



**A NEET SS (SURGERY) PREPARATION COURSE
BY MARROW, WITH A TEAM OF SELECTED
SUPER-SPECIALITY FACULTY**

SURGERY NEET SS

UROLOGY

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NEET SS
SURGERY
UROLOGY

Dr. DEVANSHU BANSAL

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INTRODUCTION

IMAGING IN UROLOGY

Radiation management

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- Radiation exposure : Charge per unit mass of air cause by passage of radiation through tissue.
measured in coulombs (C)/kg.
- Absorbed dose : Energy absorbed from radiation exposure.
measured in gray (Gy).
- Equivalent dose : Conversion factor applied to absorbed dose to measure different interaction of radiation with different type of tissue.
measured in Sievert (Sv).
Conversion factor for diagnostic x rays = 1.
- Effective dose : Denotes radiation risk to a population of patients from an imaging study.
measured in Sievert (Sv).
Estimation of range of effective doses for various imaging modalities allows assignment of relative radiation level :

RADIATION QUANTITY	TRADITIONAL UNIT	SI UNIT	CONVERSION	CLINICAL RELEVANCE
Exposure	roentgen (R)	coulomb (C)/kg	1 C/kg = 3876 R	Charge per unit mass
Absorbed dose	rad	gray (Gy)	1 Gy = 100 rad	Energy absorbed by tissue
Equivalent dose	rem	sievert (Sv)	1 Sv = 100 rem	Absorbed energy based on tissue type
Effective dose	rem	sievert (Sv)		Biologic risk associated with absorbed energy

RELATIVE RADIATION LEVEL (RRL)	EFFECTIVE DOSE ESTIMATED RANGE	EXAMPLE EXAMINATIONS
None	0	Ultrasound, MRI
Minimal	<0.1 mSv	Chest radiographs
Low	0.1–1.0 mSv	Lumbar spine radiographs, pelvic radiographs
Medium	1–10 mSv	Abdomen CT without contrast, nuclear medicine, bone scan, ^{99m} Tc-DMSA renal scan, IVP, retrograde pyelograms, KUB, chest CT with contrast
High	10–100 mSv	Abdomen CT without and with contrast, whole-body PET

Radiation protection :

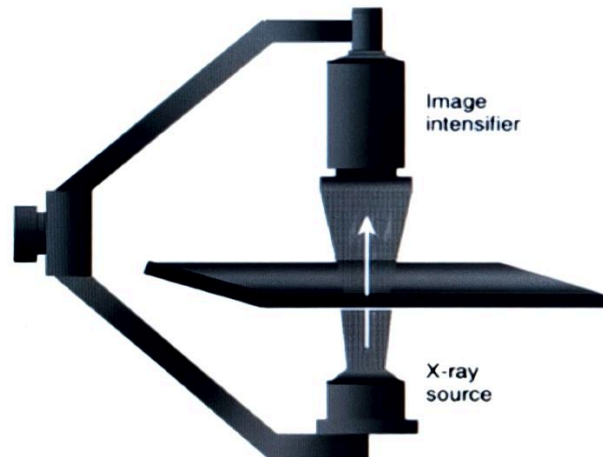
Recommended occupational exposure : 50 mSv/yr.

No safe dose of radiation (linear no threshold model).

Greater risk to eyes and gonads.

Reduction in radiation exposure.

- Limiting time of exposure :
 - use short bursts.
 - Last image hold.
- Maximizing distance from radiation source :
 - Exposure diminishes as square of distance from radiation source.
 - Positioning image intensifier close to patient reduces scatter radiation.



Shielding :

- Radiation resistant eye protection, leaded gloves.
- Collimate to minimum required visual fluoroscopy field.

