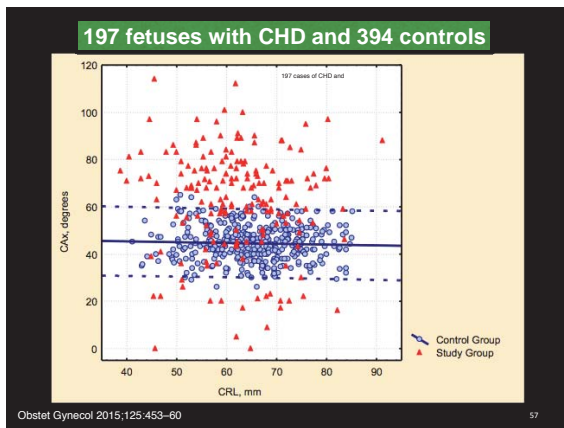
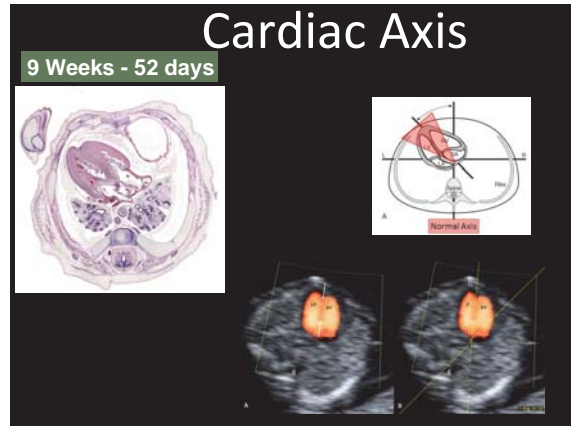
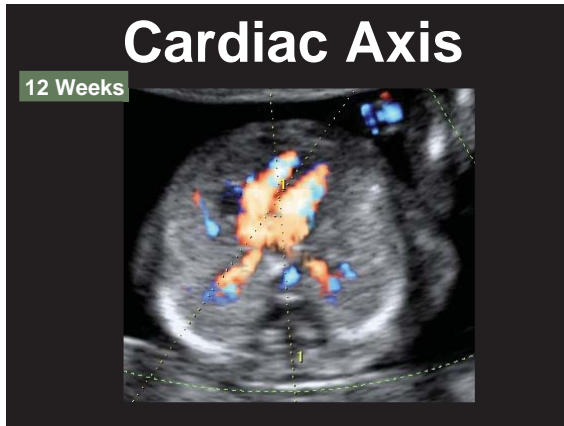


## Cardiac Axis

4 Chamber View



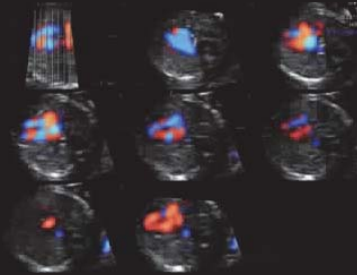




## 4D Ultrasound and Early Fetal Echocardiography

### 4D Ultrasound

11 Weeks



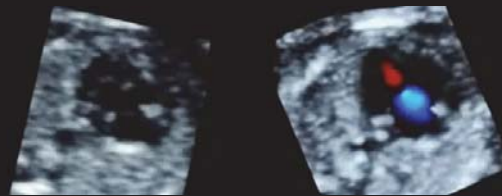
### Mitral Atresia – 4D

13 Weeks



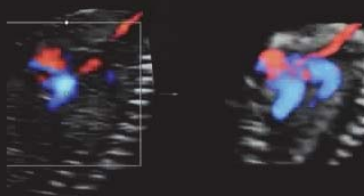
### AV- Canal – 4D

14 Weeks



### Coarctation Aorta-4D

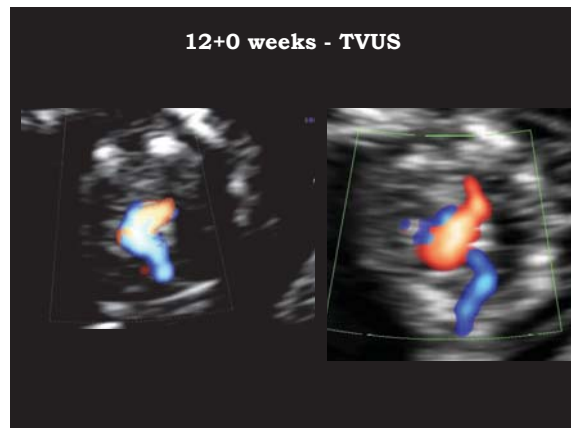
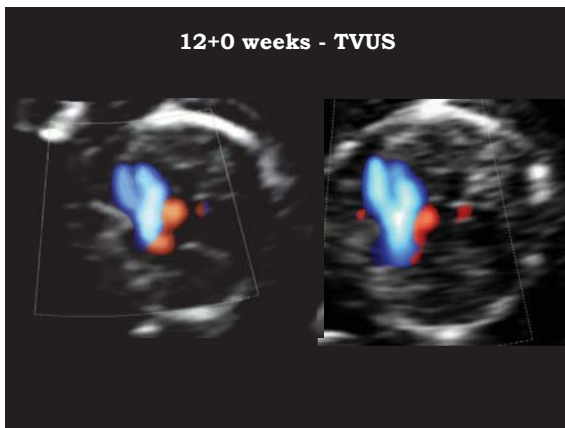
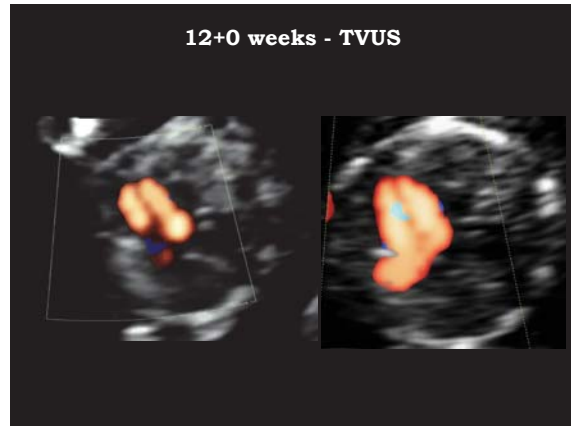
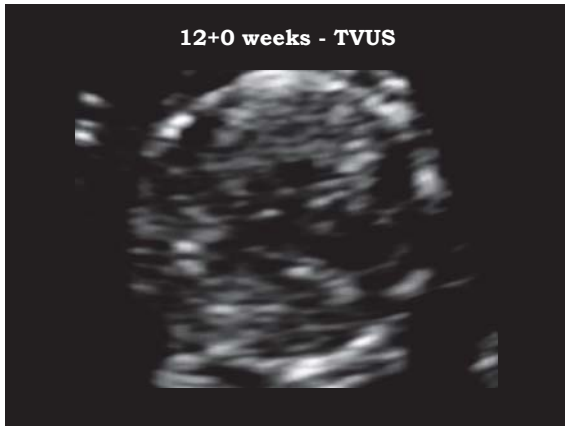
12 Weeks



PATIENT: 33 year old - G2P0

REASON FOR REFERRAL: Detailed 1<sup>st</sup> trimester ultrasound with enlarged nuchal translucency noted on the outside scan

GA AT PRESENTATION: 12+0 weeks



**DIAGNOSIS**

**CHD:** Tetralogy of Fallot with pulmonary stenosis  
- ARSA

**Small omphalocele**

**Two vessel umbilical cord**

**Genetic Counseling:**  
*Work up for chromosomal anomalies*

**Fetal Karyotype:** 46XX,del(4)(p15.2) – Wolf-Hirschhorn syndrome

**Pregnancy outcome:** termination at 15+1 weeks



## Early Fetal Imaging National Guidelines - AIUM

- d. Embryonic/fetal anatomy appropriate for the first trimester should be assessed.

<http://www.aium.org/resources/guidelines/obstetric.pdf> - 2013

## Early Fetal Imaging ISUOG Guidelines

Table 2 Suggested anatomical assessment at time of 11 to 13 + 6-week scan

Organ/anatomical area	Present and/or normal?
Head	Present Cranial bones Malline falx Choroid plexus-filled ventricles Normal appearance
Neck	Normal appearance Nuchal translucency thickness (if accepted after informed consent and transcribed operator available)*
Face	Eyes with lens* Nasal bone* Normal profile/mandible* Intact lips*
Spine	Vertebrae (longitudinal and axial)* Intact overlying skin*
Chest	Symmetrical lung fields No effusions or masses
Heart	Cardiac regular activity Four symmetrical chambers*
Abdomen	Stomach present in left upper quadrant Bladder*
Abdominal wall	Kidneys* Normal cord insertion No umbilical defects
Extremities	Four limbs each with three segments Hands and feet with normal orientation*
Placenta	Size and texture
Cord	Three-vessel cord*

<http://www.isuog.org> - 2013

## Early Fetal Imaging National Guidelines

First trimester ultrasound remains indication driven  
If a late first trimester US is performed – evaluation for  
In some experienced centers, detection of major fetal anomalies in first trimester is possible

NICHD Consensus on fetal imaging - 2013

## Early Fetal Imaging

### Spectral Doppler Safety - AIUM

The use of Doppler ultrasound during the first trimester is currently being promoted as a valuable diagnostic aid for

<http://www.aium.org/officialStatements/42> - 2011

## Early Fetal Imaging

### Spectral Doppler Safety - AIUM

1. Fetal Doppler (spectral, power, and strain flow imaging) ultrasound should not be used routinely.
2. Fetal Doppler ultrasound may be used for clinical indications such as to refine risks for trisomy.
3. When performing Doppler ultrasound, the displayed Thermal Index (TI) should be less than or equal to 1.0 and exposure time should be kept as short as possible (usually no longer than 5-10 minutes) and not exceed 60 minutes.
4. When using Doppler ultrasound for research, teaching, and training purposes, the displayed TI should be less than or equal to 1.0 and exposure time should be kept as short as possible (usually no longer than 5-10 minutes) and not exceed 60 minutes. Informed consent should be obtained.
5. In educational settings, discussion of first trimester dated or color Doppler should be accompanied by information on safety and bioeffects (e.g., TI, exposure times, and how to reduce the bioeffects).
6. When scanning maternal uterine arteries in the first trimester, there are unlikely to be any fetal safety implications as long as the embryo/fetus lies outside the Doppler ultrasound beam.

