

ULTRASOUND

LECTURE SERIES

Benign Abnormalities of the Female Pelvis

Jodi P. Lerner, MD

*Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology
Columbia University Medical Center
New York, New York*

Objectives

By the end of the presentation, the viewer will be able to:

1. Understand the basic ultrasound scanning techniques and the normal structures found in the nonpregnant female pelvis.
2. Understand the primary abnormalities of the uterus, including myomas, and the different locations within the uterus where they may be encountered.
3. Identify normal and abnormal features of the endometrium, including normal cyclic changes, and understand endometrial pathology such as polyps and fibroids.
4. Understand normal ovarian architecture at times of the cycle and during the reproductive and postmenopausal years, including physiologic ovarian cysts.
5. Identify nonfunctional but still benign ovarian cysts and masses.

Topics

1. Cervix
 - Nabothian cysts, etc
 - Cervical masses
2. Uterus
 - Fibroids
 - Adenomyosis
 - Endometrial hyperplasia
 - Uterine neoplasm
 - Sassone's scoring system/Timmerman's M and B rules
3. Ovaries
 - Cysts of ovaries
 - Benign ovarian masses
 - Malignant ovarian masses
4. Fallopian tubes
 - Benign cysts/masses
 - Malignant cysts/masses
5. Other abnormalities of the female pelvis

Review Questions

1. Patients who have a submucosal location to their myomata often complain of:
 - A. Pelvic pressure.
 - B. Vaginal discharge.
 - C. Menorrhagia.
 - D. Gastrointestinal discomfort.
2. The use of ultrasound in determining endometrial pathology may be assisted by what other technique:
 - A. Pap smear.
 - B. Saline infusion sonohysterography.
 - C. Vaginal Chlamydia culture.
 - D. Intrauterine device insertion.
3. Typical sonographic features of an ovarian benign cystic teratoma include:
 - A. Sonolucent fluid within.
 - B. Posterior shadowing of an echogenic core.
 - C. Homogeneous solid appearance.
 - D. Multiple thin septations.
4. Sonographic signs that an ovarian mass may be associated with malignancy include:
 - A. Large size.
 - B. Complex inner wall papillations.
 - C. Strong Doppler vascular flow.
 - D. All of the above.
5. Typical features of a chronic hydrosalpinx might include:
 - A. Homogeneous low-level echoes.
 - B. Posterior shadowing of an echogenic core.
 - C. Incomplete septations.
 - D. Cystic and solid areas with a polypoid appearance.