Contrast media :

1. Allergic like reactions :
 - Idiosyncratic, anaphylactoid, not dose dependent.
 - Differ immunologically from true allergic reactions.
 - Antigen antibody response rarely identified, no true IgE reaction.
 - mechanism of action : Combination of systemic

effects :

- Release of vasoactive substances like histamine.
- Activation of physiologic cascades : Complement, Kinin, coagulation, fibrinolytic systems.
- Inhibition of enzymes like cholinesterase leads to prolonged vagal stimulation.
- Patient anxiety and fear of actual procedure.

2. Physiologic reactions :

- Not allergic like, dose and concentration dependent.
- Physiologic response to contrast medium molecular properties creating chemotoxicity.
- Effects can be due to hyperosmolality.
- Can also be due to binding of specific contrast molecules to activators.

MILD REACTIONS	
Self-limiting signs or symptoms	
Allergic-Like	Physiologic
Limited urticaria/pruritus	Limited nausea/emesis
Limited edema	Transient flushing/warm/chills
Limited throat irritation	Headache/dizziness/anxiety/altered taste
Nasal congestion	Mild hypertension
Sneezing, eye irritation, rhinorrhea	Vasovagal but resolves spontaneously
MODERATE REACTIONS	
Commonly require medical management and may become severe if not treated	
Allergic-Like	Physiologic
Diffuse urticaria/pruritus	Protracted nausea/emesis
Diffuse erythema	Hypertension
Facial edema	Chest pain
Throat tightness	Vasovagal responds to treatment
Wheezing/bronchospasm mild	

SEVERE REACTIONS	
Life-threatening, may result in morbidity or mortality if not treated. Cardiac arrest may occur from allergic-like as well as physiologic adverse reactions	
Allergic-Like	Physiologic
Diffuse edema/facial edema/shortness of breath	Vasovagal reaction resists treatment
Diffuse erythema and hypotension	Arrhythmia
Laryngeal edema with hypoxia	Seizures
Wheezing/bronchospasm with hypoxia	Hypertensive emergency
Anaphylactic shock/hypotension/tachycardia	

Treatment of contrast reactions :

1. mild :

- Observation, reassurance.
- Diphenhydramine, chlorpheniramine, diazepam.
- Bronchospasm management.

2. moderate :

- Incidence : 0.5 to 2 %.
- Close observation.
- Hydrocortisone, salbutamol, oxygen.

3. Severe :

- Emergency treatment :
 - Rapid administration of **epinephrine** is the treatment of choice.
 - IV 0.1 ml/kg of 1:10000 dilution (0.01 mg/kg) slowly into running saline infusion, repeated every 5 to 15 min, maximum single dose 1 ml (0.1 mg), total dose 1 mg.
 - IM 0.01 mg/kg of 1:1000 dilution (0.01 ml/kg) to maximum 0.15 mg of 1:1000 if < 30 kg (0.3 mg if weight > 30 kg) in lateral thigh, repeated every 5 to 15 min up to 1 ml (1 mg).
- Vasopressors :
 - most effective vasopressor : **Dopamine** (2 to 10 mcg/kg/min).

Premedication :

- No known strategy to eliminate risk of severe adverse reaction to contrast media.
- **Low osmolar contrast media** is preferred in patients with known history of allergy.
- AR may happen after extravascular procedures too (RGP).
- Corticosteroid premedication lowers likelihood of ALR.
- Adverse effect of premedication : Leukocytosis, asymptomatic hyperglycemia, possible infection risk.
- **Oral steroids** preferable.
- Steroids required at least 6 hrs before contrast media injection.
- Administration within 3 hrs not useful.
- Accelerated IV premedication only used when no alternatives present.

1. Prednisone: 50 mg by mouth at 13 hours, 7 hours, and 1 hour before contrast media injection
Plus diphenhydramine (Benadryl) 50 mg intravenously, intramuscularly, or by mouth 1 hour before contrast medium injection
2. Methylprednisolone (Medrol): 32 mg by mouth 12 hours and 2 hours before contrast media injection
Plus diphenhydramine (Benadryl): 50 mg intravenously, intramuscularly, or by mouth 1 hour before contrast medium injection

Delayed contrast reactions :

- Occur from 3 hrs to 7 days after contrast.
- m/c allergic like and cutaneous reactions.
- Typically resolve spontaneously.

