

Editorial



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Dear Colleagues,

It is with pleasure that I hereby introduce the ninth issue of UIO.

This issue covers a wide range of interesting topics. Some of the topics are also focus areas for the European Federation of Societies for Ultrasound in Medicine and Biology (EFSUMB), namely student education in ultrasound and elastography. Guidelines are available under www.efsumb.org.

The issue consists of three original articles, one review and one case report. A Norwegian group evaluated repeated measurements of normal fetal renal pelvises (AP diameter < 5 mm) and bladders in 49 normal fetuses with a gestational age between 17 and 20 weeks. They found a low variability in normal measurements of less than 1 mm in 72% of cases, so that it was deemed a safe measurement.

A review of how to perform strain elastography – a qualitative elastography method - is also included in this issue. The authors from several European institutions cover the technique, applications, limitations and pitfalls in different organs. The review mainly addresses issues of interest to beginners, but more experienced users may also benefit from the article.

Shear wave elastography – a quantitative elastography method – was used to evaluate testes in another original article. Normal testes, testes with microlithiasis and testes with cancer were evaluated in the study including 248 men, of whom 130 were normal, 99 had microlithiasis and 19 had cancer. The authors found higher shear wave velocities in cancer tissue than in both normal testes and testes with microlithiasis. The authors suggest that shear wave elastography may be a useful method for the evaluation of the scrotum. However, the results were ambiguous.

The article on student training evaluated ultrasound teaching for first year medical students over a 7-year period. The students alternately acted as models and operators and all improved their competences during the course. The authors conclude that the training of future medical doctors has successfully started.

Finally, the case report shows B-mode and contrast-enhanced ultrasound images of gallbladder choroma in a patient with AML.

On behalf of the editors of UIO, I wish you pleasant reading.
Caroline Ewertsen