

# Anesthesia POCUS Pocket Reference



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Cardiac ultrasound images courtesy of: <http://sites.austincc.edu/sonography-resources/>

Cardiac illustrations courtesy of Dr. Atif Qasim: [echocardiographer.org](http://echocardiographer.org)

Lung ultrasound images courtesy of: Picano et al. "Lung Ultrasound for the cardiologist", JACC

Cardiovascular Imaging, Vol 11, No 11, 2018

## Echo Modalities

2D	gross anatomy, ventricular and valvular movement, positioning for M-mode and doppler
M-mode	2D movement along straight line, plotted over time. Used for chamber dimensions, timing of cardiac events
PWD	PWD = pulsed wave doppler, measures velocity at set point Valvular flow velocities <2 m/s LV diastolic function Stroke volume and cardiac output
CWD	CWD = continuous wave doppler, measures highest velocity along path Valvular flow velocities >2 m/s Velocity of flow in shunts
Color	gross assessment of regurgitant flows and shunts

## Standard sequence for basic TTE assessment

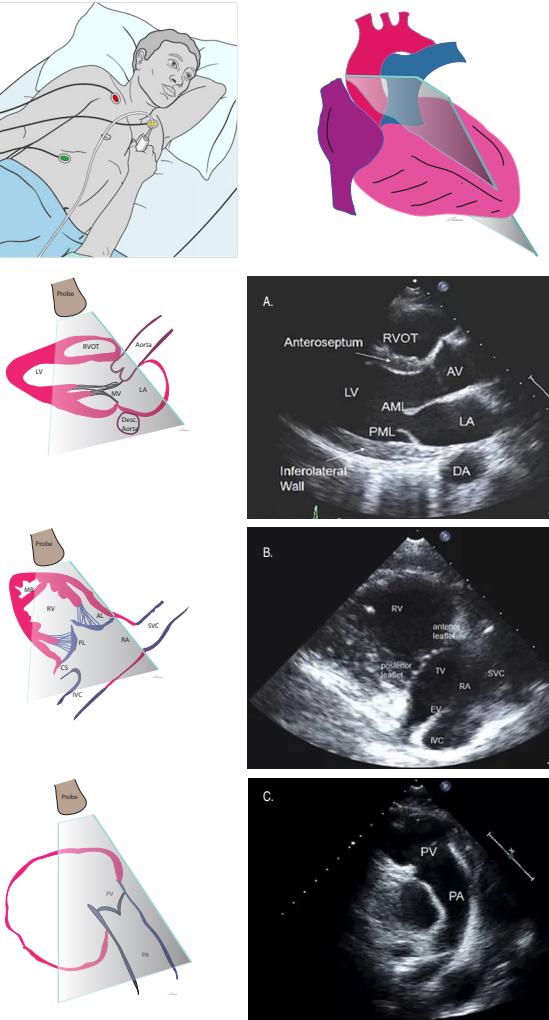
PLAX	standard, RV inflow, RV outflow
PSAX	aortic valve, mitral valve, mid-papillary, apex
Apical	4-chamber view, 5-chamber view
Subcostal	4-chamber, IVC

## Transducer Types

Linear	Phased Array	Intracavitory
5-10 MHz 9 cm	2-5 MHz 30 cm	1-5 MHz 35 cm
5-8 MHz 13 cm		