<http://www.aium.org/officialStatements/42> - 2011

## Early Fetal Imaging

### Spectral Doppler Safety - ISUOG

Ultrasound Obstet Gynecol (2011)  
Published online in Wiley Online Library (wileyonlinelibrary.com). DOI: 10.1002/uog.5026

### ISUOG statement on the safe use of Doppler in the 11 to 13 + 6-week fetal ultrasound examination

Bioeffects and Safety Committee (K. SALVESEN, C. LEES, J. ABRAMOWICZ, C. BREZINKA, G. TER HAAR and K. MARŠÁL) on behalf of the Board of the International Society of Ultrasound in Obstetrics and Gynecology (ISUOG)

## Cardiac Imaging in Early Gestation

### *Spectrum of CHD*

- More complex abnormalities
- Higher association with aneuploidy
- Higher association with hydrops

## Cardiac Imaging in Early Gestation

### *My Recommendations*



- It is easier than you think!
- Adjust your US presets (NT+Fetal Echo)
- Attempt to look on every scan
- Look at cardiac axis (measure?)
- High definition color optimal
- Look at 3-Vessel-Trachea View

**Free Download**  
[www.openultrasound.com](http://www.openultrasound.com)

More than 22,000 Downloads  
in less than 24 months

Translated to:

- Spanish
- Chinese
- Korean
- Italian
- Portuguese
- Russian
- Farsi
- Creole\*
- Greek\*

\*: Pending

**EVMS Fetal Cardiovascular Center**

### ULTRASOUND in Obstetrics and Gynecology: A Practical Approach

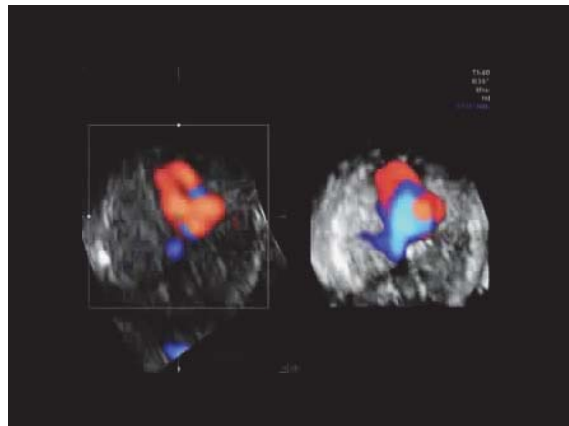
Editor  
**Alfred Abuhamad, MD**

with contributions from  
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Philippe Jeanty, MD  
Dario Paladini, MD

Editorial Assistant  
Emily Walsh, BA, MA

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81







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# **THE ROLE OF THE 3 VESSEL TRACHEA VIEW IN SCREENING AND DIAGNOSIS FOR CONOTRUNCAL ANOMALIES**

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**Elena Sinkovskaya, M.D., Ph.D.**

Assistant Professor

Director of Research

Division of Maternal-Fetal Medicine

Department of Obstetrics & Gynecology

Eastern Virginia Medical School

Norfolk, VA

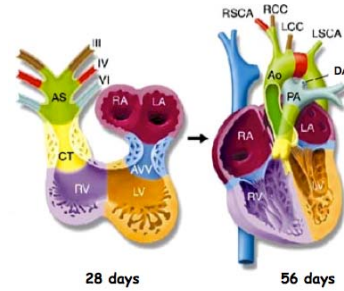


## The Role of the Three-vessel Trachea View in Screening and Diagnosis for Conotruncal Anomalies?



Elena Sinkovskaya MD, PhD  
Division of Maternal-Fetal Medicine  
Eastern Virginia Medical School

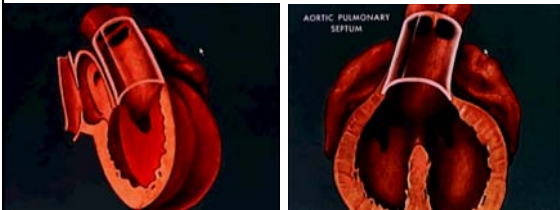
### What is conotruncus?



**CONOTRUNCUS** = Conus Cordis + Truncus Arteriosus

### Embryogenesis of conotruncus

5<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> week



### What are the conotruncal anomalies?

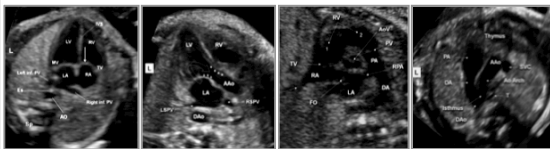


Human embryo at 25 days

- Common arterial trunk
- Tetralogy of Fallot
- Transposition of the great arteries
- Double outlet right ventricle
- Double outlet left ventricle
- Interrupted aortic arch
- Aortopulmonary window

### Ultrasound Views:

4-chamber view    LVOT view    RVOT view    3 vessel-trachea view

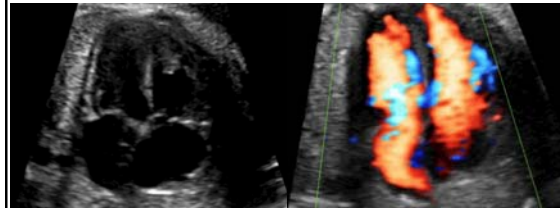


- How many great vessels are seen?
- How ventricles and great vessels are connected?
- What is the size of great vessels?
- Is VSD present or absent?
- What is the relation of the great vessels to the defect?

From Practical Guide To Fetal Echocardiography - Abuhamad, Chouli - 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition

### Differential Diagnosis - common features

4-chamber view looks normal, but...

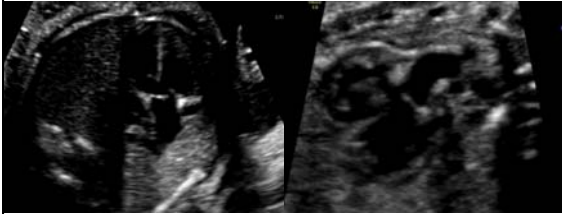


**CARDIAC AXIS**  
may be displaced to the left



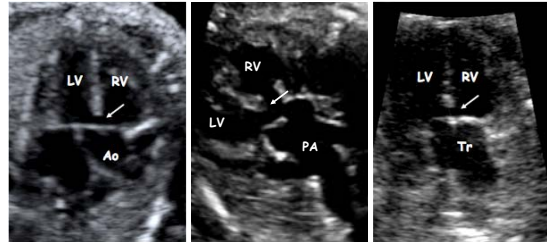
Differential Diagnosis - common features

Perimembranous VSD



Differential Diagnosis - common features

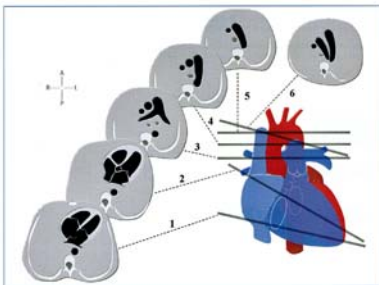
Vessel overrides the IVS



Tetralogy of Fallot      Taussig-Bing anomaly      Common arterial trunk

**ALWAYS** follow the vessels

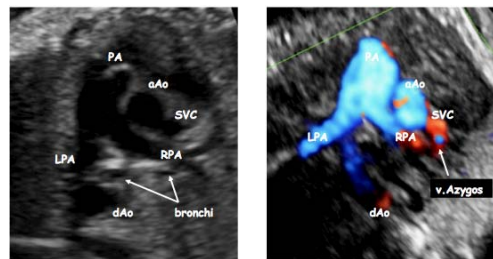
Transverse and paratransverse views of the fetal upper thorax



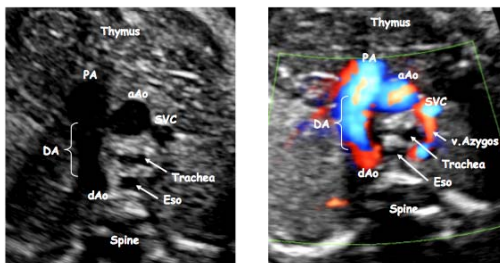
1. 4-chamber view
2. 5-chamber view
3. 3-vessel view
4. View of ductus arteriosus
5. View of aortic arch
6. 3-vessel-trachea view

From "Echocardiographic anatomy in the fetus." Chiappa E.M et al.

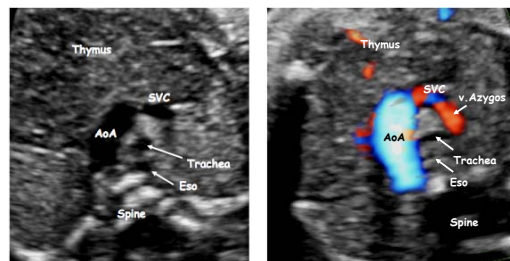
Three-vessel view



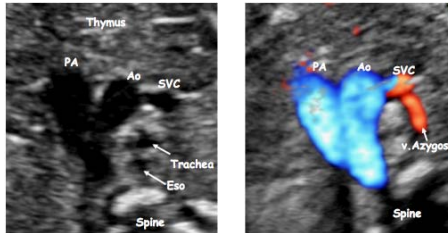
Arterial duct view



Aortic arch view



## Three-vessel-trachea view



## How to read three-vessel view ?

Assessment of anatomic components of the 3VTV should include analysis of:

Number of vessels

Size of vessels

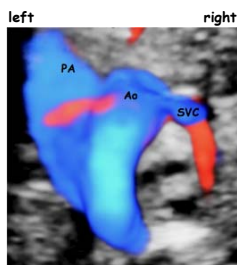
Alignment of vessels

Arrangement of vessels

Relation to the trachea

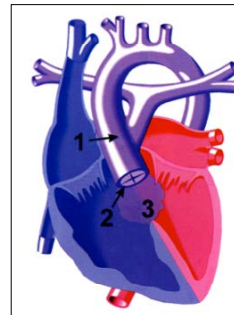
Pattern of blood flow

## Normal 3VTV



- Number of vessels: three
  - ductal arch;
  - aortic arch;
  - superior vena cava
- Vessel size: DA > AoA > SVC;
- Vessels aligned along oblique line: DA is most anterior, SVC is most posterior;
- Vessels arrangement from left to the right: DA, AoA, SVC
- Both arches are on the left to the trachea
- The confluence of the ductal and aortic arches with the same direction of the blood flow- "V shape";

## Common Arterial Trunk (CAT)



- Pulmonary artery originates from CAT
- Single vessel overriding IVS (CAT)  
(usually has 4 leaflets)
- Large ventricular septal defect

