
Thoracic Ultrasound and Integrated Imaging

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Editors

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Preface

Thoracic ultrasound provides critical diagnostic information in many conditions and situations, which can contribute to a correct diagnosis or therapeutic approach.

Thanks to portable and handheld ultrasound systems, thoracic ultrasound is now available not only at the patient's bedside but also outside healthcare facilities and even in wild and remote locations.

Today the method is part of any physician's primary diagnostic resources and doctors must be aware of its role, possibilities and limitations.

This volume collects the contributions of some of the most distinguished experts in this imaging technique, inevitably presenting different points of view due to the different kinds of training and experience of the authors.

Specific attention is paid to the principles governing the formation of images and the role of artefacts which are particularly important aspects in chest sonography because of the abundance of reflective and eco-impermeable elements like air and bone in this area.

Specific chapters are dedicated to thoracic ultrasound applications in neonatology, pediatrics, and emergency medicine as well as guided procedures and diaphragm function studies.

In many cases, the imaging findings are presented together with relevant clinical information and images provided by other imaging methods in order to highlight the role of thoracic ultrasound.

This integrated approach provides medical practitioners with essential know-how for using thoracic ultrasound as an extension of their physical examinations.

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Contents

Part I Technique

- 1 Physical Principles and Image Creation** 3
Francesco Feletti, Bruna Malta, and Andrea Aliverti
- 2 Artefacts in Thoracic Ultrasound** 13
Francesco Feletti, Bruna Malta, and Andrea Aliverti
- 3 Technical Execution** 31
Francesco Feletti, Bruna Malta, and Andrea Aliverti

Part II Semeiotics and Integrated Imaging

- 4 Lung Consolidation** 43
Gebhard Mathis
- 5 Interstitial Lung Diseases** 61
M. Sperandeo and G. Rea
- 6 Pleural Conditions** 83
Francesco Feletti, Bruna Malta, and Andrea Aliverti
- 7 Chest Wall Disorders** 103
Francesco Feletti, Bruna Malta, and Andrea Aliverti
- 8 Mediastinal Pathologies** 129
Christoph F. Dietrich, Nathan Atkinson, and Christian Jensen

Part III Applications

- 9 The Application of Ultrasound in the Diagnosis of Neonatal Lung Diseases** 155
Jing Liu
- 10 Pediatrics** 163
Ron Berant
- 11 Lung Ultrasound in Critical Care and Trauma** 175
Jung-Un Choi, Abdulrahman Alharthy, Dimitrios Karakitsos, and Lawrence M. Gillman

12	Ultrasound-Guided Procedures	181
	Alexander P. Brueder, Samira Shojaee, and A. Christine Argento	
13	Assessment of Diaphragm Function by Ultrasounds	199
	Francesco Feletti, Bruna Malta, and Andrea Aliverti	
14	Contrast Medium in Thoracic Ultrasound	211
	Christian Görg and Corinna Trenker	
15	Chest Sonography to Assess Lung Recruitment in Patients with Acute Respiratory Distress Syndrome	241
	Lorenzo Ball, Noemi Baretta, Simone Bazurro, and Paolo Pelosi	
Part IV Clinical and Radiological Correlations		
16	Clinical Cases	249
	Francesco Feletti, Bruna Malta, and Andrea Aliverti	