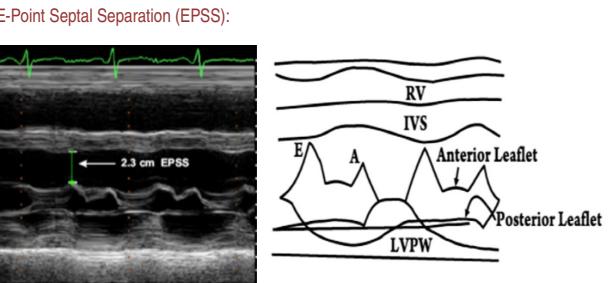
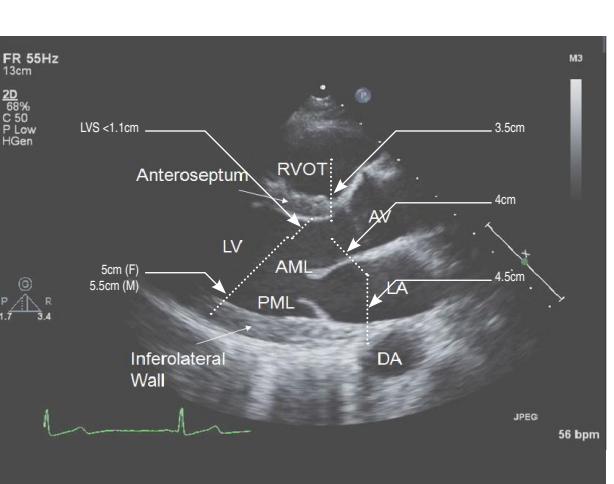
Disclaimer: This card is intended to be educational in nature and is not a substitute for clinical decision making based on the medical condition presented. It is intended to serve as an introduction to terminology. It is the responsibility of the user to ensure all information contained herein is current and accurate by using published references. This card is a collaborative effort by representatives of multiple academic medical centers.

Parasternal Long Axis (PLAX) Basic	
Position	Patient: slight left lateral, left arm above head, HOB @15° can help open intercostal spaces, consider end-expiratory breath hold Transducer: 2nd-4th intercostal space left of sternum; notch toward right shoulder
Views	a) Standard PLAX: center MV and AV leaflets in the middle of the screen, IVS and LVPW should be parallel to each other, should not see LV apex, RV is closest to the chest wall/probe b) RV inflow: from PLAX view, tilt transducer to aim toward patient's right hip c) RV outflow: from PLAX view, aim transducer toward patient's left shoulder (look up), may see PA bifurcate



Parasternal Long Axis (PLAX) Advanced	
2D M-mode	Left Ventricle: 2D: gross systolic function, LVOt diameter, LV septum thickness M-mode: LV and aortic root measurements, LA dimensions Valves: 2D: gross AV and MV leaflet anatomy and function RV inflow/outflow: 2D: gross appearance of RA, TV, RV, PV, PA. RVOT PA > Aorta suggests pulm vascular pressure overload.

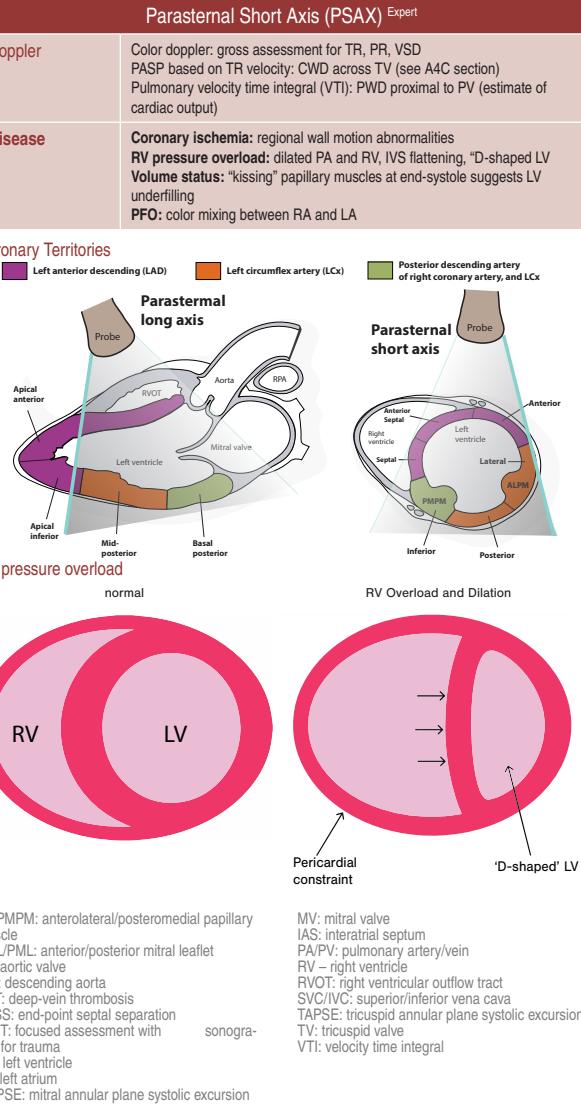
Parasternal Long Axis (PLAX) Expert	
Doppler	Standard PLAX: Color doppler: gross evaluation for AR, MR, VSD RV inflow/outflow: CWD across TV to estimate PASP (see A4C section) PWD across PV to estimate pulmonary VTI (see PSAX section)
Disease	Pericardial effusion: fluid between epicardium and desc. aorta that terminates at AV groove Pleural effusion: posterior to descending aorta (visible throughout cardiac cycle) EPSS: M-mode across distal tip of anterior mitral leaflet to measure distance from IVS during early diastole. EPSS >7mm suggests LVEF <50%