From www.PedHeart.com

## Common Arterial Trunk

### 4-chamber view

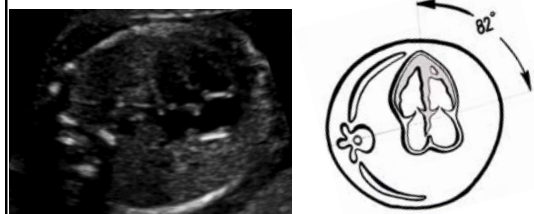


NORMAL HEART

CAT

## Common Arterial Trunk

### Cardiac axis



### Common Arterial Trunk

#### Outflow tracts

**NORMAL HEART**

- Two crossing great vessels
- PA arises from RV, Ao - from LV
- IVS is intact

**CAT**

- Single great vessel - trunk
- PA/Ao arises from trunk
- Malalignment VSD

### Common Arterial Trunk

#### Outflow tracts

Blood flow to CAT from both ventricles - "Y" sign

### Common Arterial Trunk

#### Outflow tracts

**NORMAL HEART**

- Ao - transverse
- PA - longitudinal
- AoV with 3 leaflets

**CAT**

- Single vessel - transverse
- Valve has 1-6 (usually 4) leaflets

### Common Arterial Trunk

#### Truncal valve

### Common Arterial Trunk

#### 3 vessel trachea view

**NORMAL HEART**

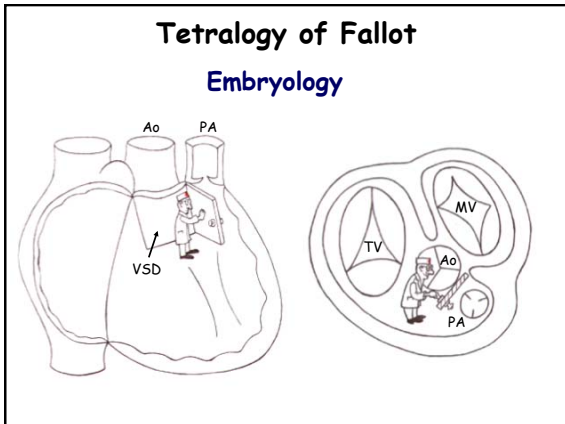
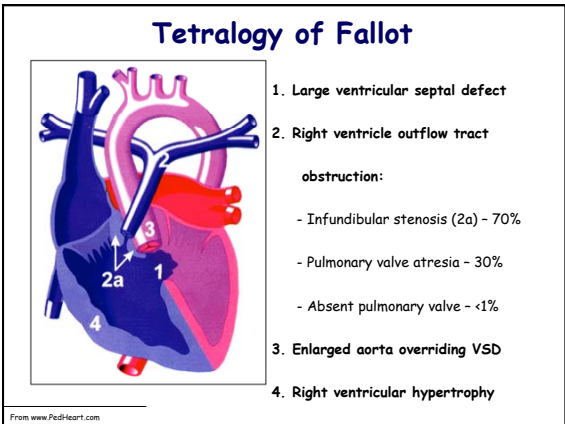
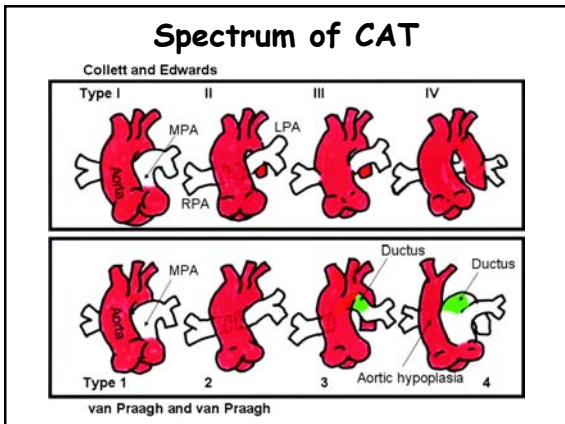
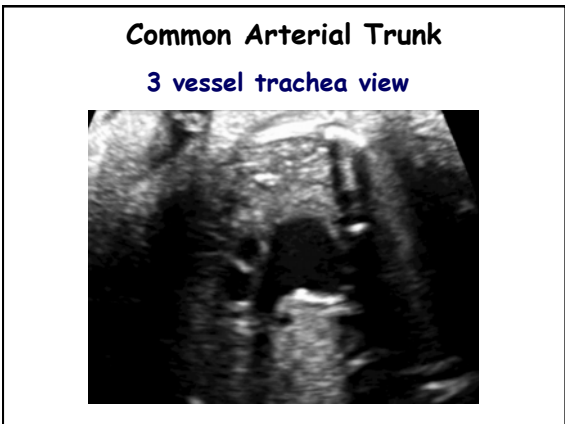
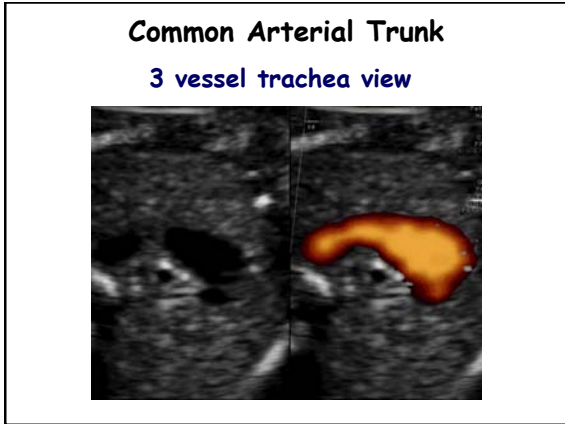
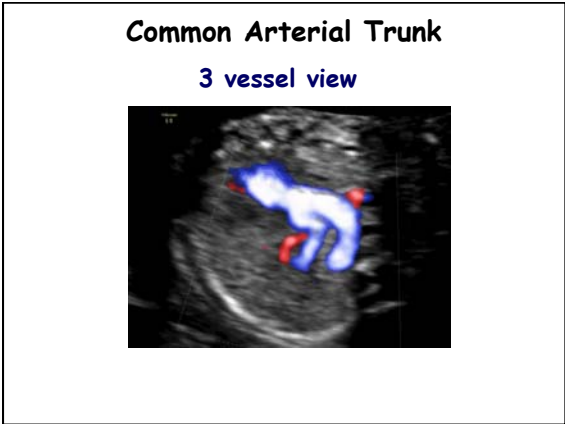
- 3 vessels (PA, Ao, SVC)
- V - shape

**CAT**

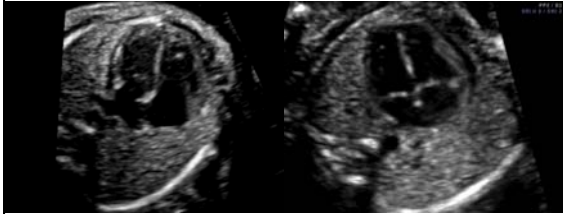
- 2 vessels (trunk, SVC)
- Variable appearance

### Common Arterial Trunk

#### 3 vessel view



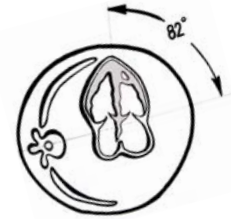
**Tetralogy of Fallot**  
4-chamber view



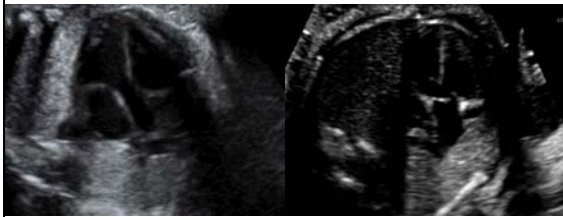
NORMAL HEART

ToF

**Tetralogy of Fallot**  
Cardiac axis



**Tetralogy of Fallot**  
LVOT view

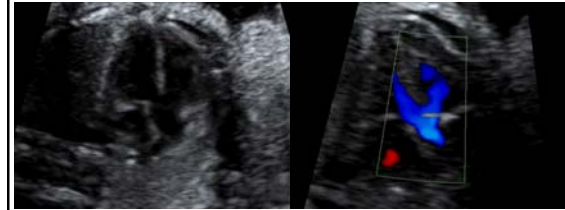


NORMAL HEART

ToF

- Aorta arises wholly from LV
- Ventricular septum intact
- Aorta arises from both ventricles
- Subaortic VSD

**Tetralogy of Fallot**  
LVOT view



Blood flow to Ao from both ventricles - "Y" sign

**Tetralogy of Fallot**  
RVOT view

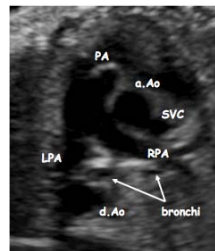


NORMAL HEART

ToF

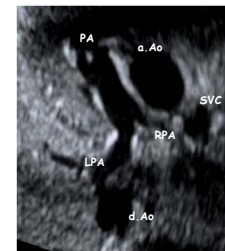
- PA normal in size
- PV opens and closes freely
- PA is small
- Stenosis of PV and/or RVOT

**Tetralogy of Fallot**  
3 vessel view



NORMAL HEART

PA > Ao > SVC

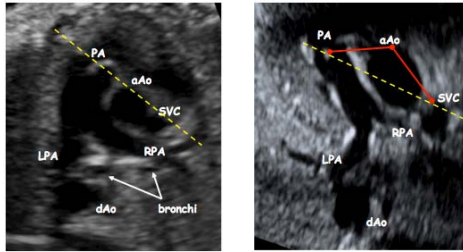


ToF

PA < Ao



### Tetralogy of Fallot 3 vessel view

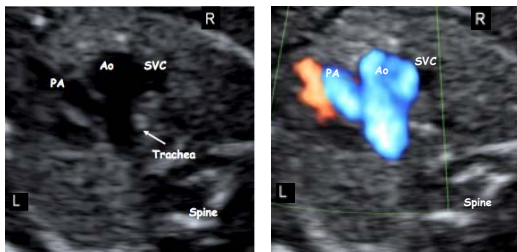


- NORMAL HEART**  
▪ Normal vessel alignment
- ToF**  
▪ Abnormal vessel alignment

### Tetralogy of Fallot 3 vessel view

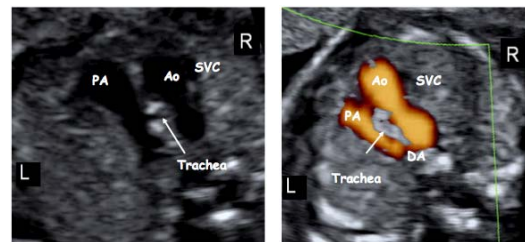


### II. Abnormal vessel size: PA is smaller than Ao



Tricuspid atresia

### III. Abnormal vessel relationship: abnormal relation to the trachea



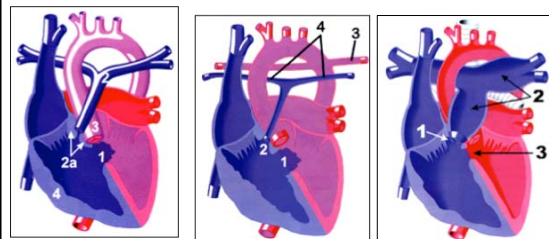
"U shape"  
Right-sided Aortic Arch + left-sided Ductus Arteriosus

### Tetralogy of Fallot 3 vessel-trachea view



Right-sided aortic arch and DA

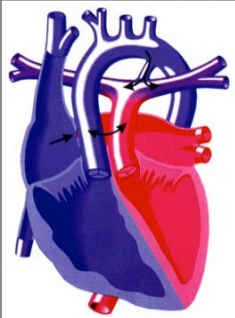
### Spectrum of ToF



- Pulmonary Stenosis**  
~ 70%
- Pulmonary Atresia**  
~ 30%
- Absent pulmonary valve**  
~ 1%

From www.PedHeart.com

### Transposition of Great Arteries




- Ao arises anteriorly and from RV;
- PA arises from LV;
- TGA results to complete separation of the pulmonary and systemic circulations;

**Concomitant cardiac anomalies:**

- Ventricular septal defect - 40%;
- LVOR obstruction - 5%
- VSD+LVOT obstruction - 10%
- Anomalies of coronary arteries - 50%.