Specific contrast considerations :

- Allergic patients (unrelated to contrast) 2 to 3 times more likely to have contrast reaction.
- Reaction to 1 class doesn't increase risk of reaction to another type of contrast medium.
- Contrast reactions more common in patients with anxiety.
- Asthma increases chance of ALR (premedication not recommended).
- Beta blockers can lower threshold for contrast reactions (cessation not recommended).
- Premedication not recommended solely on cardiac status.
- Hyperthyroid patients may develop thyrotoxicosis with contrast (rare).
- Washout of 3 to 6 wks recommended after contrast study before radioiodine therapy.
- Premedication not recommended for myasthenia gravis/pheochromocytoma/sickle cell trait.
- Large volume extravasation of contrast :
 - Swelling, edema, erythema, pain, cellulitis, compartment syndrome.
 - maximum symptoms in 24 to 48 hrs.
 - Primary mechanism : Hyperosmolality of contrast.

- Rx : manual massage, plastic surgery consult.
- Post contrast AKI :
 - Nonspecific term : Acute, sudden deterioration in kidney function within 48 hrs.
 - CIN : Specific for sudden decrease in kidney function by IV administration of iodinated contrast medium.
 - Pathophysiology : vasoconstriction, direct tubular toxicity, osmotic mechanisms, chemotoxic mechanisms.
 - **Diagnosis** of CIN : Occurance within 48 hrs :
 1. Increase in creatinine of > 0.3 mg/dl.
 2. Increase in creatinine from baseline $> 50\%$.
 3. U/O < 0.5 ml/kg/hr for at least 6 hrs.
 - GFR at least 45 ml/min/ 1.73 m² not independent risk factor for CIN.
 - IV contrast risk factor for CIN with GFR < 30 ml/min/ 1.73 m².
 - Incidence : 2 to 5 %.
 - most important risk factor for CIN is pre-existing severe renal insufficiency.

Other risk factors :

1. DM.
2. Dehydration.
3. CV disease.
4. Diuretic use.
5. Advanced age.
6. Multiple myeloma.
7. HTN.
8. Hyperuricemia.
9. Repeated contrast injections.
10. Low PCV.
11. EF $< 40\%$.
12. Renal tumor/transplant/single kidney.

13. HOCM, increased contrast viscosity.

14. ESRD with no natural renal function is no longer at risk for CIN.

Prevention :

- Hydration.
- Sodium bicarbonate : Doubtful role.
- N acetyl cysteine : Controversial.

Frusemide increases risk for CIN.

metformin use :

- Advised discontinuation 48 hrs prior in patients with renal insufficiency.
- Fatal in 50 % cases.
- Rare with normal renal function.
- Discontinuation not required before Gd MRI.

MRI contrast agents

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Gadolinium :

- Paramagnetic metal ion.
- 7 unpaired electrons.
- Reduces T1 and T2 relaxation times.
- Increases tissue signal intensity on T1 weighted images.
- Can interfere with assay for Ca (false hypocalcemia for 24 hrs), iron, magnesium, iron binding capacity and zinc.

Adverse effect :

Nephrogenic systemic fibrosis :

- Fibrosing disease of skin, subcutaneous tissue, lungs, esophagus, heart and skeletal muscles.
- Initial features are skin thickening and pruritis.
- Later : Contractures and joint immobility, death due to visceral involvement.

- Strong association with advanced renal disease.
- Onset : 2 days to 3 months.
- Patients with GFR < 30 not on chronic dialysis, most difficult patient population, IV contrast is contraindicated, Gd may cause NSF.
- NSF risk greatest with GFR < 15 (1 to 7 % incidence).
- In high risk patients, use minimal dose, consider macrocyclic agents, avoid gadodiamide.
- mechanism : Gd dissociates from chelates in patients with poor renal clearance free Gd binds phosphate and other anions.
- Forms insoluble precipitate : Deposited in tissues with subsequent fibrotic reaction.