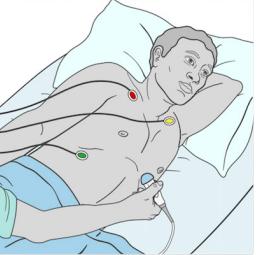
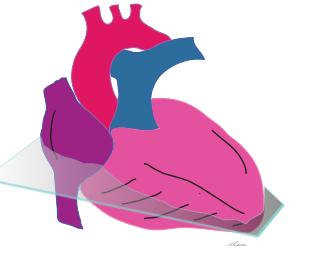
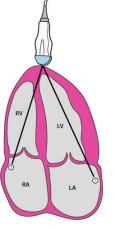
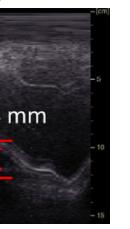
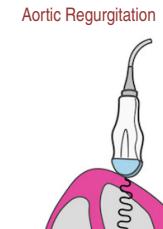
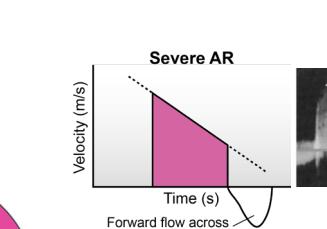
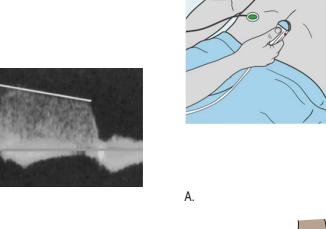
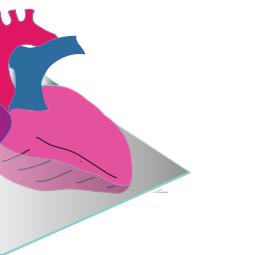
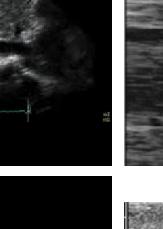
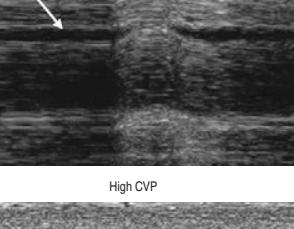
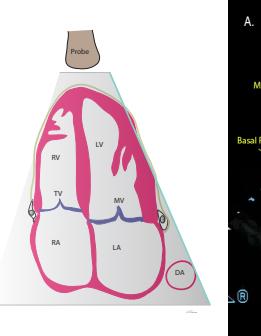
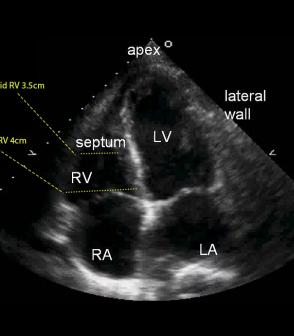
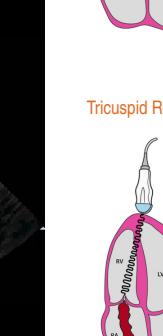
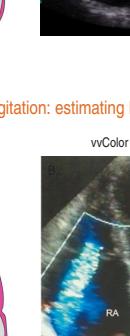
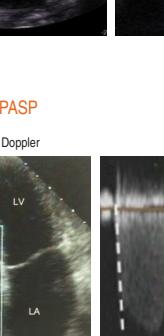
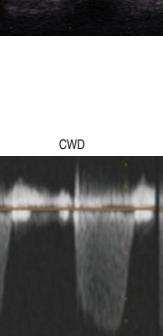
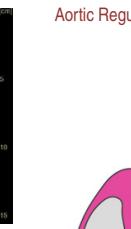
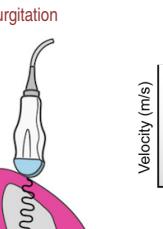
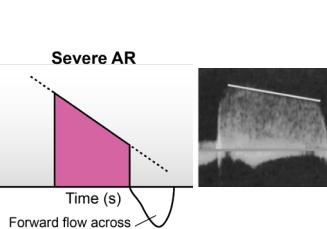
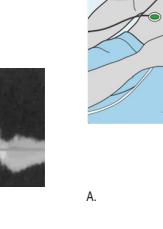
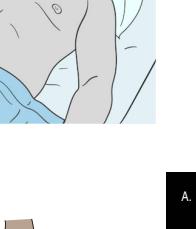
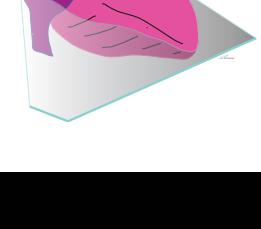
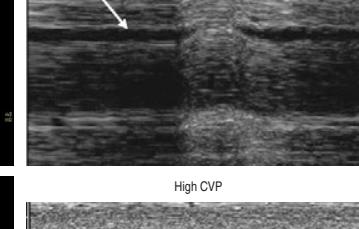