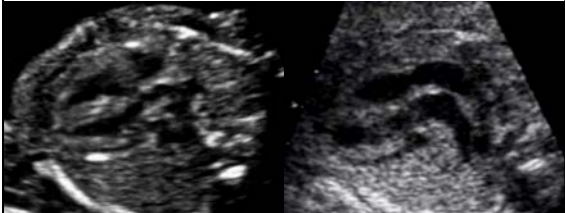
From www.PedHeart.com

### Transposition of Great Arteries 4-chamber view



NORMAL HEART
TGA

### Transposition of Great Arteries LVOT view




**NORMAL HEART**

- Aorta arises wholly from LV
- Crossing of great arteries

**TGA**

- Aorta arises wholly from RV
- Great vessels are parallel

### Transposition of Great Arteries RVOT view



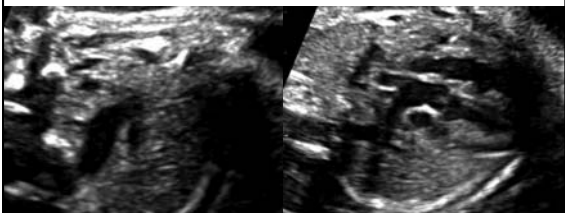
**NORMAL HEART**

- Ao - transverse
- PA - longitudinal
- PA is anterior

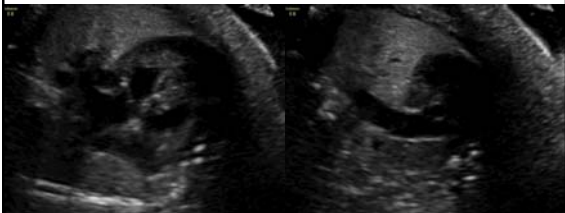
**TGA**

- Ao and PA - transverse
- Ao is anterior

### Transposition of Great Arteries Outflow tracts views



### Transposition of Great Arteries Outflow tracts views





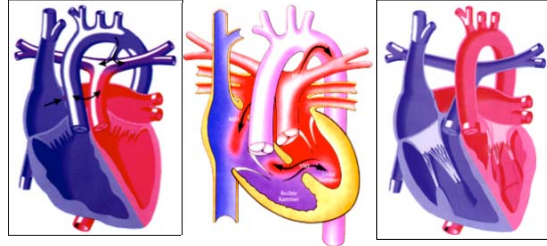
## Transposition of Great Arteries

### 3VTV views



D-TGA

## Spectrum of TGA



D-TGA

D-TGA or L-TGA

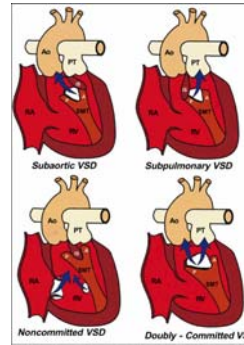
L-TGA

+ VSD

## Diagnosis ????

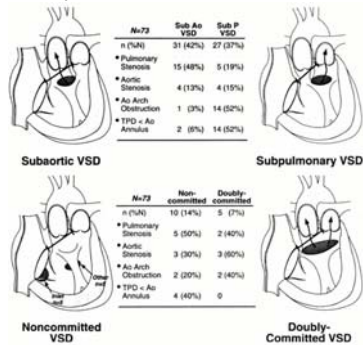


## Double Outlet Right Ventricle



1. Ao and PA arise from RV
2. Large ventricular septal defect
  - subaortic
  - subpulmonary
  - subarterial (doubly committed)
  - non-committed (remote)
3. Obstruction:
  - subpulmonary
  - subaortic

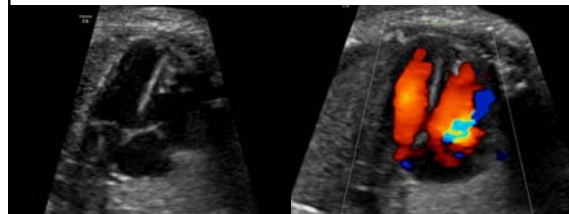
## Spectrum of DORV



Aoki M. et al.; J Thorac Cardiovasc Surg 1994;107:338-350

## Double Outlet Right Ventricle

### 4-chamber view



NORMAL HEART or DORV ???

**Double Outlet Right Ventricle**  
LVOT view

<p><b>NORMAL HEART</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Aorta arises wholly from LV</li> <li>▪ Ventricular septum intact</li> <li>▪ Ao- mitral continuity present</li> </ul>	<p><b>DORV</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ One of the vessels overrides IVS</li> <li>▪ Malalignment VSD</li> <li>▪ Ao-mitral continuity absent</li> </ul>
--	--

**Double Outlet Right Ventricle**  
LVOT view

Blood flow to Ao from both ventricles - "Y" sign

**Double Outlet Right Ventricle**  
ToF type

**Double Outlet Right Ventricle**  
ToF type

**Double Outlet Right Ventricle**  
TGA type

Blood flow to Ao from both ventricles - "Y" sign

**Double Outlet Right Ventricle**  
TGA type

Taussig-Bing anomaly

### Double Outlet Right Ventricle RVOT view

**NORMAL HEART**

- Ao - transverse
- PA - longitudinal
- PA is anterior

**DORV**

- Ao and PA - transverse
- Ao and PA are side by side

### Double Outlet Right Ventricle Vessels size

### III. Abnormal vessel relationship: abnormal alignment

Double Outlet Right Ventricle

### Double Outlet Right Ventricle 3 vessel-trachea view

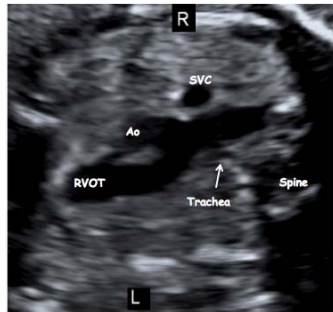
Normal heart

Double outlet right ventricle with subaortic stenosis

### What's the diagnosis?

### What's the diagnosis?

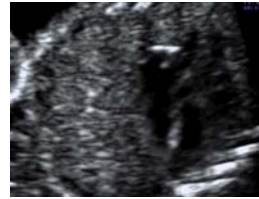
## What's the diagnosis?



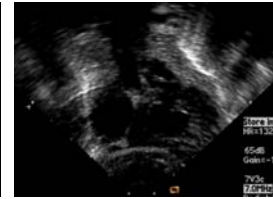
"y" - shape

## Echocardiography

Prenatal



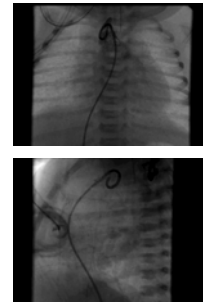
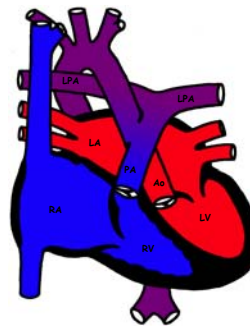
Postnatal



## What's the diagnosis?

1. Interrupted Aortic Arch type A
2. Common arterial trunk type A1 + right AoArch
3. Hemitruncus (one of PA from Aorta) + right AoArch
4. Aortopulmonary window + right AoArch

## What's the diagnosis?



## Take-home message

The 3VTV is an essential component to fetal echocardiography as it adds significantly to the complete diagnosis of heart defects

Thank You





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# **CASE PRESENTATIONS OF FETAL CARDIAC MALFORMATIONS**

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**Elena Sinkovskaya, M.D., Ph.D.**

Assistant Professor

Director of Research

Division of Maternal-Fetal Medicine

Department of Obstetrics & Gynecology

Eastern Virginia Medical School

Norfolk, VA













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# **THE ROLE OF ULTRASOUND IN THE DIAGNOSIS OF PLACENTA ACCRETA**

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**Alfred Abuhamad, M.D.**  
Professor and Chairman  
Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology  
Vice Dean for Clinical Affairs  
Eastern Virginia Medical School  
Norfolk, VA





# The Role of Ultrasound in the Diagnosis of Placenta

## Accreta



Alfred Abuhamad, MD.

Eastern Virginia Medical School

## Lecture Outline

- Placenta previa
- Vasa previa
- Placental abruption
- Morbidly adherent placenta

## Placenta Previa



## Fetal Imaging Consensus Meeting

### Placenta Previa

- Diagnosis of placenta previa is overestimated at less than 16 weeks of gestation
- At > 16 weeks, if the placental edge is  $\geq$  2 cm from the internal os, the placental location should be reported as **normal**

JUM May 2014 33:745-757

## Fetal Imaging Consensus Meeting

### Placenta Previa

- If the placental edge is < 2 cm from the internal os, but not covering the internal os, the placenta should be labeled as **low-lying**
- If the placental edge covers the internal cervical os, the placenta should be labeled as **placenta previa**
- *The terms partial previa, marginal previa and complete previa should be abandoned*

JUM May 2014 33:745-757

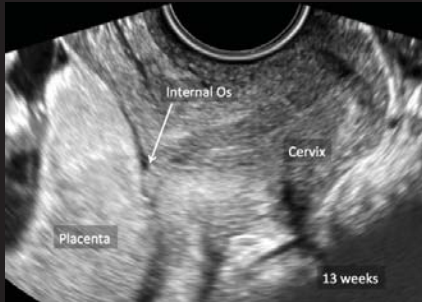
## Fetal Imaging Consensus Meeting

### Placenta Previa

- For all low-lying placentas and placenta previas, follow-up is recommended at 32 weeks
- if still low-lying or previa at 32 weeks, a follow-up ultrasound is recommended at 36 weeks
- Color Doppler is recommended to rule-out vasa previa for low-lying placentas in the third trimester and resolving previas
- Transvaginal ultrasound should be used for the diagnosis when placenta previa is suspected

