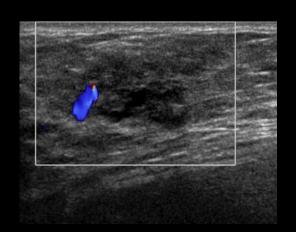
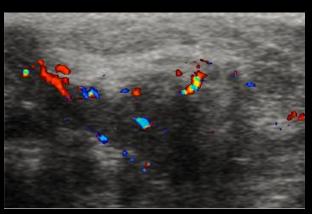
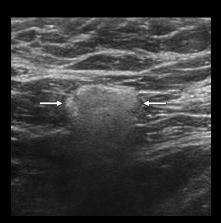


2014 CME SONOGRAPHER DAY

Breast Ultrasound: Protocols, Pearls & Pitfalls – Part 1







Sharon Shin, M.D. April 6, 2014

Overview

3 things to ask yourself for <u>every</u> breast US that you do:

1. "Why is this patient here?"

2. "Could this be cancer?"

3. "Have I shown the finding well enough?"

Overview

- Screening vs. Diagnostic Ultrasound
- Basic Breast Ultrasound Protocol & Positioning
- Background Breast Parenchyma a limitation?
- Breast Cancer features on US
- Cysts
- Dilated Ducts
- Breast Implants
- Gynecomastia
- Cases

Q1. "Why is this patient here?" Screening vs. Diagnostic Breast US

Screening

- asymptomatic
- <u>low pre-test probability</u>
 - (i.e. more likely to be negative, since pt does not have a breast concern)

Diagnostic

- Patient presents with a breast concern
 - Lump? Pain?
 - Nipple discharge? New Nipple Inversion?
 - Skin changes? Change in shape of the breast?



Screening Breast US

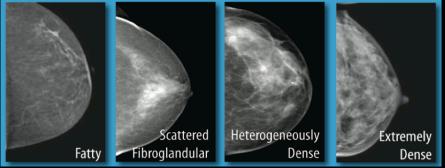
Only as a <u>supplementary tool</u> to mammo

 Mammography is still primary screening modality for breast cancer

Screening Breast US

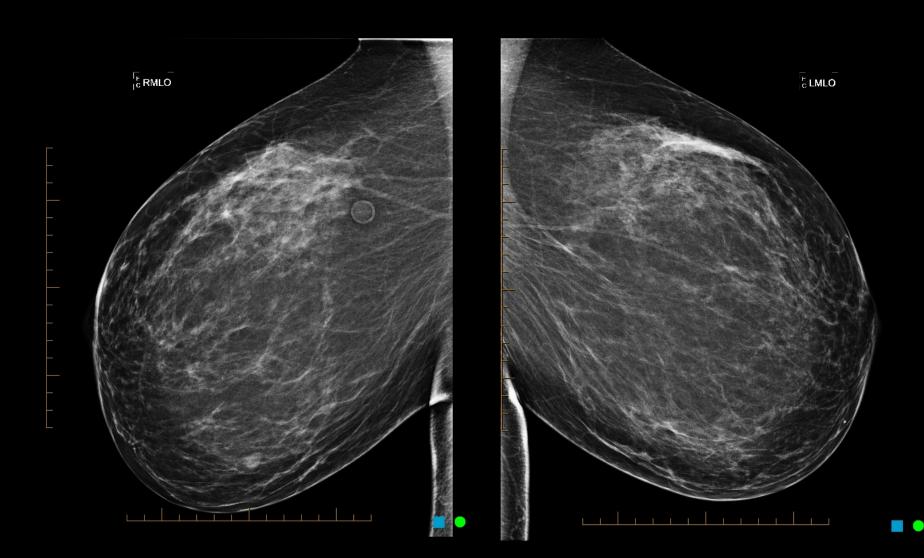
 Useful for dense or heterogeneously dense breasts on mammo to increase exam

sensitivity



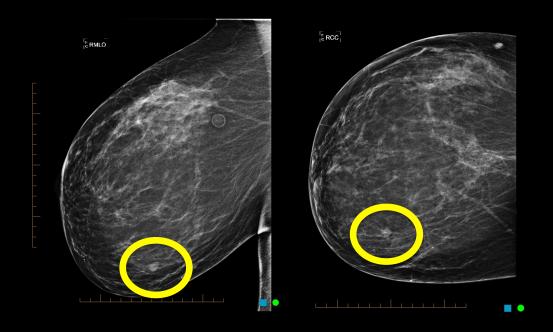
- Especially if there are risk factors:
 - Dense breasts ~ 4-6X risk
 - Family Hx mother OR sister w/ breast ca <50 ~ 3X
 - Family Hx 2+ family members w/ breast ca ~ 3X
 - Personal Hx of breast ca ~ 3-4X

Clinical Indication: "Routine"



Screening Breast US

Ask the Mammo technologist if there is any area on which to focus



"Right lower inner quadrant" or "Right breast ~5:00, 4-5 CMFN"

Diagnostic Breast US

i.e. Patient has a breast concern:

- 1. Read the Clinical Requisition
- ASK THE PATIENT



- New Symptoms?
 - Or for years? (eg "nipple inversion since I was a teen")
- Lump?
- Pain?
- Nipple discharge? (bloody? Clear?)
- New Nipple Inversion?
- Skin changes?
- Change in shape of the breast?

