

ISUOG Basic Training Gynecological Ultrasound: The Basics



Learning objectives

At the end of the lecture you will be able to:

 Understand a systematic approach to performing abdominal and vaginal gynecological ultrasound scans





Key questions

- 1. How do you perform a thorough and systematic gynecological ultrasound examination?
- 2. When should you perform a transvaginal versus a transabdominal ultrasound?
- **3.** What is the correct scanning technique to image the vagina, cervix, uterus and ovaries effectively?



Key points

- Understand when to perform a transvaginal versus a transabdominal ultrasound exam
- Understand the importance of probe orientation
- Understand the steps to performing a systematic gynecological to accurately assess the pelvis during ultrasound examination





Normal female pelvic anatomy





Gynecological ultrasound examination technique

Systematic examination technique

ALWAYS THE SAME PROCEDURE



Vaginal or abdominal scan?

Abdominal scan

- Low frequency
- Poor resolution
- Good overview
- Scan the abdomen
- Full bladder

Vaginal (rectal) scan

- High frequency
- Superb resolution
- Poor overview
- Abdomen not seen
- Empty bladder



Abdominal scan

Full bladder?

YES, if primary scan (NO), if supplementary scan



Abdominal gynecological ultrasound examination orientation

On a longitudinal scan cranial is shown to the left on the screen

Cranial (patient's head)



Caudal (patient's feet)





Abdominal ultrasound Sagittal scan of the uterus





Abdominal gynecological ultrasound examination - orientation

On a transverse scan patient's right side is shown to the left on screen

Patient's right side



Patient's left side



Abdominal scan Transverse scan through the uterus









Vaginal scan





Vaginal gynecological ultrasound examination - orientation



Patients' right









Basic Training

right





















The uterus – follow the cervix







The uterus – follow the cervix







The uterus – follow the cervix







Bladder







Measuring the uterus



Total length of the uterus Antero-posterior measurement Transverse measurement

Van Den Bosch et al. UOG, 2015, 46: 284–298

















Anteverted uterus







Retroverted uterus







Anteflexed uterus









Retroflexed uterus









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Measuring the ovaries



Total length of the ovary





Antero-posterior measurement

Transverse measurement





Scanning technique for the ovaries







Normal tubes may be seen if there is fluid in the pouch of Douglas







Vaginal ultrasound is a dynamic and interactive examination

- Check the mobility of organs
 Fixed organs = adhesions
- Check for site specific tenderness
 - Which organs are involved in a painful process?



Normal ultrasound findings

- Differ between women before and after menopause
- Change throughout the menstrual cycle



Key points

THE BASIS for gynecological ultrasound

- Orientate yourself in the image
- Optimise your image
- Always use a systematic scanning technique

From here you move on by practising, reading books and articles, and attending more advanced ultrasound courses





How to describe ultrasound findings using standardsised terminology

Ultrasound Obstet Gynecol. 2000 Oct,16(5):500

Terms, definitions and measurements to describe the sonographic features of adnexal tumors: a consensus opinion from the International Ovarian Tumor Analysis (IOTA) group

D. TIMMERMAN, L. VALENTIN*, T. H. BOURNE†, W. P. COLLINS‡, H. VERRELST $\$ and I. VERGOTE

Systematic approach to sonographic evaluation of the pelvis in women with suspected endometriosis, including terms, definitions and measurements: a consensus opinion from the International Deep Endometriosis Analysis (IDEA) group

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Ultrasound Obstet Gynecol. 2010 Jan;35: 103

Terms, definitions and measurements to describe the sonographic features of the endometrium and intrauterine lesions: a consensus opinion from the International Endometrial Tumor Analysis (IETA) group

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Consensus statements on how to:

- Measure
- Describe ultrasound images
 - Terms
 - Definitions





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