JUM May 2014 33:745-757

## Placenta Previa



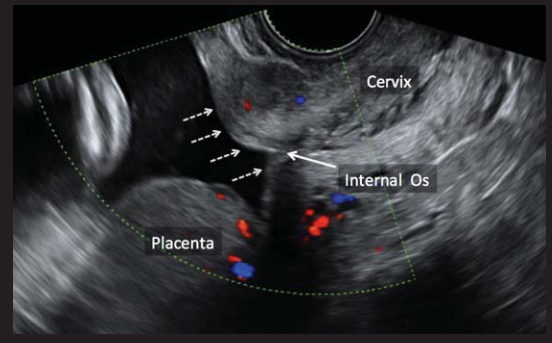
## Low-Lying Placenta



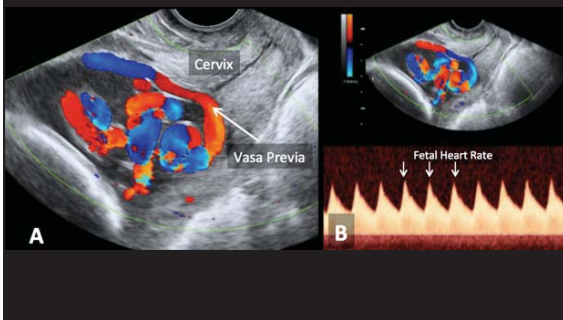
## Normal Placenta



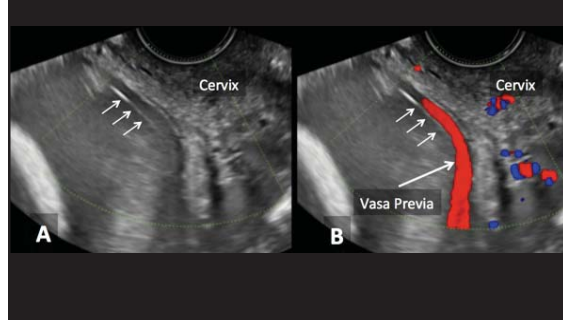
## Ruling out Vasa Previa



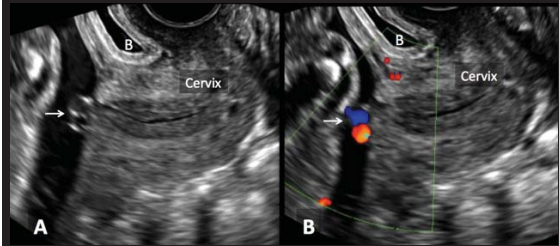
## Vasa Previa



## Vasa Previa



## Vasa Previa



## Placental Abruption



## Placenta Accreta

- US findings in First Trimester
- US Findings in Second & Third Trimesters
- MRI Findings
- Recent Literature - controversy
- Optimizing your US Diagnosis

## Novel Pathologic Entity

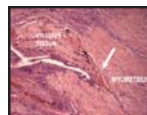
- First described in the 20<sup>th</sup> century
- First reports in 1930's
- Suggest that the entity did not exist or was quite rare before the 1930's

Surgery Gynecol Obstet 1937;64:178-200

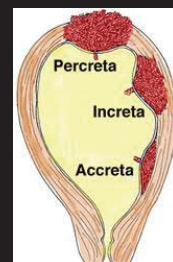
## Terminology

- **Morbidly adherent placenta:** abnormal implantation of the placenta into the uterine wall
- **Placenta accreta:** placental villi adhere directly to the myometrium
- **Placenta increta:** placental villi invade into the myometrium
- **Placenta percreta:** placental villi invade through the myometrium and into the serosa

## Frequency



- **Placenta accreta: 75 %**
- **Placenta increta: 18 %**
- **Placenta percreta: 7 %**



Am J Obstet Gynecol 1997;177:210-214

## Pathogenesis

### Three Theories

- Primary defect of trophoblast function, leading to excessive invasion of myometrium
- Secondary basal defect due to failure of normal decidualization in area of uterine scar allowing an abnormally deep trophoblastic infiltration
- An abnormal vascularization resulting from the scarring process after surgery with secondary localized hypoxia leading to both defective decidualization and excessive trophoblastic invasion

J Obstet Gynaecol Br Emp 1959;66:353-64 - Placenta 1987;8:399-409 - Placenta 2008;29:639-45  
Cell 1992;71:355-7 - Am J Obstet Gynecol 2011;204:411.e1-411

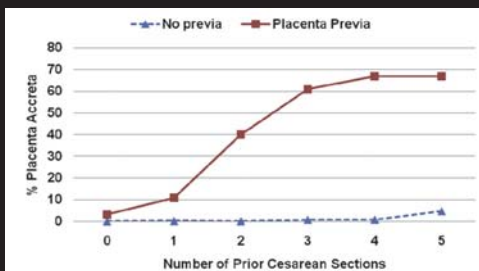
## Incidence

- Overall is around 3/1000 deliveries
- Increase over past several decades
- Estimated at 1/10,000 in the 1960's
- Main reason for increase is change in cesarean section rates

Am J Obstet Gynecol 2010;203(5):403-9 - Clin Obstet Gynecol 2010;53(1):228-36

## Risk Factors

### Cesarean Section/Placenta Previa



Clin Perinatol 2011;38:285-296 Obstet Gynecol 2006;107:1226-32

## Risk Factors

TABLE 8.5 Risk Factors for Placenta Accreta

- Placenta previa and prior cesarean section
- Advanced maternal age
- Multiparity
- Prior uterine surgery
- Prior uterine irradiation
- Endometrial ablation
- Asherman's syndrome
- Leiomyomas
- Uterine anomalies
- Hypertensive disorders in pregnancy
- Smoking

Abuhamad A - Ultrasound in Obstetrics and Gynecology: A Practical Approach

## Ultrasound Parameters

TABLE 8.6 Ultrasound Diagnostic Findings in Placenta Accreta

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| - Gestational sac implanted in the lower uterine segment        | 1 |
| - Cesarean section scar implantation                            | 1 |
| - Multiple vascular lacunae in the second trimester             | 2 |
| - Loss of normal hypoechoic retroplacental zone                 | 3 |
| - Multiple vascular lacunae in the third trimester              |   |
| - Abnormality in uterine-serosa-bladder interface               |   |
| - Retroplacental myometrial thickness of less than 1 millimeter |   |
| - Turbulent blood flow on color Doppler through the lacunae     |   |
| - Extension of villi into myometrium, serosa or bladder         |   |

Abuhamad A - Ultrasound in Obstetrics and Gynecology: A Practical Approach

## Sonographic Findings

First Trimester

## Sonographic Findings

### First Trimester

- Sac implanted in lower segment (Prior CS)
- Multiple irregular vascular spaces

AJR 2002; 179:535 – J Ultrasound Med 2003;22:19-23  
 Ultrasound Obstet Gynecol 2006;28:178-182

## Sac in Lower-Segment

### First Trimester



## Sonographic Findings

### Gestational Sac Location

- Data base of 90,435 births
- Placenta accreta in 20
- First trimester scan in 7/20
- Sac in lower segment in 6/7

J of Ultrasound in Med 2003;22:19

## Sonographic Findings

### Gestational Sac Location

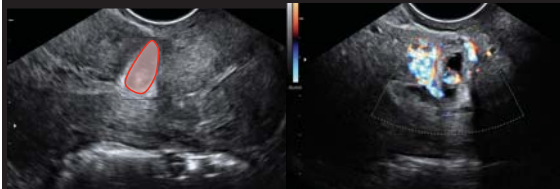
Table 1. Summary of Patients

Pt	Prev Csd	GA Scan, wk	Sac Location	Procedure	Pathologic Finding	ICU	Other
1	2	6.5	Low	UA ligation	NA	Yes	Sheehan
2	4	6	Low	Hysterectomy	Pecreta	No	None
3	2	6	Low	Hysterectomy	Increta	No	None
4	2	6	Low	Hysterectomy	Accreta	No	None
5	2	10	Low	Hysterectomy	Accreta	Yes	None
6	2	6	Low	Hysterectomy	Accreta	Yes	None
7	0	10	Fundal	Hysterectomy	Increta	Yes	None

GA indicates gestational age at first scan; ICU, intensive care unit; NA, not applicable; Prev Csd, previous cesarean delivery; Pt, patient; Sheehan, Sheehan syndrome (anterior hypopituitarism); and UA, uterine artery.

J of Ultrasound in Med 2003;22:19

## Cesarean Scar Pregnancy



## Cesarean Scar Pregnancy



## Cesarean Scar Pregnancy

Post Treatment with MTX into Sac (10 days)



## Sonographic Findings

Second & Third Trimester

15 – 20 Weeks

## Sonographic Findings

Multiple vascular lacunae within placenta at 15 – 20 weeks



## Sonographic Findings

Multiple vascular lacunae within placenta at 15 – 20 weeks



## Sonographic Findings

Multiple vascular lacunae within placenta at 15 – 20 weeks

**Table II** Sensitivity and positive predictive value of ultrasound diagnostic criteria for placenta accreta at 15 to 20 weeks of gestational age

Diagnostic criteria	Sensitivity		Positive predictive value	
	n/N	%	n/N	%
Any criteria	12/14	86	12/19	63
> 2 Criteria	8/14	57	8/9	89
Lacunae	11/14	79	11/12	92*
Clear space (isolated)	1/14	7	1/7	14
Clear space (with other)	7/14	50	7/8	88
Bladder serosa wall	3/14	21	3/3	100

\* Includes transient abnormal findings that were not confirmed by a follow-up scan.

Am J Obstet Gynecol 2004;190:1135-40

## Sonographic Findings

Second & Third Trimester

Beyond 20 Weeks



Multiple vascular lacunae within placenta



Multiple vascular lacunae within placenta



Multiple vascular lacunae within placenta

*Personal Observation*  
Multiple vascular lacunae have very high predictive power in association with a placenta previa

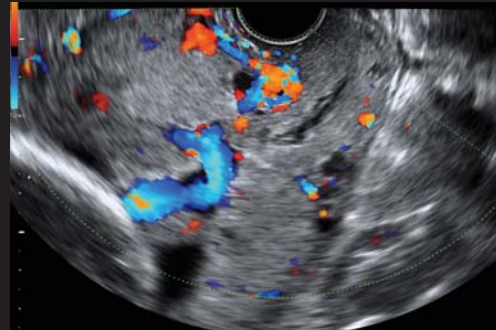
Multiple vascular lacunae within placenta



Multiple vascular lacunae within placenta



Multiple vascular lacunae within placenta





## Pathogenesis of Placental Lacunae

Placental tissue alterations resulting from long-term exposure to pulsatile blood flow



Radiology 1997;205:773-6 – J Ultrasound Med 1999;18:853-6 – AJOG 1990;163:723-727  
Am J Obstet Gynecol 2004;190:1135-40 – Radiographics 2008;28:1905-16

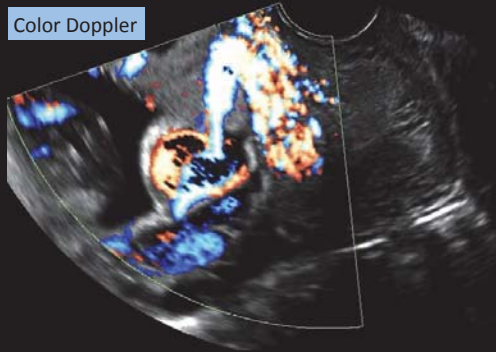
## Lacunae – Blood Flow

Gray Scale



## Lacunae – Blood Flow

Color Doppler



## Lacunae – Blood Flow

B Flow



## Lacunae in Placenta Accreta

**Table 3.** Utility of lacunae in the diagnosis of PAD

Study	Sensitivity (%)	Specificity (%)	PPV	NPV
Cali et al. <sup>35</sup>	73	86	60	90
Comstock et al. <sup>34</sup>	93	—	93	—
Wong et al. <sup>36</sup>	100	28	21	100
Yang et al. <sup>37</sup> , Gr. $\geq 1$	86.9	78.6	76.9	88
Yang et al. <sup>34</sup> , Gr. $\geq 2$	100	97.2	93.8	100

Gr. 1 = grade 1 (one to three lacunae), Gr. 2 = grade 2 (four to six lacunae).