Q1. "Why is this patient here?" Diagnostic Breast US

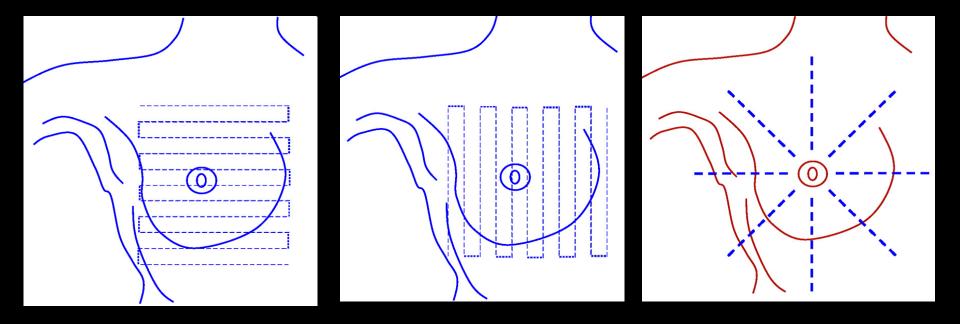
- Sonographers
 - have the "hands-on" perspective
 - are the "eyes & ears" of the radiologist
 - If you observe <u>suspicious clinical features</u> (eg. lump is hard, firm, fixed vs. benign-mobile, soft),

mention on tech sheet (circle, *)

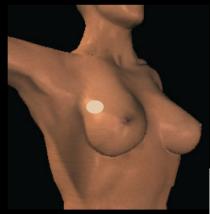
• Label Area of Concern (AOC)

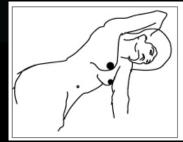


- Systematic Method of scanning
 - Eg.
 - Raster (horizontal, then vertical, overlapping)
 - Radial (going out from the nipple, still overlapping)



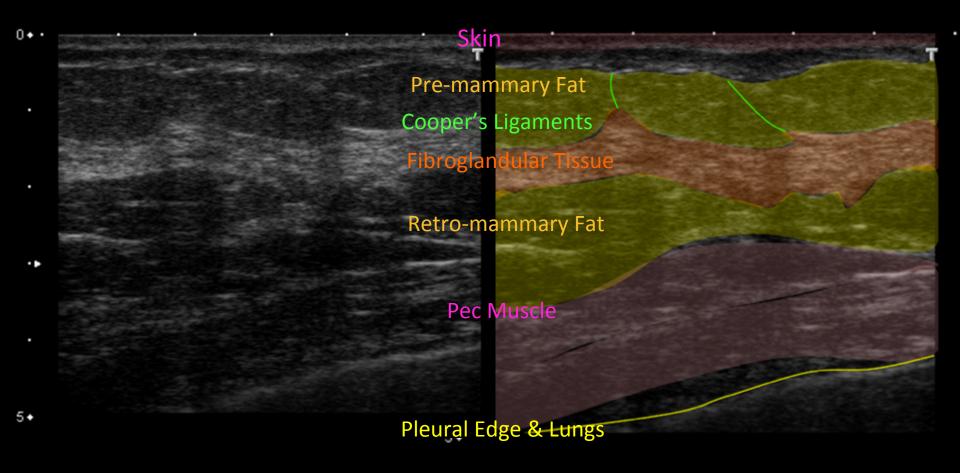
- Lateral Lesion?
 - OBLIQUE patient, arm up
 - Large breasts?
 - have pt roll onto her SIDE
- Stand off pad (lots of gel)
 - For superficial lesions
 - eg. epidermal inclusion(aka sebaceous) cyst
 - nipple



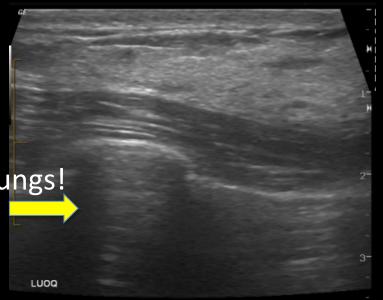




Breast Anatomy:

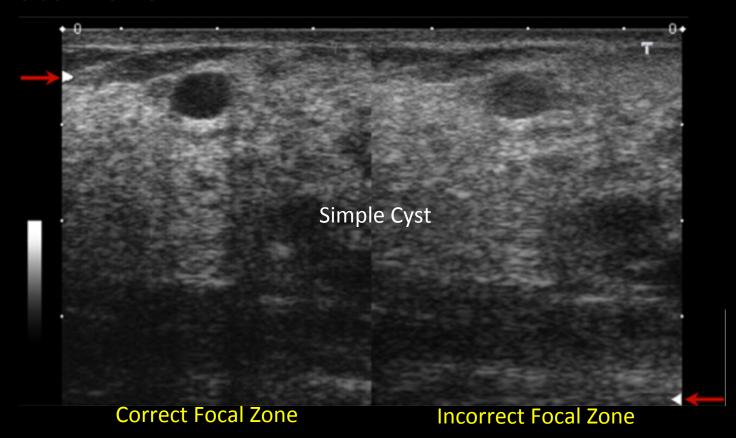


- Check:
 - Field of View
 - Don't include much of the lungs!
 - Focal Zone
 - Gain (incl TGC)
 - Use Colour or Power Doppler
 - Use PULSE WAVE DOPPLER (spectral waveform)
 - To confirm TRUE flow if you get (+) doppler signal



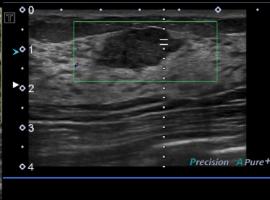
• Check:

Focal Zone



- Check:
 - Use Colour or Power Doppler
 - Use PULSE WAVE DOPPLER (spectral waveform)
 - To confirm TRUE flow if you get (+) doppler signal

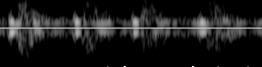




Twinkling
Artifact of
Milk of Calcium
Cyst

Doppler Artifact From Intracystic Mobile Debris

Artifact in
Cyst Septation vs.
True Vascular
Septation???