IVU :

- Clear liquids 12 to 24 hr and enema 2 hr before procedure.
- Scout film.
- 50 to 100 ml contrast bolus.
- Nephrogenic phase immediately after injection.
- Next film at 5 minutes and every 5 minutes.
- Abdominal compression : **visualization of ureters.**
- upright films possible for renal ptosis.
- Postvoid films taken.



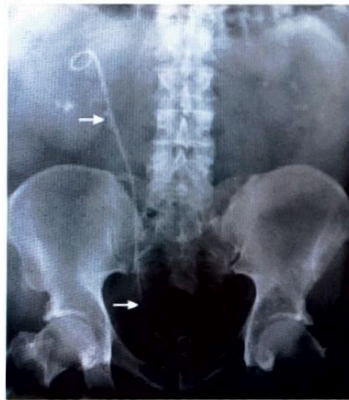
Plain abdominal radiography :

- Supine position.

- AP exposure.
- Level of diaphragm to inferior pubic ramus.
- Cost effective to monitor residual stone burden after treatment.

Retrograde pyelography :

- Sterilize urine before study.
- Can determine **ureteral normalcy distal to obstruction.**
- Dilute contrast medium (50 % or less) to prevent subtle filling defects getting obscured.
- Evacuate air bubbles from syringe before instillation.
- 5 to 8 cc contrast usually required in normal syst.



- Complications :
 1. Pyelotubular backflow : Opacification of medullary pyramids.
 2. Pyelosinus backflow : Tear in calyceal fornix leading to contrast leak in renal sinus.
 3. Pyelolymphatic backflow : Opacification of renal lymphatic channels.
 4. Pyelovenous backflow : Contrast entering venous system.



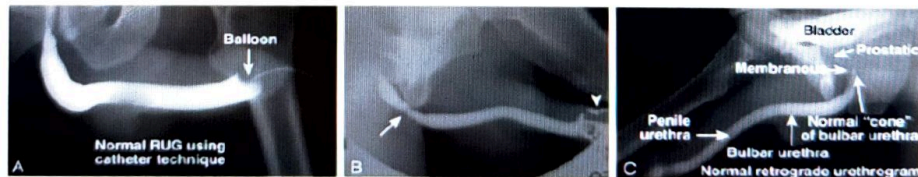
Loopography :

- Advance catheter just proximal to abdominal wall fascia.
- Balloon inflated with 5 to 10 ml water.
- Oblique films useful.
- Drainage film useful.



Retrograde urethrography :

- measures total length of urethral stricture.
- Anatomy of urethra distal to stricture visualised.



Static cystography :

- Visualizes structural integrity of bladder.
- Shape and contour of bladder.
- Supine position.
- Bladder filled under gravity with 200 to 400 ml contrast.
- Oblique films useful (diverticulae, fistulae).
- Postdrainage film required.
- As sensitive as CT cystography in detecting bladder rupture.



voiding cystography :

1. Evaluates posterior urethra.
2. VUR.
3. Supine or semi upright position.
4. B/I oblique views useful.

CT

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- Attenuation of X ray photons passing through patient.
- Computer based reconstruction of cross sectional images.
- Amount of transmitted radiation measured by detector on opposite side of X ray beam.
- Helical (multidetector CT) : Patient moves through continuously rotating gantry.
- Current CT : 64 to 320 rows of detectors.
- Gray scale of each pixel of CT image depends on amount of radiation absorbed at that point.
- Attenuation value is expressed in HU
- Air HU = -1000, bone HU = +1000, water HU = 0.

Phases of CECT :

- unenhanced CT : 1st phase.
- Corticomedullary phase : 30 to 70 seconds, defines

vasculature and perfusion.

- Nephrogenic phase : 90 to 180 seconds, allows sensitive detection and characterization of renal masses.
- Excretory phase : 3 to 5 minutes, visualization of PCS and ureter.