BIOG 2014;121:171–182

## Sonographic Findings

### Multiple vascular lacunae within placenta (# Lacunae)

**Table 2** Distribution of adherent placenta according to lacunar grade

Adherent placenta	Grading			
	Grade 0 (n = 25)	Grade 1 (n = 10)	Grade 2 (n = 11)	Grade 3 (n = 5)
None	22	6	—	—
Accreta	3	4	1	—
Increta	—	—	5	4
Percreta	—	—	5	1
Total	25	10	11	5

G 0 = 0 lacunae  
G 1 = 1-3 lacunae  
G 2 = 4-6 lacunae  
G 3 = > 6 lacunae

Ultrasound Obstet Gynecol 2006;28:178-182 - JUM 1992;11:333-343

## Sonographic Findings

### Loss of hypoechoic retroplacental zone

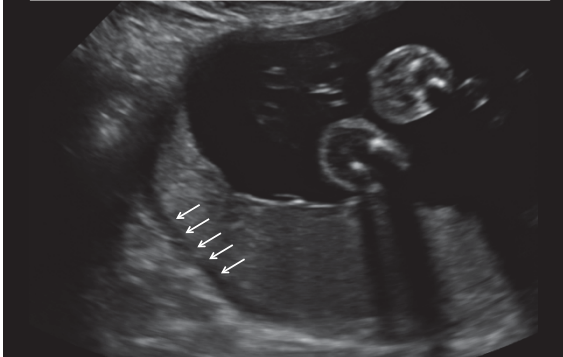
Also referred to as loss of clear space between placenta and uterus

Obstet Gynecol 2004;104:527-30  
Obstet Gynecol Surv 1998;53:509-17

### Normal hypoechoic retroplacental zone



### Normal hypoechoic retroplacental zone



### Loss of hypoechoic retroplacental zone



### Loss of hypoechoic retroplacental zone



## Loss of Hypoechoic Retroplacental Zone in Placenta Accreta

**Table 1.** Utility of the clear space in diagnosis of PAD

Author	Sensitivity (%)	Specificity (%)	PPV	NPV
Comstock et al. <sup>34</sup>	73		14	
Wong et al. <sup>36</sup>	100	35	20	100
Cali et al. <sup>35</sup>	90.2	80.8	57	96.7

BJOG 2014;121:171-182

### Loss of hypoechoic retroplacental zone

- False positive rate of 21% or higher
- Should not be used alone
- Angle dependent, can be absent in normal anterior placentas

Obstet Gynecol 2004;104:527-30 - Obstet Gynecol Surv 1998;53:509-17  
Obstet Gynecol 2004; 190:1135-1140 - J Ultrasound Med 1992;11:333-343 -  
Radiology 1980;134:475-478 - RCOG, 2005:26. Green-top Guideline No. 27.2011:26

### Sonographic Findings

#### Abnormality of the uterine serosa-bladder interface

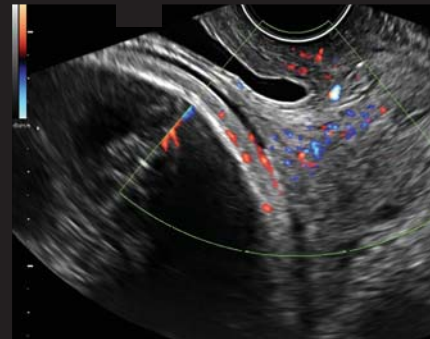
- Interruption of line
- Thickening of line
- Irregularity of line
- Increased vascularity on color Doppler

Ultrasound Obstet Gynecol 2005;26:89-96 - Obstet Gynecol 2006;108:573-81

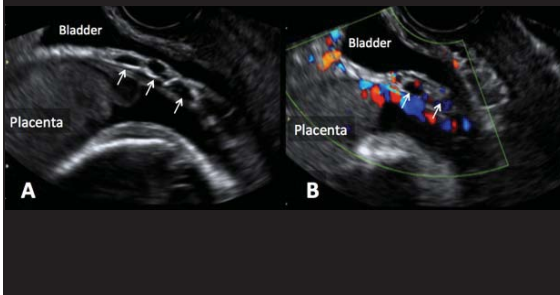
### Normal uterine serosa-bladder interface



### Normal uterine serosa-bladder interface



### Abnormality of the uterine serosa-bladder interface



### Abnormality of the uterine serosa-bladder interface



### Abnormality of the uterine serosa-bladder interface



### Abnormality of the uterine serosa-bladder interface



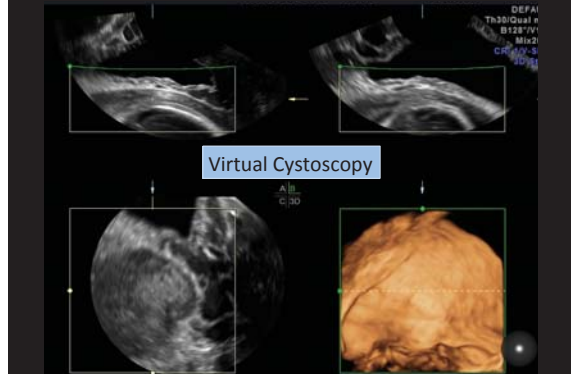
### Bladder Wall in Placenta Accreta

**Table 2.** Utility of interrupted bladder line in the diagnosis of PAD

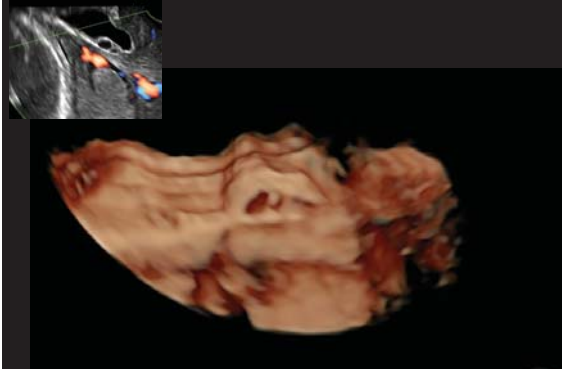
Study	Sensitivity (%)	Specificity (%)	PPV	NPV
Cali et al. <sup>35</sup>	70	99	96	92
Comstock et al. <sup>34</sup>	20		75	
Wong et al. <sup>36</sup>	11	100	100	88

BJOG 2014;121:171-182

### 3D Ultrasound - Bladder



### 3D Ultrasound - Bladder



### Sonographic Findings

#### Other Signs

- Retroplacental myometrial thickness of < 1 mm
- Turbulent blood flow through the lacunae on Doppler ultrasonography
- Abnormal bridging vessels on color Doppler

Radiology 1997;205:773-6 – J Ultrasound Med 1999;18:853-6 –  
 Am J Obstet Gynecol 2004;190:1135-40 – Obstet Gynecol 2004;104:527-30 –  
 Ultrasound Obstet Gynecol 2005;26:89-96 – Obstet Gynecol 2006;108:573-81

## Prenatal identification of invasive placentation using ultrasound: systematic review and meta-analysis

F. D'ANTONIO, C. IACOVELLA and A. BHIDE

Table 2 Pooled values for sensitivity, specificity, positive and negative likelihood ratios (LR+ and LR-) and diagnostic odds ratio (DOR) for ultrasound overall and the different ultrasound signs in the identification of invasive placentation

Diagnostic method	Studies (n)	Patients (n)	Sensitivity (95% CI) (%)	Specificity (95% CI) (%)	LR+ (95% CI)	LR- (95% CI)	DOR (95% CI)
Ultrasound (overall)	23	3707	90.72 (87.2-93.6)	96.94 (96.3-97.5)	11.01 (6.1-20.0)	0.16 (0.11-0.23)	98.59 (48.8-199.0)
Placental lacunae	13	2725	77.43 (70.9-83.1)	93.02 (94.1-93.8)	4.52 (2.5-8.1)	0.29 (0.20-0.43)	24.32 (9.13-64.8)
Loss of hypoechoic space	10	2633	66.24 (58.3-73.6)	95.76 (94.9-96.5)	5.64 (2.3-14.1)	0.38 (0.20-0.69)	21.98 (6.8-70.6)
Abnormalities of uterus-bladder interface	9	2579	49.66 (41.4-58.0)	99.75 (99.5-99.9)	30.56 (8.1-115.5)	0.51 (0.34-0.77)	93.70 (35.9-247.5)
Color Doppler abnormalities	12	714	90.74 (85.2-94.7)	87.68 (84.6-90.4)	7.77 (3.3-18.4)	0.17 (0.10-0.29)	49.02 (22.8-208.9)

Ultrasound Obstet Gynecol 2013; 42: 509-517

## MRI Findings

## MRI Findings

- Uterine bulging
- Heterogeneous signal intensity within the placenta
- Dark intra-placental bands on T2-weighted images
- Abnormal placental vascularity
- Focal interruptions in the myometrial wall
- Tenting of the bladder
- Direct visualization of invasion of near organs

Magn Reson Imaging 2007;25:87-93 – Radiographics 2008;28:1905-1916  
AJR 2011;197:1514-1521

## MRI Findings

### Uterine Bulging



Radiographics 2008;28:1905-1916 – AJOG 2010; 430-439.