True Arterial Vascularity in Intraductal Papilloma

Background Echotexture

Tissue Composition

- Homogeneous
 - Uniform hypoechoic <u>fat</u> lobules with echogenic Cooper's ligaments <u>OR</u>
 - Uniform echogenic <u>fibroglandular</u> tissue underlying thin subcutaneous fat

Heterogeneous

Focally or <u>Diffusely</u> variable in echotexture,
 with many areas of increased/decreased echogenicity

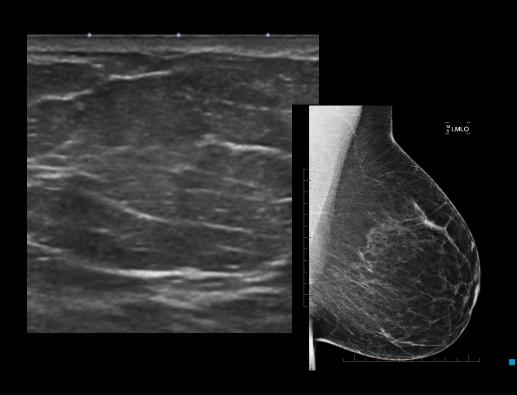
Background Echotexture Homogeneous

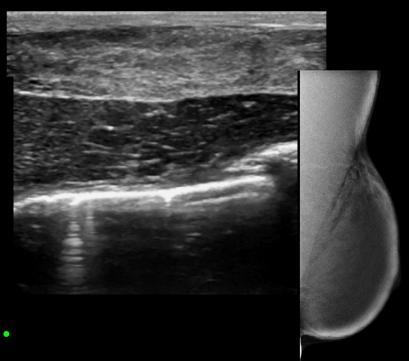
Fatty

 Uniform hypoechoic fat lobules with echogenic Cooper's ligaments

Fibroglandular

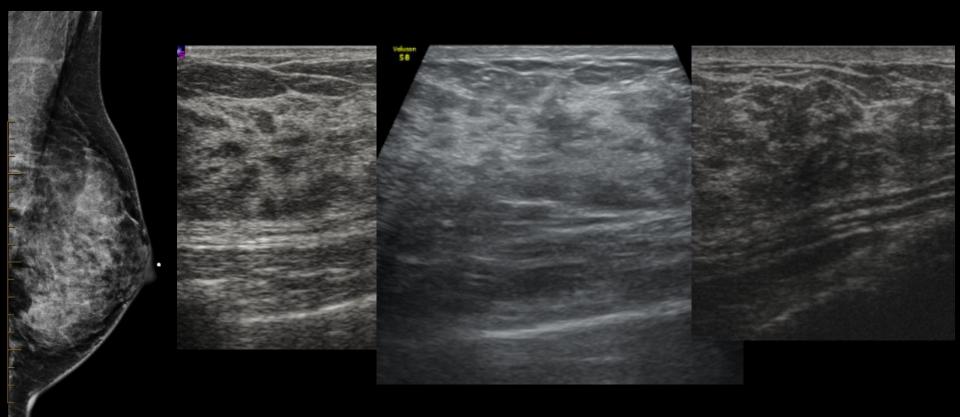
 Uniform echogenic fibroglandular tissue underlying thin subcutaneous fat





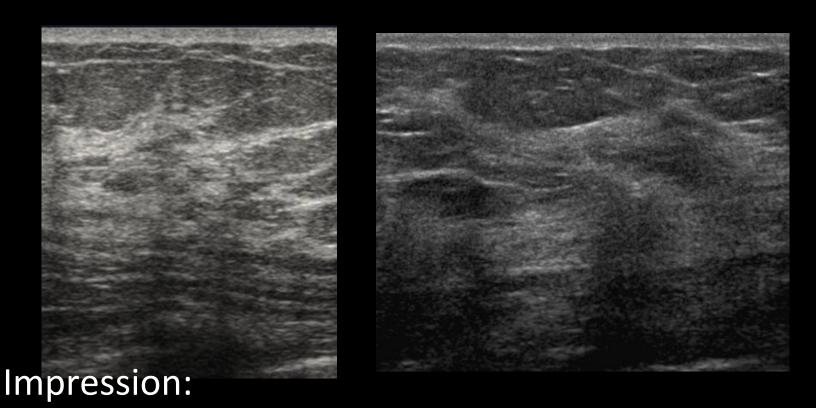
Background Echotexture Heterogeneous

- Focally or Diffusely variable in echotexture,
 with many areas of increased/decreased echogenicity
- Decreased Sensitivity?



