

Table of Contents

1 General	1
How to Use This Book	1
Examination Technique and Equipment	2
Who do you examine first when learning to scan?	2
How do you adjust the ultrasound machine?	2
What can you do with the transducer?	4
2 Basic Physical and Technical Principles	10
Ultrasound	10
Definitions	10
Propagation of sound	10
Production and detection of ultrasound waves:	
the pulse-echo principle	11
Diagnostic ultrasound: propagation of ultrasound in biological tissue	11
Producing an Image	12
A-Mode	12
B-Mode	13
M-Mode	13
Artifacts	14
Noise	14
Acoustic shadowing	14
Posterior acoustic enhancement	14
Reverberations	14
Beam-width artifact	15
Side-lobe artifact	16
Mirror-image artifact	17
Lateral edge shadow	18
3 Blood Vessels: The Aorta and its Branches, the Vena Cava and its Tributaries	19
Organ Boundaries	19
Locating the aorta and vena cava	19
Demonstrating the aorta and vena cava in their entirety	20
Organ Details	22
Demonstrating arterial and venous pulsations	22
Evaluating the vessel walls and lumina	22
Identifying and defining the branches of the aorta and vena cava	24
Anatomical Relationships	28
Relationship of the aorta and vena cava	
to the diaphragm, liver, and cardia	28
Area surrounding the celiac trunk and the course of the hepatic artery, splenic artery, and left gastric artery	29

Table of Contents

Superior mesenteric artery, splenic vein, and renal vessels	33
Iliac vessels	38
Lymph nodes near the retroperitoneal vessels	40
4 Liver	43
Organ Boundaries	43
Locating the liver	43
Imaging the liver in its entirety	44
Organ Details	53
Shape	53
Size	53
Parenchymal pattern	53
Vessels of the liver	60
Division of the liver into lobes, segments, and subsegments	62
The portal vein and its branches	82
Anatomical Relationships	87
Relationship of the left portion of the liver to the heart and stomach	88
Relationship of the central portion of the liver to the vena cava, stomach, and pancreas	90
Relationship of the right portion of the liver to the gallbladder, duodenum, and kidney	93
Ascites	95
5 Porta Hepatis	96
Organ Boundaries: Identifying the Vessels in the Porta Hepatis	97
Vena cava and portal vein	97
Hepatic artery and bile duct	98
Transverse and longitudinal survey of the porta hepatis	99
Organ Details: Details of the Vessels in the Porta Hepatis	102
Portal vein	102
6 Gallbladder	106
Organ Boundaries	106
Locating the gallbladder	106
Imaging the entire gallbladder	108
Variable position of the gallbladder	111
Nonvisualization of the gallbladder	111
Organ Details	114
Regions of the gallbladder	114
Size of the gallbladder	114
Variable shape of the gallbladder	116
Gallbladder wall	117
Gallbladder contents	119
Special acoustic phenomena in gallbladder scanning	123
Anatomical Relationships	125
Relationship of the gallbladder to the liver	126
Relationship of the gallbladder to the portal vein	129
Relationship of the gallbladder to the antrum, bulb, and duodenum	132

7 Pancreas	135
Organ Boundaries	135
Locating the pancreas	135
Imaging the entire pancreas	138
Variable shape of the pancreas	140
Organ Details	141
Pancreatic parenchyma	141
Pancreatic duct	145
Common bile duct	146
Measuring the pancreatic diameter	148
Anatomical Relationships	149
Relationships of the tail of the pancreas	149
Relationships of the body of the pancreas	152
Relationships of the head of the pancreas	156
 8 Stomach, Duodenum, and Diaphragm	 164
Organ Details	165
Stomach wall	165
Organ Boundaries and Relationships	166
Esophagus and cardia	166
Body of the stomach	170
Antrum and duodenum	172
Diaphragm	176
 9 Spleen	 178
Organ Boundaries	178
Locating the spleen	178
Imaging the entire spleen	179
Organ Details	181
Shape of the spleen	181
Determining the size of the spleen	182
Echo pattern	183
Anatomical Relationships	186
Relationship of the spleen to the pancreas, kidney, colic flexure, and stomach	187
Relationship of the spleen to the pleura	189
 10 Kidneys	 191
Organ Boundaries	191
Locating the right kidney	193
Imaging the entire right kidney	195
Locating the left kidney	197
Imaging the entire left kidney	198
Organ Details	200
Size and shape of the kidneys	200
Renal parenchyma and renal sinus	204
Anatomical Relationships of the Right Kidney	214
Relationship of the right kidney to the liver	215
Relationship of the right kidney to the psoas and quadratus lumborum muscles	218