MRI :

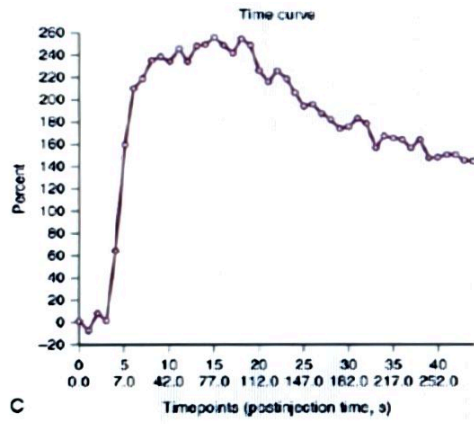
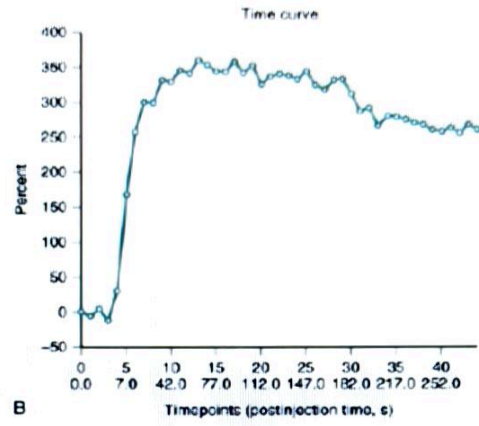
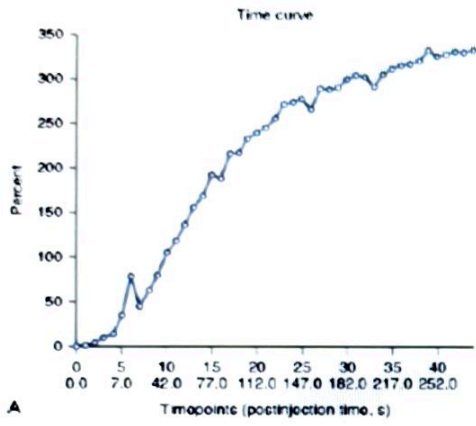
- Excellent signal contrast resolution of soft tissue.
- Free proton orient along magnetic Z axis.
- RF antenna or coil placed over area of interest.
- Coil transmits RF pulses through patient.
- Protons release energy on stopping RF pulse.
- T1 weighted images generated by time to return to equilibrium in Z axis, T2 weighted images in XY axis.
- T2 images : water appears bright.
- Cortex brighter than medulla.

Fat imaging :

- Inversion recovery imaging.
- Chemical shift imaging (m.c.).
 - In phase and out of phase images taken.
 - Loss of signal on OP imaging s/o intracytoplasmic fat.
- Fat saturation imaging.
- Spectral presaturation with inversion recovery (SPIR).
- Spectral presaturation attenuated inversion recovery (SPAIR).

Multiparametric MRI :