## MRI Findings

### Dark intra-placental bands



Radiographics 2008;28:1905-1916

## MRI Findings

### Abnormal placental vascularity



Clinical Radiology 2009; 64:511-516



## MRI Findings

Direct visualization of invasion of near organs

Clinical Radiology 2009; 64:511-516

## Prenatal identification of invasive placentation using magnetic resonance imaging: systematic review and meta-analysis

F. D'ANTONIO\*, C. IACOVELLA\*, J. PALACIOS-JARAQUEMADA†, C. H. BRUNO‡, L. MANZOLIS§ and A. BHIDE\*

Table 3 Summary estimates of sensitivity, specificity, positive and negative likelihood ratios (LR+, LR-) and diagnostic odds ratio (DOR) of different magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) signs for the detection of invasive placentation

MRI sign	Studies (n)	Total sample (n)	Sensitivity (%) (95% CI)	Specificity (%) (95% CI)	DOR (95% CI)	LR+ (95% CI)	LR- (95% CI)
Uterine bulging	5*	119	79.1 (60.3-90.4)	90.2 (76.2-96.4)	34.8 (7.46-162.4)	8.06 (2.93-22.2)	0.23 (0.11-0.22)
Heterogeneous signal intensity	6*	143	78.6 (57.9-90.8)	87.7 (50.4-98.0)	26.2 (1.85-177.8)	4.38 (1.23-13.1)	0.24 (0.12-0.52)
Dark intraplacental bands on T2-weighted MRI	6*	146	87.9 (70.9-93.6)	71.9 (55.6-84.0)	18.6 (4.12-83.8)	3.13 (1.76-5.56)	0.17 (0.06-0.48)
Focal interruption of myometrium	4*	119	92.0 (79.2-97.2)	75.6 (50.4-90.4)	35.5 (5.03-250.9)	3.77 (1.54-9.23)	0.11 (0.03-0.33)
Tearing of bladder	2†	74	80.0 (28.0-99.5)	98.6 (92.2-100)	119 (9.9-1436)	31.3 (3.9-168)	0.28 (0.07-1.09)

\*Computations based on hierarchical summary receiver-operating characteristics model. †Computations based on DerSimonian-Laird random-effect model.

Ultrasound Obstet Gynecol 2014;44:8-16

## MRI & Accreta

Fetal Imaging Forum - 2013

MRI may be useful in determining

- Extent of invasion and involvement of structures when percreta is suspected
- When there is increased suspicion for placenta accreta based on clinical factors but the ultrasonography is nondiagnostic.

J Ultrasound Med 2014; 33:745-757

## IMAGING Accuracy of ultrasound for the prediction of placenta accreta

Zachary S. Bowman, MD, PhD; Alexandra G. Eller, MD; Anne M. Kennedy, MB BCh, BAQ; Douglas S. Richards, MD; Thomas C. Winter III, MD, MA; Paula I. Woodward, MD; Robert M. Silver, MD

- 55 patients with accreta and 56 controls (previa)
- De-identified US studies
- Reviewed by 6 investigators, blinded to Dx

Am J Obstet Gynecol 2014;211:177

## IMAGING Accuracy of ultrasound for the prediction of placenta accreta

Zachary S. Bowman, MD, PhD; Alexandra G. Eller, MD; Anne M. Kennedy, MB BCh, BAQ; Douglas S. Richards, MD; Thomas C. Winter III, MD, MA; Paula I. Woodward, MD; Robert M. Silver, MD

- Placental lacunae (OR 1.4 – 95% CI, 1.3-1.6)
- Loss of retroplacental space (OR 2.2 – 95% CI, 1.6-3.0)
- Irregular bladder wall (OR 1.3 – 95% CI, 1.0-1.6)
- Color Doppler abnormalities (OR 1.3 – 95% CI, 1.1-1.4)


Am J Obstet Gynecol 2014;211:177

## Why Such Disparity?

How do I optimize my ultrasound diagnosis?

## How to Optimize US Diagnosis?

### 1-Understand Relevance of a-Priori Risk

NIPT -  NIPT + T18

## Ultrasound predictors of placental invasion: the Placenta Accreta Index

Martha W. F. Rac, MD; Jodi S. Dashe, MD; G. Edward Wells, MD; Elysis Moschos, MD; Donald D. McIntire, PhD; Diane M. Twickler, MD

### OR estimates and CIs of each parameter used in Placenta Accreta Index

Parameter	OR	95% CI
Grade-3 lacunae	10.8	1.4–83
No. of cesarean deliveries	9.6	2.5–37.1
Placental location	3.9	1.1–14.1
Grade-2 lacunae	2.9	0.6–12.7
Bridging vessels	2.3	0.6–8.7
Sagittal smallest myometrial thickness	1.0	0.8–1.2

Am J Obstet Gynecol 2014

## Ultrasound Parameters

TABLE 8.6 Ultrasound Diagnostic Findings in Placenta Accreta

- Gestational sac implanted in the lower uterine segment
- Cesarean section scar implantation
- Multiple vascular lacunae in the second trimester
- Loss of normal hypoechoic retroplacental zone
- Multiple vascular lacunae in the third trimester
- Abnormality in uterine-serosa-bladder interface
- Retroplacental myometrial thickness of less than 1 millimeter
- Turbulent blood flow on color Doppler through the lacunae
- Extension of villi into myometrium, serosa or bladder

Placenta Previa  
Prior CSs  
Anterior Placenta

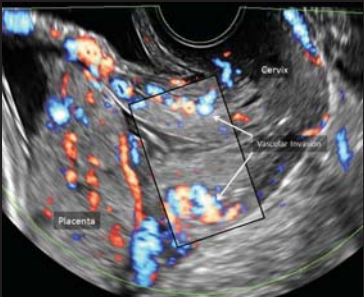
Abuhamad A - Ultrasound in Obstetrics and Gynecology: A Practical Approach

## How to Optimize US Diagnosis?

### 2-Optimize Ultrasound Imaging


- Always use the transvaginal approach
- Evaluate placenta in real time
- Always add color Doppler in low velocity
- Carefully assess the lower segment / cervical area (look for cervical invasion)
- Develop expertise

## Invasion of Cervical Stroma Ultrasound Marker for PPH



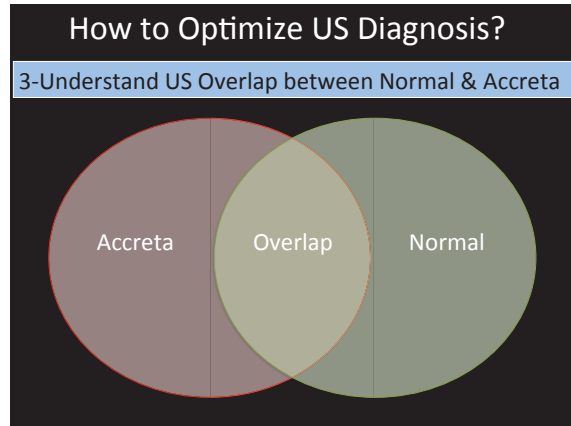
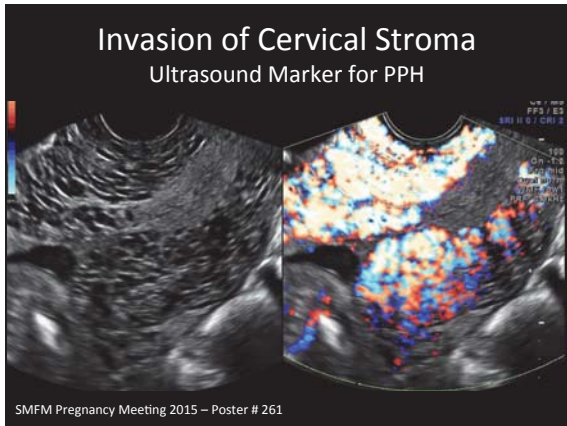
SMFM Pregnancy Meeting 2015 – Poster # 261

## Invasion of Cervical Stroma Ultrasound Marker for PPH



SMFM Pregnancy Meeting 2015 – Poster # 261



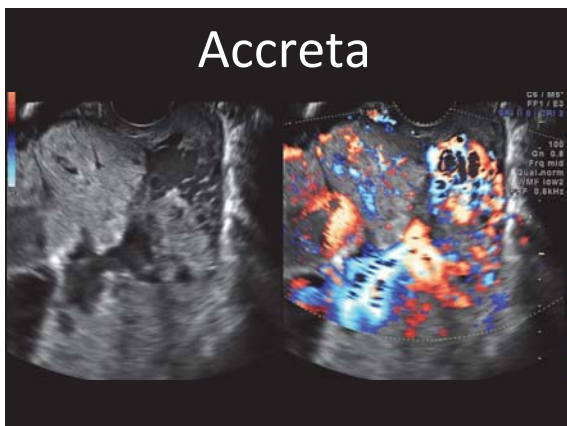
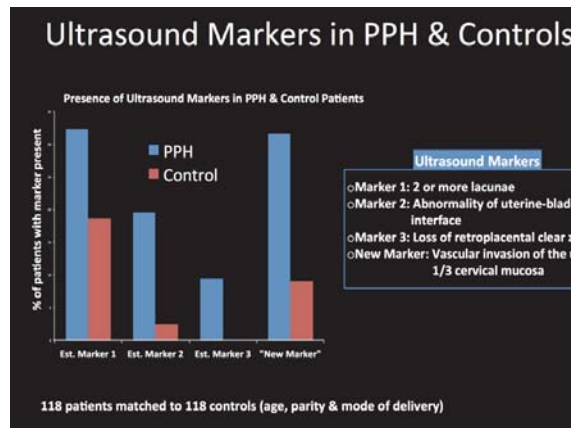


### Ultrasound predictors of placental invasion: the Placenta Accreta Index

Martha W. F. Rac, MD; Jodi S. Dashe, MD; C. Edward Wells, MD; Elysa Moschos, MD; Donald D. McIntire, PhD; Diane M. Twickler, MD

Ultrasound parameters of entire cohort			
Variable	Placental invasion, n = 54	No placental invasion, n = 130	P value
Anterior placentation	38 (70)	36 (28)	< .001
Lacunae			< .001
Grade 0	11 (20)	62 (48)	
Grade 1	15 (28)	52 (40)	
Grade 2	10 (19)	12 (9)	
Grade 3	18 (33)	4 (3)	
Bridging vessels	35 (65)	24 (18)	< .001
Sagittal smallest myometrial thickness, mm	0.9 [0.0,2.2]	2.4 [0.0,4.0]	< .001
Uterine-bladder interface thickness, mm	2.4 [0.0,4.0]	3.3 [2.4,4.0]	.003

Am J Obstet Gynecol 2014



## Risk for Accreta?



## How to Optimize US Diagnosis?

### 4-Report Results as Risk Profile for PPH

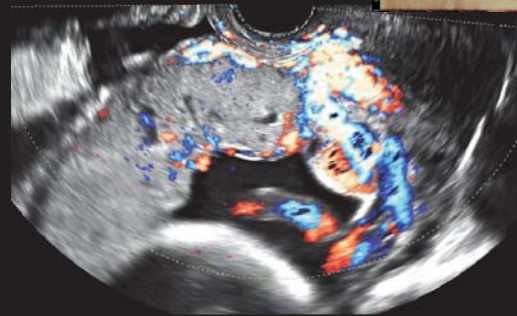
- Until we have large prospective data on US diagnosis,