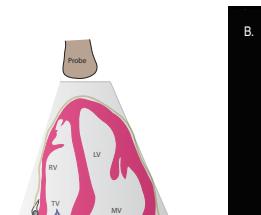
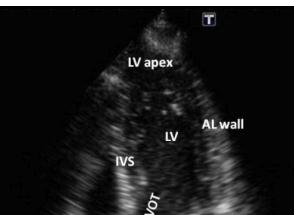
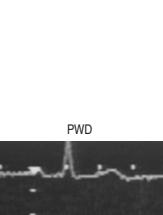
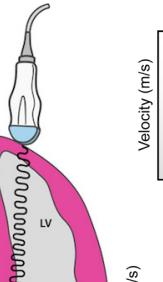
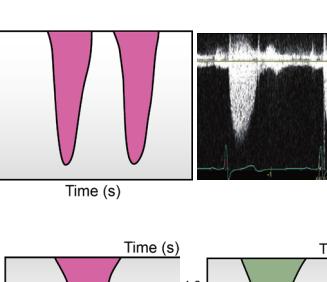
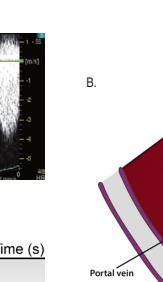
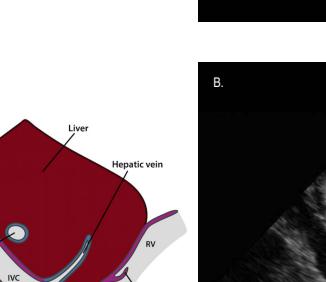
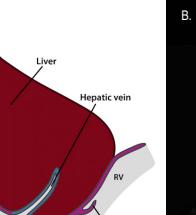
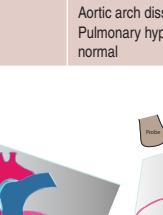
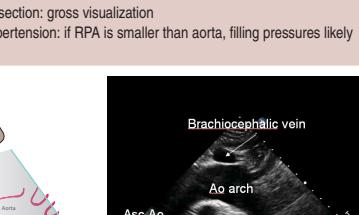
Parasternal Short Axis (PSAX) Basic	
Position	Patient: same as PLAX view Transducer: from PLAX, rotate transducer 90° clockwise until notch is pointing toward left shoulder
Views	Tilt (more than slide) probe from base to apex to obtain short axis views of (A) aortic/tricuspid/pulmonic valve level, (B) mitral valve level ('fish mouth'), (C) LV mid-papillary muscle level (should see completely around muscle), (D) apex view (not shown) Optimize view: exhalation (decrease overlying lung volume), move transducer toward pt's right shoulder