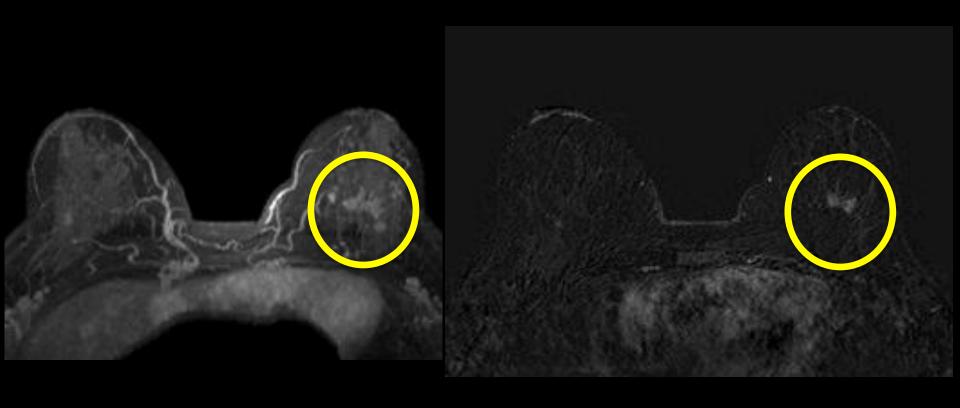
Heterogeneous Background Echotexture Decreased Sensitivity?

Case eg. Palpable left upper breast lump, Initial mammogram negative



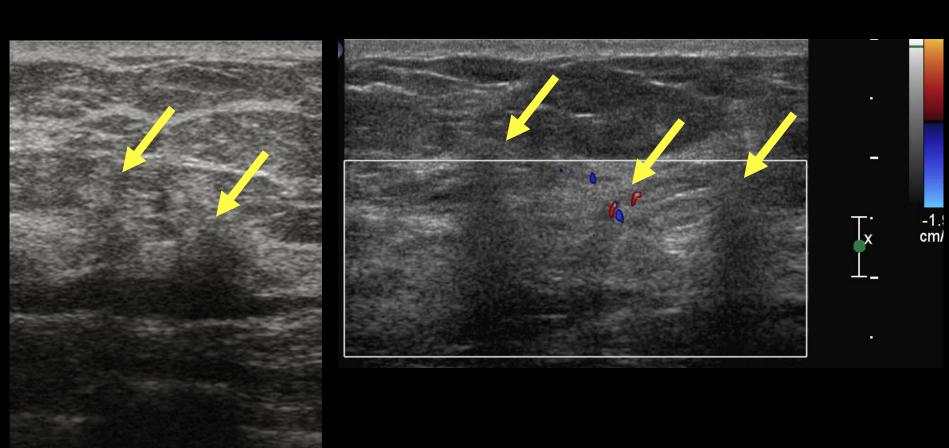
"No definite evidence of a mass or suspicious sonographic abnormality."

Associated MRI



Large area (3.5 cm) of Left upper breast
Asymmetric, Regional, Clumped NME with washout

Second Look Ultrasound



Infiltrating ductal carcinoma with lobular features

Q2. Could this be cancer?

Feature	Benign	Malignant
Shape	Round, wider than tall	Taller than wide
Margins	Smooth	Irregular, angular, spicular
Lobulations	None or up to 3	Multiple
Capsule	Encapsulated	No capsule
Halo	Absent	Echogenic halo
Fixity	None	Fixed to surrounding issue and/or underlying muscles
Shadowing or enhancement	Enhancement, edge shadowing	Shadowing behind lesion
Substance echogenicity	Anechoic (cystic), Hyperechoic	Hypoechoic, calcification

Go by <u>Single</u> most suspicious finding

Q2. Could this be cancer?

- Go by <u>Single</u> most suspicious finding
 - Only 1/3 of cancers shadow
 - That means 2/3 cancers have normal or enhanced transmission!
 - The larger a cancer gets, the LESS likely it will be taller-than-wide
 - Sometimes cancers can be VERY SUBTLE
 - can mimic fibroadenomas, cysts, even heterogeneous normal tissue
 - Subtle shadowing
 - Microlobulated, angular margins

Lesions on Ultrasound

- The "Big 3": SHAPE, MARGINS, ORIENTATION
- Echogenicity, Shadowing, Calcifications, Architectural distortion,
 Vascularity, Axillary lymphadenopathy
- Go by <u>Single</u> most suspicious finding
- Increased # of suspicious features? > more likely cancer
 - Eg. Irregular shape, non-circumscribed margins (eg. spiculated),
 taller-than-wide orientation, echogenic halo, posterior acoustic shadowing

Masses

SHAPE

- Oval (now includes macrolobulated)
- Round
- Irregular

MARGINS

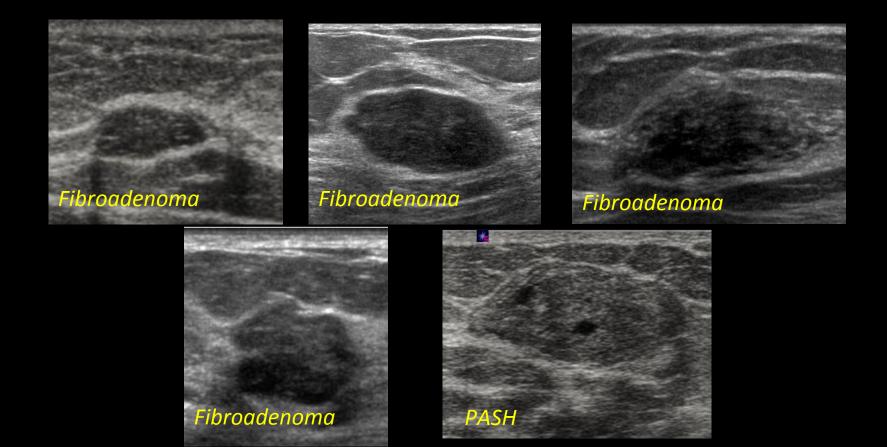
- Circumscribed vs.
- Non-circumscribed (everything else; more suspicious)
 - Indistinct, Microlobulated, Angular, Spiculated
 - Includes Echogenic Rim/Halo* (i.e. lesion-tissue interface)

