



Promoting Excellence In Ultrasound

Policies and Statements

B4

Scanning Of Live Subjects For Teaching Purposes During ASUM Meetings

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August 1995, Reaffirmed September 1999

Scanning of live subjects for teaching purposes at ASUM meetings is approved in the following situations:

1. A one-to-one situation with an experienced sonographer/sonologist demonstrating to an audience, either directly or via interactive video link-up.
2. In a workshop where a sonographer/sonologist is teaching and supervises participants involved in the hands-on scanning.

The following guidelines must be considered and applied, where relevant:

1. Required elements

- a) informed consent (guardian consent in the case of minors), in writing, must be obtained. Subjects must be familiarised with the entire process and an assessment made of the subject's understanding of their relevant medical condition.
- b) the subject must be aware that the scan is for teaching only and will not be used for clinical purposes.
- c) the identity of the subject must be confidential.
- d) debate regarding the subject's treatment/care should not be conducted in the subject's hearing or presence.
- e) in all situations, the medical practitioner responsible for recruiting the subject must ensure that it is safe for the person to be scanned in a teaching situation and must remain responsible for their care.

2. Recommended elements

- f) all subjects should be fully evaluated by the demonstrator prior to the commencement of the scanning session.
- g) a specific individual (patient advocate) should be nominated to ensure the subject's rights and needs are respected and met.
- h) demonstrators should be given adequate opportunity to familiarise themselves with basic machine functions prior to the commencement of the scanning session. Corporate sponsors should be encouraged to assist in the selection of the demonstrator.

i) alternative methods of presenting the scan data should be considered (e.g. prior video recording), especially when the subject is a minor or has serious pathology. The cost/benefit ratio of the session should be critically assessed.

All persons involved in the session (including the audience) should be made aware of these guidelines (e.g. slide presentation of guidelines at start of the session).



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