1. T2 weighted sequence.
2. DWI.
3. DCE.
4. MRS.



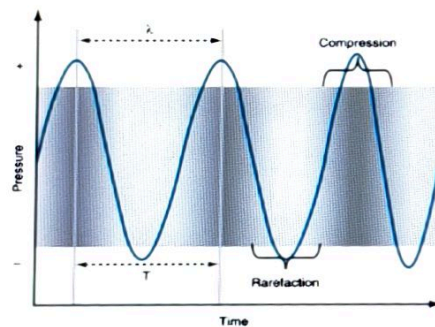
ULTRASONOGRAPHY AND NUCLEAR IMAGING

Ultrasonography

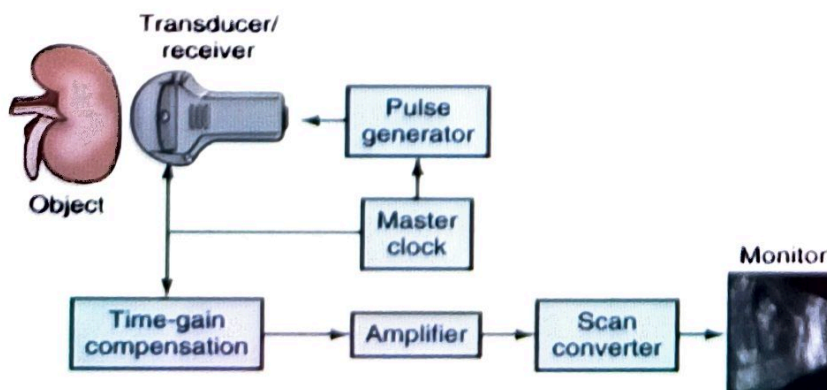
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Physical principles :

- USG waves produced by applying short bursts of alternating electrical current to series of crystals housed in transducer.
- Alternating expansion and contraction of crystals via **piezoelectric effect** creates mechanical wave.



- Longitudinal waves produced (graphically sine wave).
- Reflected component of wave received by transducer.
- Amplitude : maximum excursion in positive or negative direction from baseline (higher amplitude = brighter pixel).
- Wavelength : Distance between 2 peaks.
- Cycle : Complete path of wave between 2 peaks.
- 1 Hertz : 1 cycle/sec.
- Average **velocity of sound** in human tissues : 1540 m/s.



Resolution : Ability to discriminate between 2 objects close to each other.

1. Axial resolution :

- Ability to identify as separate 2 objects in direction of travelling wave.
- Dependent on frequency of sound waves.
- Higher frequency : Better axial resolution.



2. Lateral resolution :

- Ability to identify separately objects equidistant from transducer.
- Function of focused width of USG beam.
- Characteristic of transducer.
- Location of narrowest beam adjustable by user.
- more focused beam : Better lateral resolution at that location.
- Image quality enhanced by locating narrowest beam width (focus) at depth of object or tissue of interest.

High frequency transducers (7-18 MHz) : Less depth, better resolution (more absorption → less reflection → less depth).

Low frequency transducers (3-5 MHz) : more depth, less resolution.

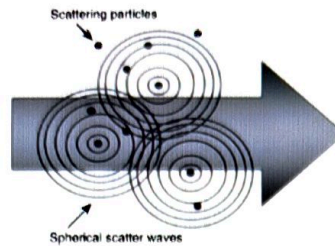
mechanisms of attenuation :

1. Reflection :

- Wave strikes an object, surface or boundary (interface) between unlike tissues.
- Affected by impedance of tissues.

2. Scattering :

- Sound waves strike small or irregular object.
- Produce spherical scatter waves.



3. Interference :

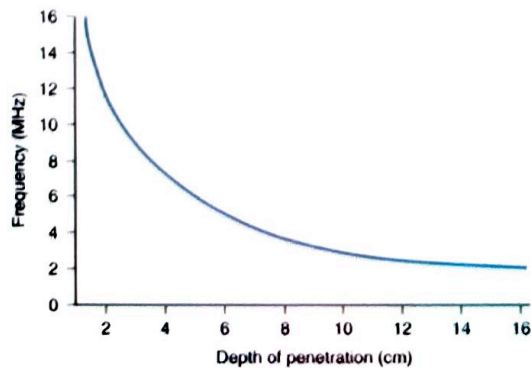
- Scatter waves collide in or out of phase.
- Pattern of interference responsible for echo architecture or texture of organs.
- 'Speckling' seen in organs with fine, internal histology (testis).



4. Absorption :

- mechanical energy converted to heat.
- Absorption directly proportional to frequency.
- Higher frequency → rapidly attenuated → limited depth of penetrance.

As frequency goes up, depth of penetration decreases.



