



Maryland Chapter

AMERICAN COLLEGE OF EMERGENCY PHYSICIANS

2021 Maryland ACEP Chapter Educational Conference & Annual Meeting Thursday, March 18, 2021

FACULTY

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PRESENTATION

Point-of-Care Ultrasound: Not Just Hocus POCUS

DESCRIPTION

This lecture will review several recent cases in which point-of-care ultrasound was used to rapidly identify life-threatening conditions, and dramatically impacted clinical care. The purpose of the lecture is to empower clinicians to incorporate this skill in their diagnostic toolbox to improve the quality of care provided to critically ill patients.

OBJECTIVES & OUTCOMES

At the conclusion of the lecture, participants should be able to identify the basic cardiac echo views of the heart, identify some of the findings consistent with acute right heart strain; will be able to discuss normal aortic diameters and its natural taper; but most importantly- they should recognize the powerful tool available to them with point of care ultrasound and that it is safe, repeatable, available to the treating physician, and low cost to the patient.

Ultrasound is best learned by bedside teaching. Thus, it is difficult to teach the actual skill of ultrasound without an associated workshop or hands-on course. Therefore, the purpose of this lecture is to demonstrate cases where POCUS had tremendous impact on patient care and to hopefully encourage trained providers to either incorporate ultrasound into their daily practice or seek additional CME training in point-of-care ultrasound.

A selection of 3 cases will be presented in this lecture. These cases represent common chief complaints encountered in the average ER on every shift. We will review the pertinent ultrasound findings and compare with radiological studies ordered by the treating provider (CT, MRI, etc). The lecture will exemplify ways in which ultrasound provided critical information in a time sensitive manner to the treating provider.

DISCLOSURE

No significant financial relationships to disclose.