Table of Contents

Relationship of the right kidney to the colon	221
Relationship of the right kidney to the gallbladder	223
Anatomical Relationships of the Left Kidney	226
Relationship of the left kidney to the spleen	227
Relationship of the left kidney to the psoas and quadratus lumborum muscles	229
Relationship of the left kidney to the colon	229
 11 Adrenal Glands	 230
Organ Boundaries and Anatomical Relationships	231
Ultrasound morphology of the adrenal glands	231
Location of the adrenal glands	231
Right adrenal gland	232
Left adrenal gland	234
Organ Details	235
Abnormalities of the adrenal glands	235
 12 Bladder, Prostate, and Uterus	 236
Organ Boundaries and Relations	236
Bladder and prostate	236
Bladder and uterus	238
Organ Details	240
Prostate	240
Uterus	240
 13 The Systematic Ultrasound Examination	 241
Topographic Units	242
Liver	242
Gallbladder and porta hepatis	242
Right kidney	243
Left kidney and spleen	243
Epigastrium and pancreas	244
Midabdomen	244
Lower abdomen	244
Description of Findings and Nomenclature	245
Documentation	246
Written report	246
Image documentation	246
 14 The Sono Consultant	 248
I Ultrasound Findings	249
1. Aorta: Widening	249
2. Vena cava: Dilatation	250
3. Liver: Large	251
4. Liver: Small	252
5. Liver: Increased echogenicity	253
6. Liver: Hepatic veins dilated	254
7. Liver: Circumscribed mass	254
8. Liver: Echo-free mass	255

9. Liver: Hypoechoic mass	256
10. Liver: Isoechoic or hyperechoic mass	257
11. Liver: Hyperechoic mass with an acoustic shadow	257
12. Ascites	258
13. Gallbladder: Stone	259
14. Gallbladder: Circumscribed wall changes	260
15. Gallbladder: Thickened wall	261
16. Gallbladder: Large	262
17. Gallbladder: Echogenic contents	263
18. Gallbladder: Acoustic shadowing	264
19. Common duct: Dilatation	264
20. Pancreas: Dilated duct	266
21. Pancreas: Cannot be identified	267
22. Pancreas: Increased echogenicity	267
23. Spleen: Circumscribed changes	268
24. Spleen: Circumscribed change, echo-free	269
25. Spleen: Circumscribed changes, hypoechoic	269
26. Spleen: Circumscribed changes, hyperechoic	270
27. Spleen: Circumscribed changes, hyperechoic with shadow	270
 II Clinical Presentation	 271
1. Splenomegaly	271
2. Lymphoma	272
3. Heart failure	273
4. Hypertension	273
5. Jaundice	274
6. Acute viral hepatitis (ultrasound is inconclusive)	275
7. Chronic viral hepatitis	276
8. Primary sclerosing cholangitis	277
9. Proposed laparoscopic cholecystectomy	278
10. Postcholecystectomy syndrome	279
11. Acute pancreatitis	279
12. Chronic pancreatitis	281
13. Hematuria	282
14. Chronic renal failure	283
15. Chronic renal failure, small to normal-sized kidney	283
16. Chronic renal failure, large kidney	283
17. Acute right-upper-quadrant pain	284
18. Diabetes mellitus	285
 Index	 286