Artifacts in Ultrasound :

1. Acoustic shadowing :

- Significant attenuation or reflection of sound waves at tissue interface.
- Echo information posterior to interface obscured.
- 3D objects appear crescentic, difficult to get accurate measurements.
- Mitigated by changing angle of insonation, frequency of transducer or focal zone of transducer.



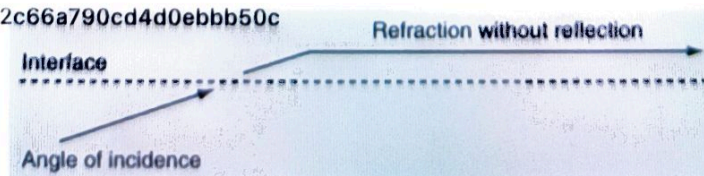
2. Increased through transmission :

- Less attenuation of waves while passing through an object.
- Waves passing through object (simple cyst) has more energy.
- Reflected wave has more energy.
- Tissue posterior to cyst appears brighter.
- Mitigated by changing angle of insonation or adjusting time gain compensation settings.

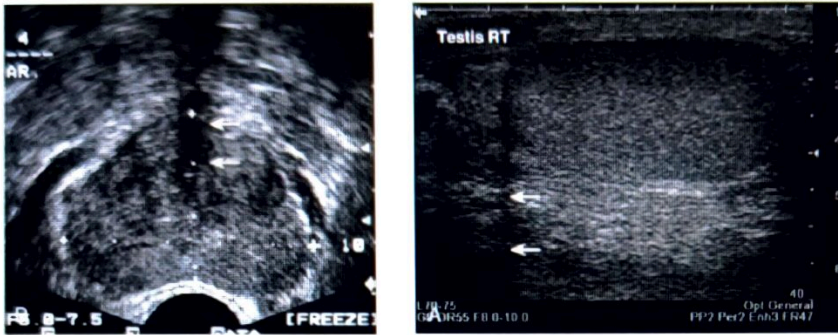


3. Edging artifact :

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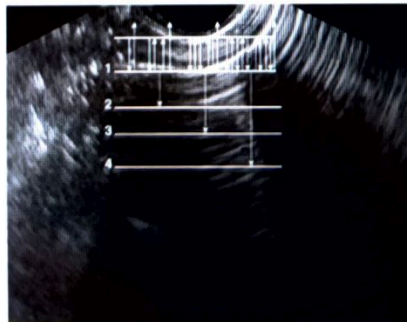


- Waves strike a curved surface or interface at incident angle : Refraction of wave along plane of interface.
- Overcome by changing angle of insonation.



4. Reverberation artifact :

- Large differences in impedance between 2 adjacent tissues.
- Strong reflection of incident wave.
- USG wave bounces back and forth b/w reflective interfaces.
- Eg : gas fluid mixture in small bowel.
- **Comet tail artifact** : Blackish line beyond the edging artifact.



Modes of USG

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1. Grey scale :

- B mode mc employed.
- Real time 2D images in shades of grey.
- Position of pixel determined by duration of round trip of sound wave.

a. Doppler :

- Principle : Frequency shift when sound waves strike a moving object.
- Allows **characterization of motion** (blood, urine).

3. Color doppler :

- Evaluates velocity and direction of motion.
- Brighter the color, greater the velocity.

4. Color flow with spectral display :

- Allows interrogation of particular areas within USG field for flow.
- Displays the **flow as continuous wave form**.
- Evaluates pattern and velocity of blood flow in intrarenal or penile vasculature.
- Provides information about peripheral vascular resistance in tissues (Resistive index).
- $RI = \frac{PSV-EDV}{PSV}$.

5. Power doppler :

- Assigns amplitude of frequency change to color map.
- Does not permit evaluation of velocity or direction of flow.
- Less affected by back scattered waves.
- more sensitive mode for detecting blood flow.
- Less angle dependent than color doppler, 3 to 5 times more sensitive as color doppler for detecting flow.
- useful for evaluating **testicular torsion**.