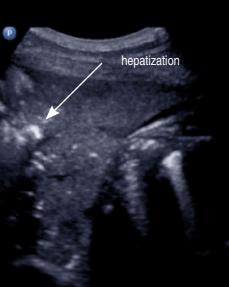
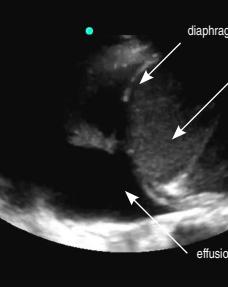
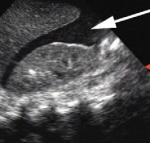
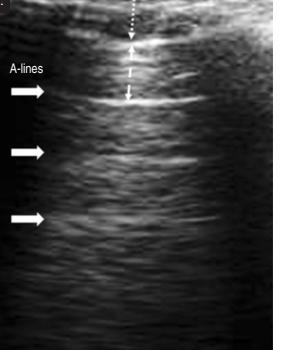
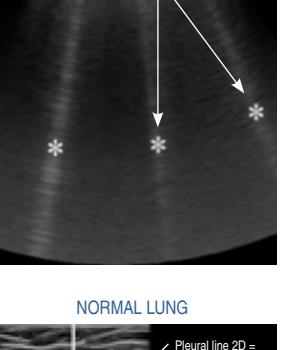
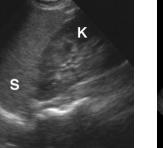
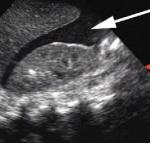
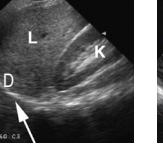
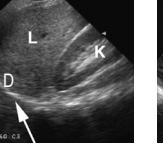
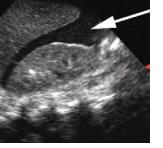
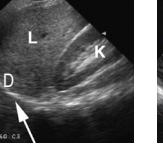
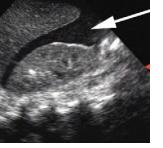
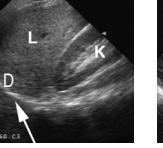
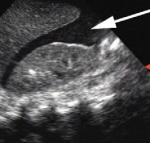
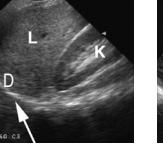
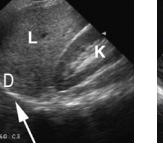
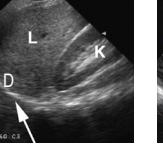
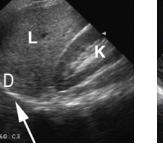
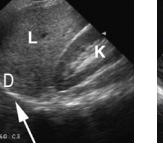
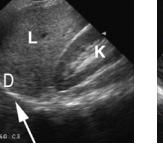
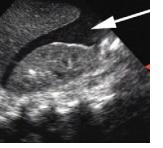
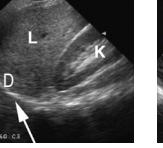
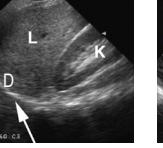
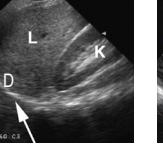
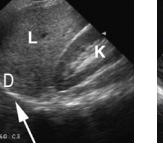