ORIENTATION

- Parallel to skin ("wider-than-tall"; 23% malignant)
- Anti-parallal ("taller-than-wide"; more suspicious, 70% malig)

Shape - Oval

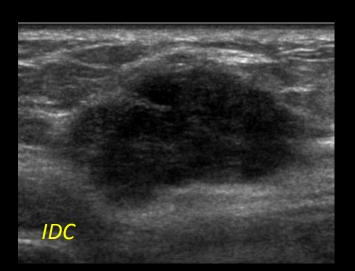
- Egg-shaped, elliptical
- more likely benign (85% benign; bx if new, growing/change)
 *includes macrolobulated (2-3 gentle lobulations)



Macrolobulated vs. Microlobulated

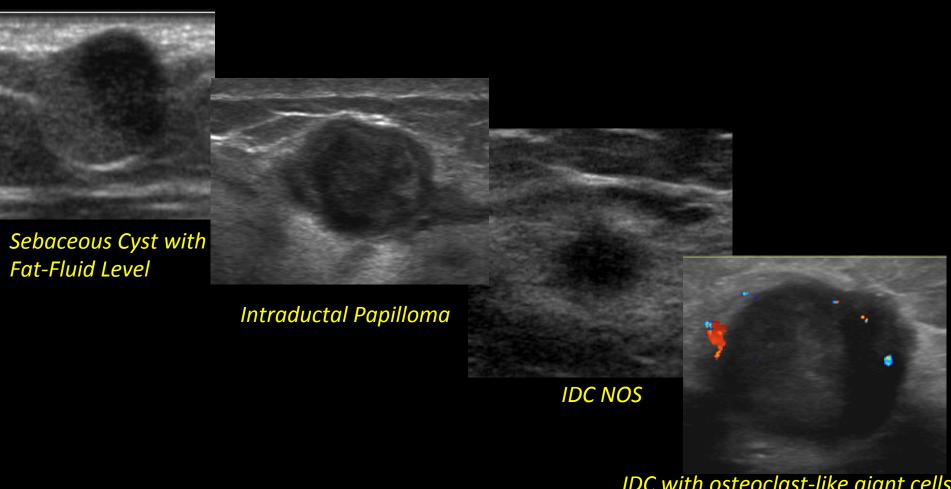
- Macrolobulated, a subset of OVAL SHAPE
- 2-3 gentle lobulations
- less useful descriptor than OVAL shape, CIRCUMSCRIBED margin, and more easily confused with microlobulated
- Microlobulated, type of NON-CIRCUMSCRIBED MARGIN
- 1-2 mm, more numerous, closer together





Shape - Round

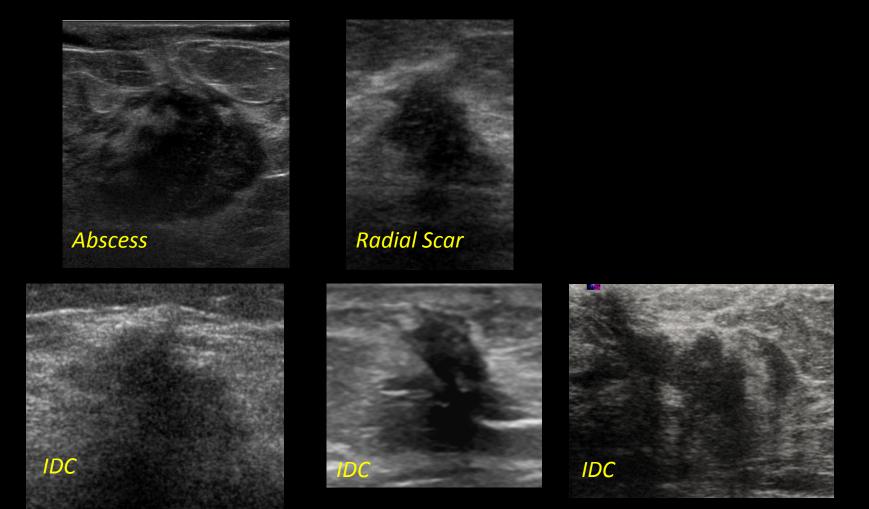
More suspicious than oval



IDC with osteoclast-like giant cells

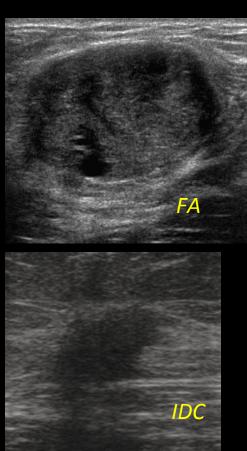
Shape - Irregular

• Most suspicious shape (60% malignant), neither oval or round



Margins

- Circumscribed
 - more likely benign (10% malignant)
- Non-circumscribed
 - more suspicious
 - Indistinct (45% malig)
 - Microlobulated (50% malig)
 - Angular (60% malig)
 - Spiculated (85% malig)
 - Echogenic halo/rim (70% malig)
 - eg. in cancer, abscesses, fat necrosis
 - No sharp demarcation between mass & surrounding tissue