6. Harmonic scanning :

- makes use of aberrations related to non linear propagation of sound waves within tissue.
- Has less noise → less artifact and greater resolution.

7. Sonoelastography : Ability to evaluate elasticity (compressibility and displacement) of biologic tissues.

8. Real time elastography (RTE) :

- External, non quantifiable mechanically produced compression wave travels in tissue (1540 m/s).
- These waves successively compress tissue layers.
- Deformation induced by manually pressing on anatomy with transducer.
- Qualitative technique, highly user dependent.
- Cannot measure absolute tissue stiffness.
- Benefits : High spatial resolution, real time and doesn't require modifications to conventional USG hardware.

9. Shear wave elastography (SWE) : measurable shear wave, travelling slowly (1-10 m/s) ; propagated by tangential sliding force between tissue layers.

Limitations :

- Shear waves weak , only few mm of propagation.
- Detection of shear wave propagation requires very rapid acquisition speeds, may limit area of detection.

10. 3D scanning :

- Produces composite of images.
- Important on procedural planning and precise volumetric assessments.

11. multiparametric USG (mpUSG) : Combines different modalities of USG.

Attribute	Ultrasound	MRI
Anatomic resolution	2,3 mm (7,5 MHz).	1 mm.
vascularity	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Microbubbles.• No problem with renal insufficiency.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Gadolinium.• NSF.
Tissue structure	Elastography : 1. Strain. 2. Shear.	H ₂ O diffusion / ADC.
Chemical characteristics		Choline/spectroscopy.
Access for biopsy	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Real time.• Infinite flexibility.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fusion techniques.• In bore.

Contrast agents in USG :

- Contain microbubbles.
- Enhance echogenicity of blood and tissue.
- Targeting ligands attached to microbubble allow it to selectively accumulate in diseased or abnormal tissues.
- Bubbles rapidly degraded by interaction with sound waves.
- Good safety profile.

Patient safety measures :

- mechanical effects :
 - Torque and streaming.
 - Cavitation → small gas → filled bubbles form and collapse → liberate large amount of energy → may damage tissue in certain circumstances.
 - most likely to be observed around gas containing structures like lung and bowel.
 - **mechanical index (MI)** : Probability that cavitation may occur.
 - **Lung and intestine** : $MI < 0.7$ safe.
 - Adjacent structures : Limit scanning time if $MI > 0.4$.
- Thermal effects :
 - Due to tissue heating by absorption of energy.
 - Influenced by beam focusing, transducer frequency, exposure time, scanning mode and tissue density.
 - **Thermal index (TI)** : Probability that tissue temperature within sonographic field will be increased by 1 degree celsius.
 - Elevations up to 6 degree celsius safe unless exposure time < 60 seconds.

Clinical Uses of USG

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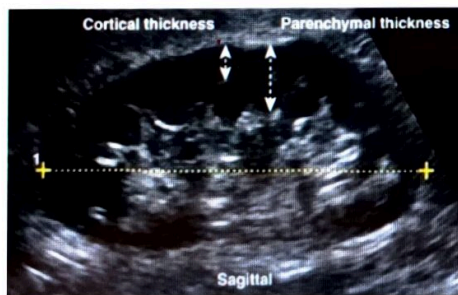
Renal USG :

- 3.5-5 MHz, higher for children.
- Intraop/lap USG : 6-10 MHz.

- LK slightly higher than RK, bowel gas problematic on left, LK lacks liver as acoustic window.



- LP 15 degrees lateral to UP, kidney rotated 30 degrees posterior to coronal plane, LP slightly anterior to UP.
- Normal Kidneys : Hypoechoic to liver; infant kidneys hyperechoic.
- Central hyperechoic band : Renal hilar adipose tissue, blood vessels and PCS.
- Renal cortical thickness > 7 mm and renal parenchymal thickness > 15 mm normal.



Transabdominal pelvic USG :

- 3.5 to 5 MHz, higher for children.
- up to 10 minutes observation required to verify absence of ureteral jets.