Parasternal Short Axis (PSAX) Advanced	
2D M-mode	Aortic valve level: 2D: AV cusps, RA, TV, RV, PV, RVOT, PA diameter Mitral valve level: 2D: MV, mobility, and commissural apparatus LV papillary muscle level: 2D: LV wall thickness (<= 1.6/1.5 Male/Female), IVSd, RV M-mode: LVEDD (<= 5.8/5.2 Male/Female), LVEFD, IVSd



AL/PMPM: anterolateral/posteromedial papillary muscle  
IAS: interatrial septum  
PA/PV: pulmonary artery/vein  
AV: aortic valve  
DA: descending aorta  
DVT: deep vein thrombosis  
EPSS: end-point septal separation  
FAST: focused assessment with sonography for trauma  
LVEF: left ventricular ejection fraction  
LVEFD: left ventricular end-diastolic dimension  
IVSd: interventricular septal thickness  
LVEDD: left ventricular end-diastolic diameter  
LVEFD: left ventricular end-systolic dimension  
IVSd: interventricular septal thickness  
LVEDD: left ventricular end-diastolic diameter  
LVEFD: left ventricular end-systolic dimension  
MAPSE: mitral annular plane systolic excursion  
TAPSE: tricuspid annular plane systolic excursion  
TV: tricuspid valve  
VTI: velocity time integral

Apical Basic		Apical 4 Chamber (A4C) Advanced		Apical 5 Chamber (A5C) Expert		Subcostal Basic		Subcostal Advanced	
Position	Patient: left lateral decubitus, left arm up, gentle inspiratory hold Transducer: find the cardiac apex from PMI palpation (inferior to nipple, mid-clavicular line) or from observation from PSAX apical view, notch towards left shoulder and angled medially.	2D M-mode	2D: LV/RV size and gross systolic function M-mode MAPSE (lateral): <12mm = LVEF reduced <6mm = LVEF <30% A) M-mode TAPSE: <17mm = reduced RV systolic fxn	2D M-mode	2D: AV, LV, LVOT appearance M-mode: LVOT and aortic root dimensions	Position	Patient: supine, legs bent to relax abdomen, deep end-inspiratory hold Transducer: probe below xiphoid and flat on the abdomen	2D M-mode	2D: similar to other 4-chamber views; only available view during CPR M-mode: IVC view assess intravascular volume status during spontaneous breathing RAP 0-5mmHg: <2.1cm + collapses >50% w/ sniff RAP 10-20mmHg: >2.1cm + collapses <50% w/ sniff
Views	A) Apical 4 chamber: center apex in the middle of the screen, with septum parallel to beam. Should see LV, RV, LA, RA B) Apical 5 chamber: tilt up towards patient's right shoulder until LVOT and AV comes into view	Doppler	B) Color doppler: assessment for MR, TR, ASD, VSD C) CWD across TV: use TR jet to estimate PASP $PASP = RVPSP = 4V(TR\ velocity)^2 + RAP$ D) PWD across MV: assess LV diastolic function E = early LV filling, A = late filling (atrial kick) Normal: E > A, Mild: E < A, Moderate: E > A, Severe: E >> A	Doppler	Color doppler: gross assessment for AR CWD: evaluate severity of AR and AS	Views	A) Subcostal 4 chamber: point notch toward right shoulder, angle cephalad to visualize cardiac chambers (often only cardiac CPR and for patients with pulmonary disease) B) Subcostal IVC: probe perpendicular to abdomen, notch pointing toward head, angle lateral for IVC and medial for aorta	Subcostal Expert	Color doppler: assessment for MR, TR, ASD, VSD PWD: hepatic vein systolic flow reversal >0.3-0.4m/s suggestive of RV pressure/volume overload
	 		  		   		 	  	
	  		  		   		 	  	
	  		  		    		 	  	