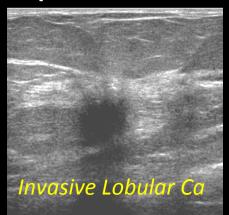


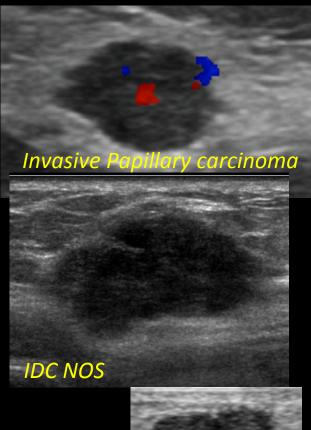
Non-Circumscribed Margins

Indistinct Microlobulated Angul



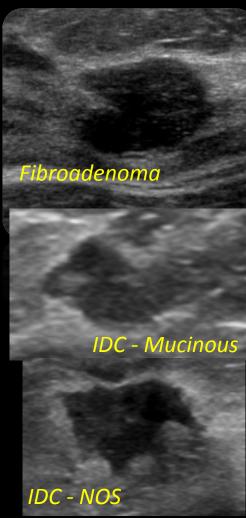
Spiculated





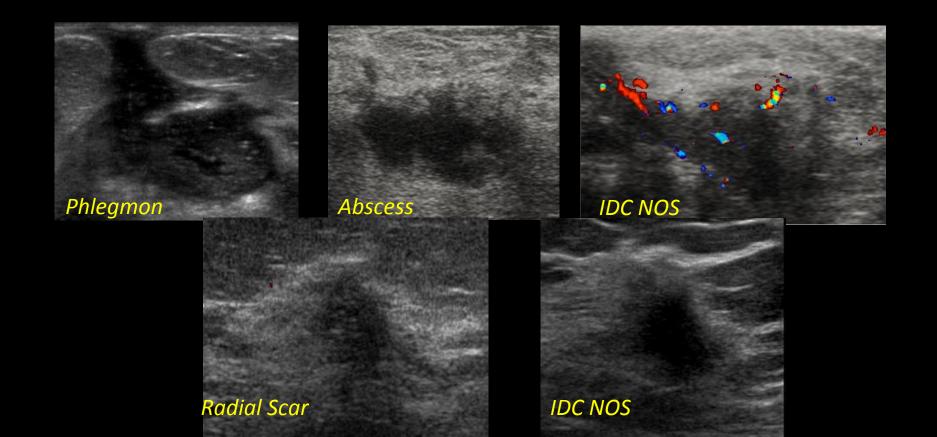
IDC NOS

Angular



Non-Circumscribed Margins

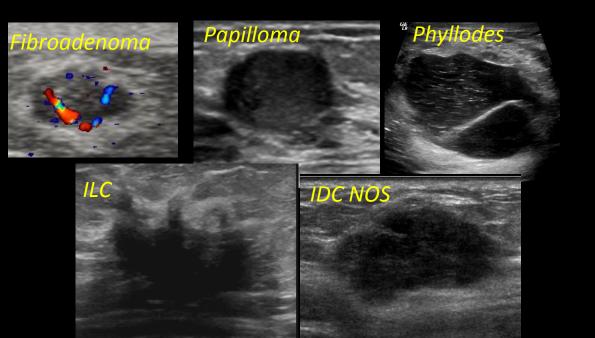
- Echogenic Rim/Halo (70% malig)
 - Infiltration; No sharp demarcation betw mass & surrounding tissue
 - mention when considering Margins

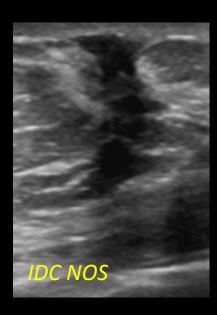


Orientation

Feature unique to Ultrasound

- Parallel to skin (i.e. "wider-than-tall")
 - more likely benign
 (77% benign) growing along tissue planes
- Anti-parallel (i.e. "taller-than-wide")
 - more suspicious,
 (70% malignant) growing against tissue planes



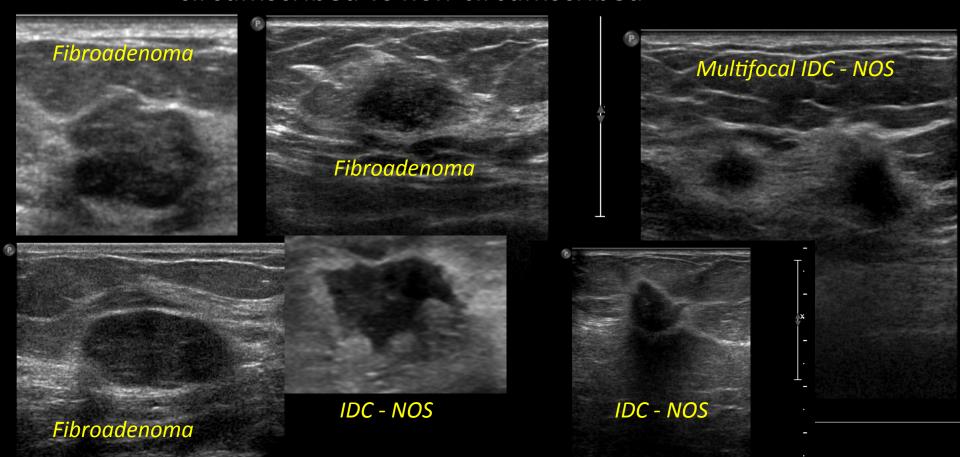


Q3. "Have I shown the finding well enough?"

