

Sonography for Trauma

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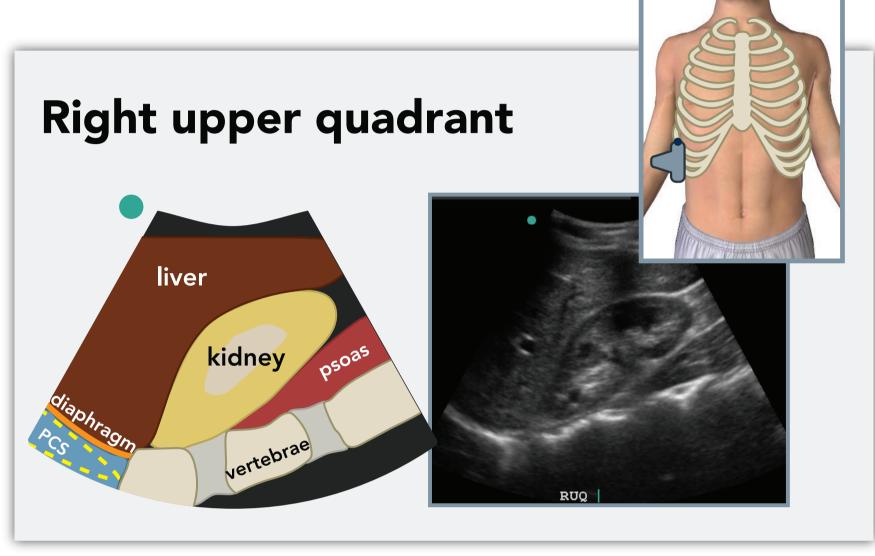
STATION GOALS

To assess the presence of free fluid in abdominal cavity and pericardial sac.

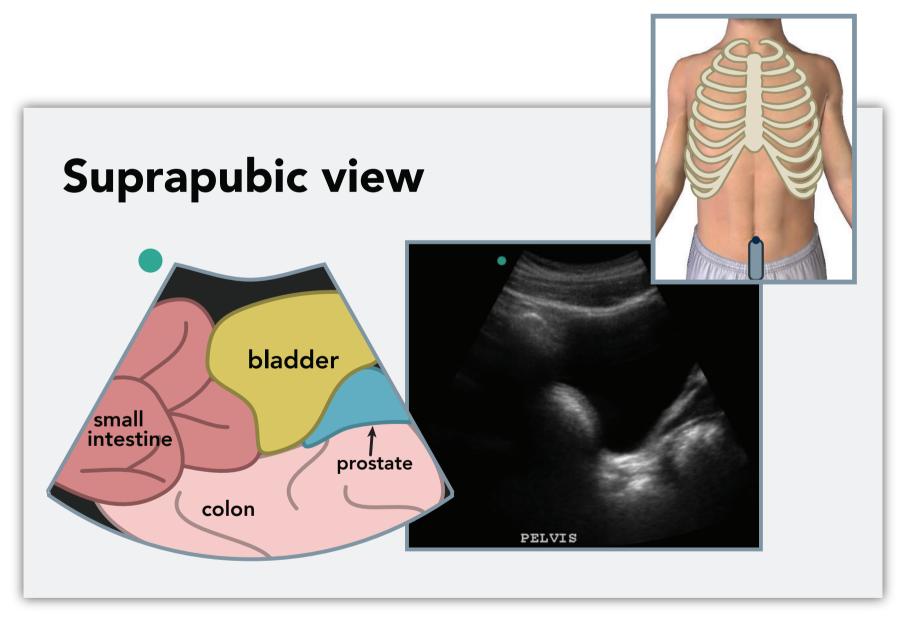
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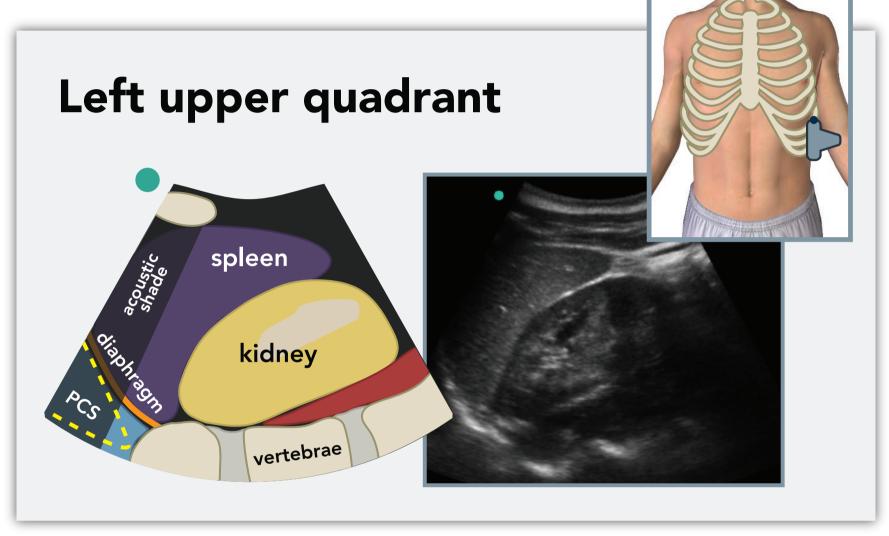
Probe: Convex array probe (5-3 MHz)