Pulmonary Ultrasound		Pulmonary Ultrasound		FAST/eFAST		FAST Views		DVT US		
Position	<p>Probe selection: High frequency: better for superficial evaluation (pleura and small subpleural structures)</p> <p>Low frequency: better for deep structure evaluation (consolidation, pleural effusion)</p> <p>Probe position: point in a cranial-caudal axis with notch toward head, probe perpendicular to chest wall, evaluated multiple rib spaces in both anterior and dependent areas</p> <p>Patient: supine or lateral</p>			<p>Uses</p> <p>Rapidly identify intraperitoneal free fluid or pericardial free fluid, as well as pleural free fluid or pneumothorax as part of the "extended" FAST (eFAST). Best validated for unstable blunt trauma adult patient.</p>	<p>Tips</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Probe Selection: low frequency curvilinear or phased array "cardiac" probe. Consider high frequency linear probe for anterior thoracic views</li> <li>- Patient: supine or in Trendelenberg position</li> <li>- A complete FAST must include sweep through entire interface between kidney and liver/spleen. Also visualize the diaphragm including supradiaphragmatic space for evaluate for hemoperitoneum.</li> </ul>	<p>Probe Positing</p> <p>RUQ</p> 	<p>NORMAL</p> 	<p>ABNORMAL</p> 	<p>Uses</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Suspected DVT/PE (when radiology not readily available or CTPE contraindicated)</li> </ul>	
Image findings	<p><b>Pleural-line:</b> thick hyperechoic horizontal line, moves with respiration ('ants marching')</p> <p><b>Pleural effusion:</b> anechoic fluid in dependent lung areas</p> <p><b>A. Comet tails (artifact):</b> thin and short vertical lines, originate at intact pleural line, move with lung sliding, usually &lt;1cm. Normal lung finding, help rule out PTX.</p> <p><b>B. A-lines (repetition artifacts):</b> static equally spaced horizontal lines. No clinical significance.</p> <p><b>C. Z-lines (reverberation artifacts):</b> static vertical lines, do not originate at pleural line, do not move with lung sliding, do not obliterate A lines; Do not misinterpret for B-lines; No clinical significance.</p> <p><b>D. B-lines (ring-down artifacts):</b> thick vertical lines, originate at intact pleural line, and extend to edge of field at least 15cm, move with lung sliding, obliterate other background US artifacts; &gt;3 per intercostal space likely pathologic; Interstitial edema = 7mm apart; Alveolar edema = 3mm apart</p>					<p>Position</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. RUQ (hepatorenal / Morrison's pouch): midaxillary line, 9-11th intercostal space; probe marker towards patients head; visualize lung, diaphragm, liver, and kidney</li> <li>2. LUQ (splenorenal): "knuckles to bed," probe marker towards patients head; 8-10th intercostal space; visualize lung, diaphragm, spleen, and kidney</li> <li>3. Subxiphoid (cardiac): Hold probe in palm, probe marker toward patient's right, just below xiphoid process, aiming towards patient's left shoulder while applying gentle downward pressure</li> <li>4. Suprapubic (bladder): Midline just above pubic bone, scan in longitudinal (probe marker toward's patient's head) and transverse (probe marker to patient's right) planes; look for fluid posterior to bladder and the prostate/uterus/rectum interface</li> <li>5. eFAST: Pleural (pneumothorax): Decrease depth, probe marker towards patient's head; evaluate left and right anterior chest wall in air-dependent locations. look for normal lung sliding "ants marching" (see previous page)</li> </ol>	<p>LUQ</p> 	<p>K</p> 	<p>S= spleen; K= Kidney; D= Diaphragm.</p> <p>Arrow = Free fluid around spleen. In LUQ, fluid is most likely to accumulate between the diaphragm and the spleen. It is also important to also evaluate the tip of the spleen and inferior pole of the kidney.</p>	<p>Position</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Probe Selection: linear/vascular probe</li> <li>- Compression technique: Hold the transducer in a transverse position, perpendicular to the skin surface</li> <li>- At each point described below, apply firm, downward pressure to achieve complete collapse of the vein. Study is positive if vein does not collapse with compression; utilize doppler to confirm flow and evaluate in longitudinal plane.</li> <li>- Common false positives: superficial thrombosis, cysts, lymph nodes, pseudoaneurysms</li> </ul>
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