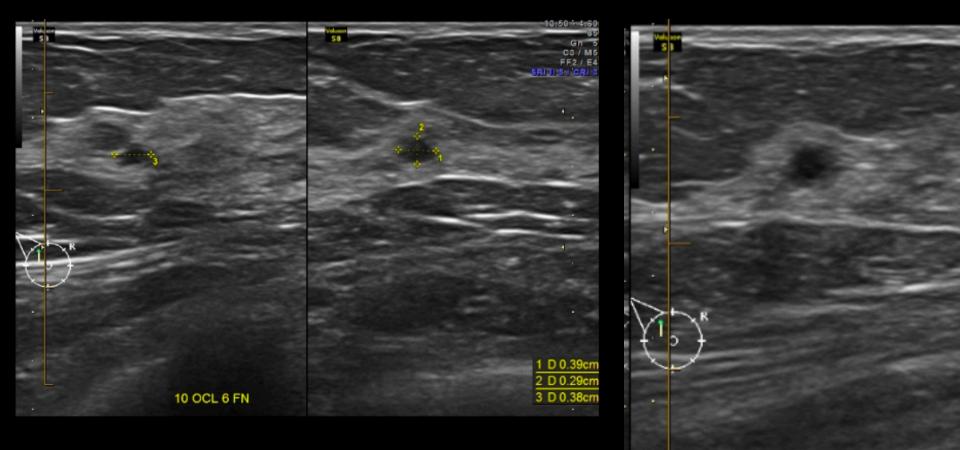
- Show margins well
 - circumscribed vs non-circumscribed
- Take an image without obscuring calipers first
 - esp for small lesions
- Cyst Fluid-debris levels
- Harmonics
 - can make solid lesions more hypoechoic, to stand out more

Q3. "Have I shown the finding well enough?"

- Show margins well
 - circumscribed vs non-circumscribed

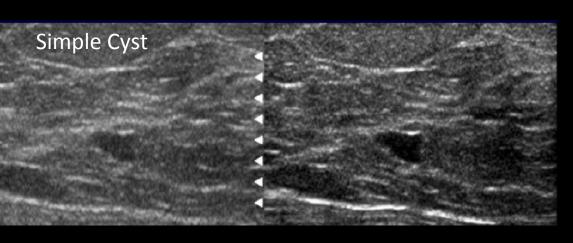


- Take an image without obscuring calipers first
 - esp for small lesions



Harmonics

- Increases conspicuity
- improves border definition & contrast
 - esp useful for subtle shadowing or isoechoic lesions
 - to "clean up" cysts



Septated Cyst

Without

With Harmonics

Without

With Harmonics

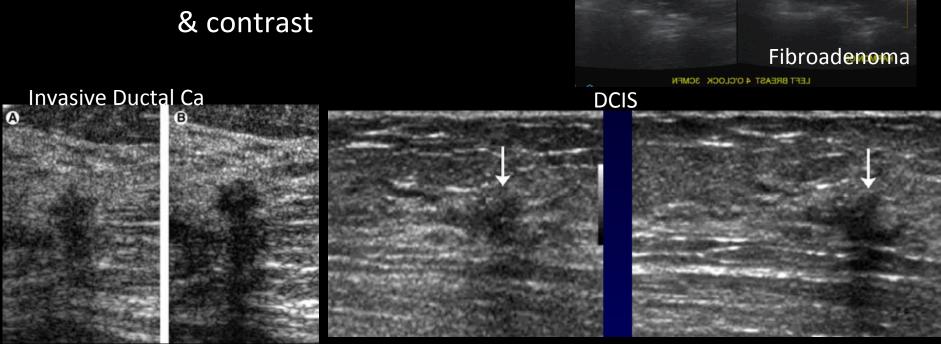
Harmonics

Without

Increases conspicuity

With Harmonics

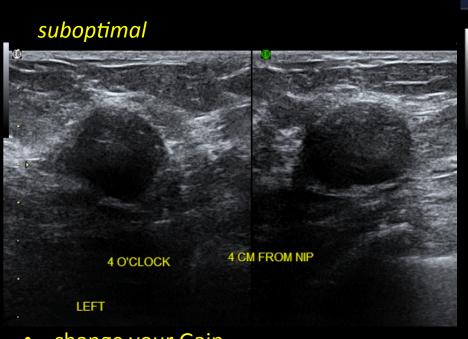
improves border definition& contrast



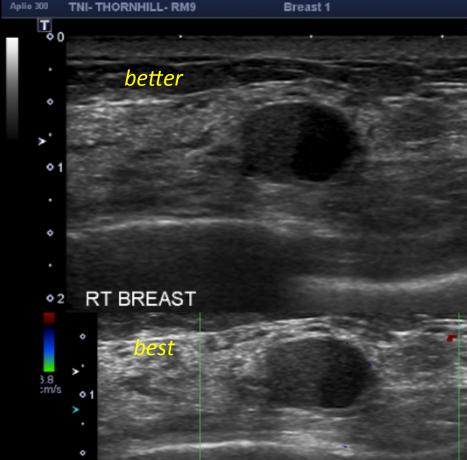
Without

With Harmonics

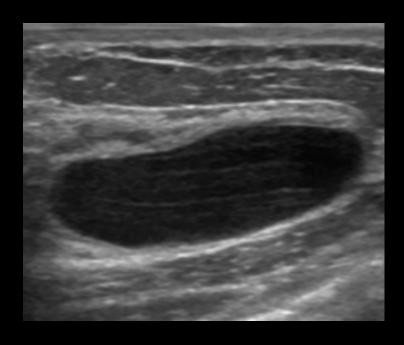
- Cyst Fluid-debris levels
 - Show the linear interface