Patient body position: Supine

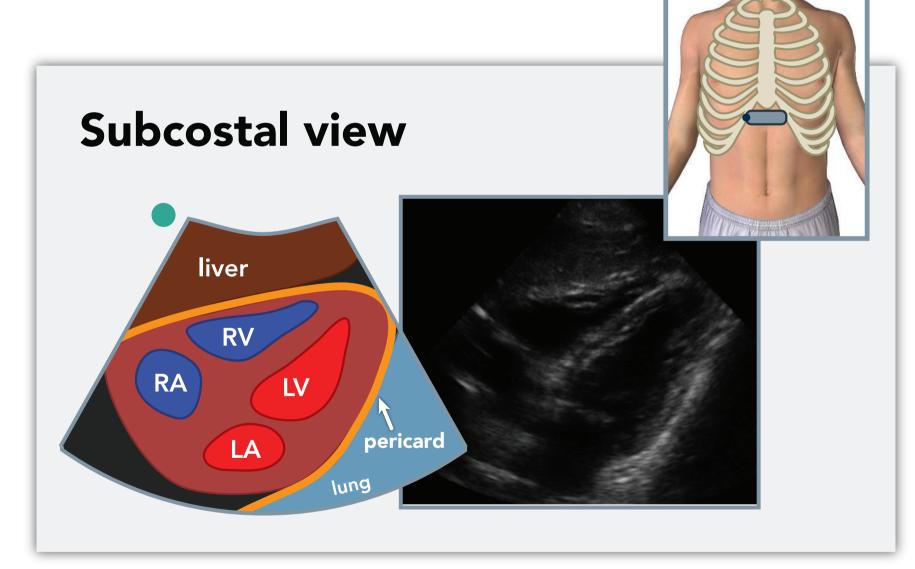


PCS = phrenicocostal sinus





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US TECHNIQUE

In all windows we examine the presence of free fluid which is seen as anechogeneous structure.

For better image of Morrison and perisplenic cavity we can help ourselves with the rotation of the probe parallel to intercostal space.

At subcostal view the heart can be seen clearer if the probe is held in a more horizontal position.



INTERESTING CLINICAL FACTS

43-20 % of patients shows no abnormalities in physical exam after the primary survey.

FAST exam has 99-86 % sensitivity and 99-90 % specificity for detecting the presence of free fluid.

The sensitivity of the FAST exam can be increased by fanning motion to acquire spatial 3D images.

FAST exam is positive already when a small zone of fluid is found in any of the views.