## How to Optimize US Diagnosis?

### 4-Report Results as Risk Profile for PPH

- High-risk for bleeding
- Intermediate-risk for bleeding
- Low-risk for bleeding

## High-risk for Bleeding



## Low Risk for Bleeding



## Intermediate Risk for Bleeding



## Intermediate Risk for Bleeding



## Ultrasound predictors of placental invasion: the Placenta Accreta Index

Martha W. F. Rac, MD; Jodi S. Dashe, MD; C. Edward Wells, MD; Elysis Moschos, MD; Donald D. McIntire, PhD; Diane M. Twickler, MD

Sensitivity, specificity, and positive and negative predictive values at each PAI score

PAI	n	Probability of invasion, % (95% CI)	Sensitivity (95% CI)	Specificity (95% CI)	PPV (95% CI)	NPV (95% CI)
≥0	1	5 (1–15)	100 (88–100)	19 (10–31)	38 (27–49)	100 (72–100)
≥1	1	10 (4–22)	97 (82–100)	47 (34–61)	47 (34–61)	97 (82–100)
≥2	2	19 (10–32)	93 (77–99)	58 (44–70)	52 (38–66)	94 (81–99)
≥3	4	33 (22–47)	86 (68–96)	68 (54–79)	57 (41–72)	91 (78–97)
≥4	6	51 (36–66)	72 (53–87)	85 (73–93)	70 (51–85)	86 (75–94)
≥5	6	69 (50–83)	52 (33–71)	92 (81–97)	75 (51–91)	79 (68–88)
≥6	2	83 (63–93)	31 (15–51)	100 (94–100)	100 (86–100)	75 (64–84)
≥7	2	91 (73–97)	24 (10–44)	100 (94–100)	100 (59–100)	73 (62–83)
≥8	5	96 (81–99)	17 (8–30)	100 (94–100)	100 (48–100)	71 (60–81)

Am J Obstet Gynecol 2014

## How to Optimize US Diagnosis?

### 5-Be Conservative

- High-index of suspicion
- When in doubt – call intermediate risk
- False + results are OK

## Management

## EVMS Accreta Clinic

- Diagnosis is based on probability; low risk – moderate risk – High risk
- Patients seen in one clinic – Accreta Clinic
- Protocol for preoperative coordination of care
- Check list to ensure adequate preoperative preparation & counseling
- Multidisciplinary team – MFM, Ob Anesthesia, Intervention radiology, Urology All
- All surgery in main OR
- ICU postop care

## Multidisciplinary Care Team

- Experienced pelvic surgeon /maternal – fetal medicine
- Skilled nursing team
- Blood bank team
- Experienced anesthesia team
- Skilled urologist
- Experienced intensivist
- Experienced interventional radiologist

## Multidisciplinary Care Team

Table 4. Maternal Morbidity in Cases of Suspected Accreta Stratified by Delivery Site

	Multidisciplinary Care Center (n=66)	Standard Care Center (n=23)	P
Estimated blood loss (L)	2.6 (0.15-9)	4.3 (0.6-21)	.096*
Maternal admission to intensive care unit	18 (28)	9 (39)	.237*
Early reoperation	2 (3)	9 (41)	<.001*
Congestopathy*	17 (26)	9 (41)	.278
Large-volume blood transfusion			
4 or more units of packed red cells	25 (42)	16 (70)	.023
Cystitis	22 (37)	10 (43)	.548
Uterine injury	4 (7)	4 (17)	.308*
Infectious complications	18 (30)	5 (23)	.390*
Wound infection	8 (13)	4 (18)	
Intraabdominal infection	4 (7)	0	
Vaginal cuff cellulitis	2 (3)	0	
Pyelonephritis	4 (7)	1 (5)	
Pneumonia	0	0	
Postoperative length of stay (d)			.280
4 or fewer	31 (52)	11 (48)	
5-8	24 (40)	8 (35)	
9 or more	5 (8)	6 (26)	
Hospital readmission within 6 wk	7 (12)	3 (13)	1.000*
Delayed reoperation*	5 (8)	5 (22)	.629
Early composite morbidity*	28 (47)	17 (74)	.026*
Late composite morbidity*	12 (20)	4 (22)	1.000*

Obstet Gynecol 2011;117:331

## Planned Delivery

- 93% of patients with placenta accretas report hemorrhage after 35 weeks

### Planned Delivery

- Associated with shorter OR times
- Lower frequency of transfusions
- Lower ICU admission

Obstet Gynecol 2011;117:331 – AJOG 1996;175:1632-1638

## Planned Delivery

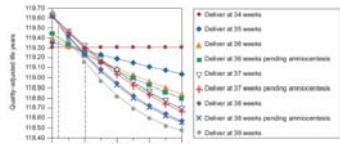


Table 5. Ranked Quality-Adjusted Life Years Outcomes of Different Strategies

Rank	Strategy	QALY
1st	Scheduled delivery at 34 wk	118.33
2nd	Scheduled delivery at 35 wk	118.17
3rd	Scheduled delivery at 36 wk	118.02
4th	Scheduled delivery at 36 wk pending amniocentesis	119.02
5th	Scheduled delivery at 37 wk	118.99
6th	Scheduled delivery at 37 wk pending amniocentesis	118.96
7th	Scheduled delivery at 38 wk	118.86
8th	Scheduled delivery at 38 wk pending amniocentesis	118.84
9th	Scheduled delivery at 39 wk	118.74

Obstet Gynecol 2011;117:331

At 34 - 35 weeks – following steroids

## Massive Transfusion

- Recommend a 1:1 ratio of pRBC to FFP



## Surgical Management

## Surgical Management

- Consider transfer to a tertiary center
- Consider ultrasound mapping of placental implantation site preoperatively
- Cesarean hysterectomy with placenta left in situ
- Staged surgical approach (intervention radiology)
- Conservative management

## Conservative Treatment Placenta left in situ

Total cases	167
Successful conservative management	131 (78%)
Spontaneous placental resorption	87 (75%)
Severe maternal morbidity	10 (6%)

Obstet Gynecol 2010 Mar;115(3):526

## Staged Surgical Approach

TABLE 4  
Patient demographics and outcomes

Variable	Staged procedure	Cesarean hysterectomy	P value
Age, y <sup>a</sup>	35.8 ± 1.1 (23–41)	36.9 ± 1.24 (23–44)	.28
Parity, n	2.0 ± 0.19	1.9 ± 0.20	.55
Gestation at delivery, wk <sup>a</sup>	36.9 ± 0.6 (33–38.5)	33.4 ± 1.50 (16–39)	.54
Blood loss, mL <sup>a</sup>	553 ± 119 (200–1200)	4517 ± 711 (700–11,000)	.0001
Units transfused, n <sup>a</sup>	0.5 ± 0.38 (0–3)	7.9 ± 1.83 (0–32)	.0013
Required transfusion, n	2	16	.001
In the intensive care unit, d <sup>a</sup>	0.13 ± 0.125 (0–1)	0.89 ± 0.332 (0–5)	.152
Admission to the intensive care unit, n	1	7	.16
Length of postoperative stay, d <sup>a</sup>	6.83 ± 0.8 (4–10)	8.28 ± 0.41 (5–13)	.107
Preoperative radiology, h <sup>a</sup>	0.59 ± 0.09	0.59 ± 0.09	
Total operative time, h <sup>a</sup>	2.91 ± 0.37	2.67 ± 0.26	
Total anesthetic time, h <sup>a</sup>	6.59 ± 0.35	2.67 ± 0.26	.0001

<sup>a</sup> Data are given as mean ± SE (range).  
Agarwal. Surgical management of placenta accreta. Am J Obstet Gynecol 2010.

Am J Obstet Gynecol 2010;202:38.e1-9.

## National Registry

- Standardize US markers of Accreta
- Track US markers in a prospective way
- Collect data on conservative management
- Facilitate randomized trials

Table 1 Unified descriptors, as suggested by the European Working Group on Abnormally Invasive Placenta (EW-AIP), for ultrasound (US) findings in AIP

US finding	EW-AIP suggested standardized definition
<b>2D grayscale</b>	
Loss of 'clear zone' (Figure 1)	Loss, or irregularity, of hypoechoic plane in myometrium underneath placental bed ('clear zone')
Abnormal placental lacunae (Figure 2)	Presence of numerous lacunae including some that are large and irregular (Fishberg Grade 3), often containing turbulent flow visible on grayscale imaging
Bladder wall interruption (Figure 3)	Loss or interruption of bright bladder wall (hyperechoic band or 'line' between uterine serosa and bladder lumen)
Myometrial thinning (Figure 4)	Thinning of myometrium overlying placenta to < 1 mm or undetectable
Placental bulge (Figure 5)	Deviation of uterine serosa away from expected plane, caused by abnormal bulge of placental tissue into neighboring organ, typically bladder; uterine serosa appears intact but outline shape is distorted
Focal exophytic mass (Figure 6)	Placental tissue seen breaking through uterine serosa and extending beyond it, most often seen inside filled urinary bladder
<b>2D color Doppler</b>	
Uterovesical hypervascularity (Figure 7)	Striking amount of color Doppler signal seen between myometrium and posterior wall of bladder; this sign probably indicates numerous, closely packed, tortuous vessels in that region (demonstrating multidirectional flow and aliasing artifact)
Subplacental hypervascularity (Figure 8)	Striking amount of color Doppler signal seen in placental bed; this sign probably indicates numerous, closely packed, tortuous vessels in that region (demonstrating multidirectional flow and aliasing artifact)
Bridging vessels (Figure 9)	Vessels appearing to extend from placenta, across myometrium and beyond serosa into bladder or other organs; often running perpendicular to myometrium
Placental lacunae feeder vessels (Figure 10)	Vessels with high-velocity blood flow leading from myometrium into placental lacunae, causing turbulence upon entry
<b>3D ultrasound + power Doppler</b>	
Introplacental hypervascularity (Figure 11)	Complex, irregular arrangement of numerous placental vessels, exhibiting tortuous courses and varying calibers
Placental bulge	(as in 2D)
Focal exophytic mass	(as in 2D)
Uterovesical hypervascularity	(as in 2D)
Bridging vessels	(as in 2D)

2D, two-dimensional; 3D, three-dimensional.  
Ultrasound Obstet Gynecol 2016; 47: 271–275

## Take Home Message

- Know the new classification of Previa
- Know the risk factors for vasa previa
- Ultrasound is suboptimal for diagnosis of abruption
- Know the maternal risk factors for accreta
- Know the Ultrasound markers of placenta accreta
- Never rule-out placenta previa by an abdominal ultrasound
- MRI is never helpful if ultrasound is diagnostic of an accreta
- Consider delivery at 34-35 weeks for accreta
- Plan – Plan – Plan

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[www.openultrasound.com](http://www.openultrasound.com)

## ULTRASOUND in Obstetrics and Gynecology: A Practical Approach



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