- change your Gain
- change your Focal depth
- Use Harmonics
- Use Doppler

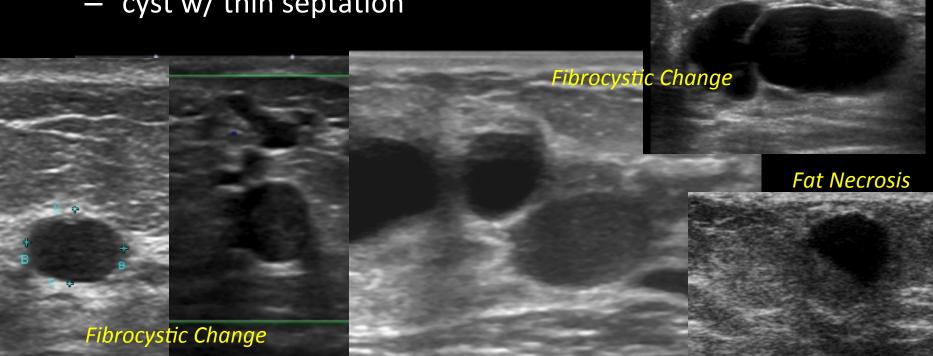


• Simple cyst = anechoic (BI-RADS2)

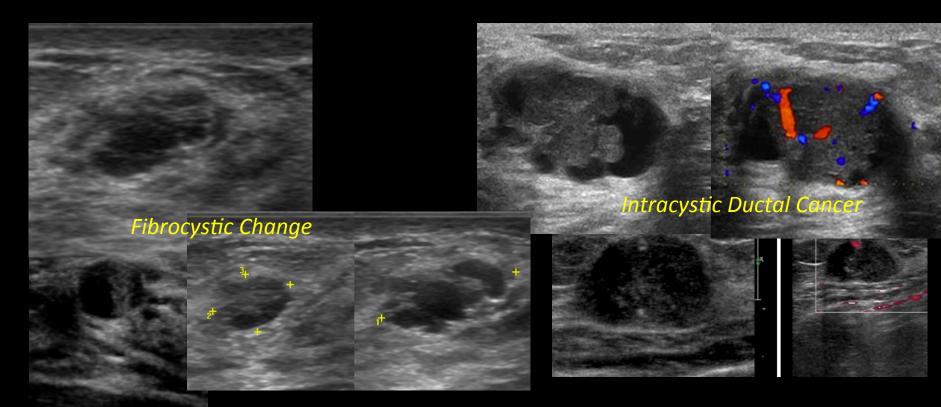


Simple Cyst Of FCC

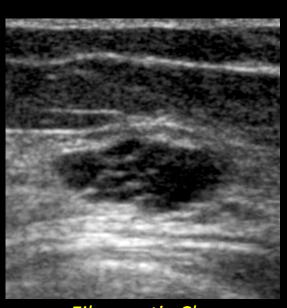
- Complicated cyst = Intracystic debris (BI-RADS2 or 3)
 - minimal low level echoes
 - fluid-debris levels
 - hypoechoic mimicking solid masses
 - cyst w/ thin septation



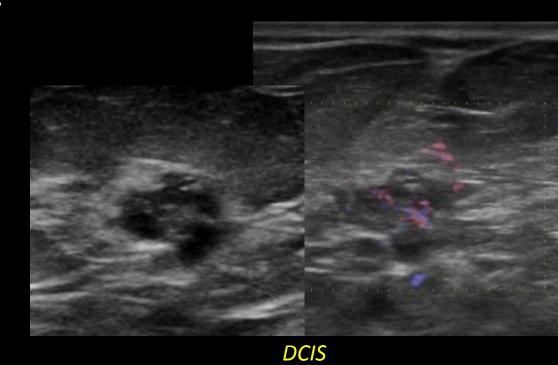
- Complex cyst (BI-RADS4, needs biopsy. Rarely BI-RADS3)
 - Solid, mural nodule
 - Thick septation
 - Use colour & PW doppler to document vascularity



- Clustered microcysts
 - FCC vs. DCIS?
 - Turn on doppler!

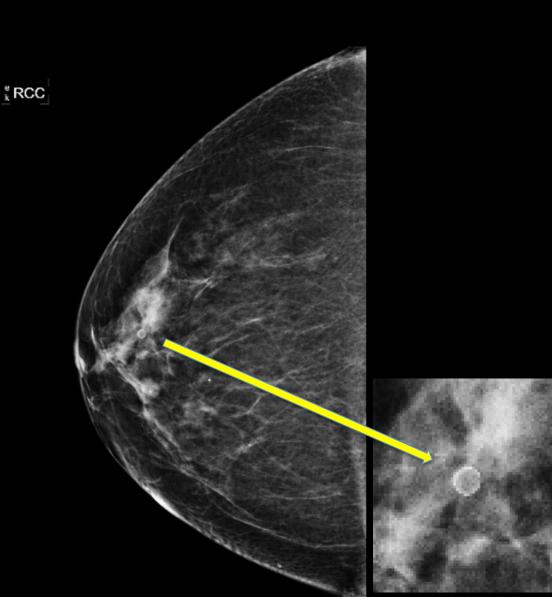


Fibrocystic Change



- Benign Oil cysts
 - Shadowing
 - Thin, echogenic rim





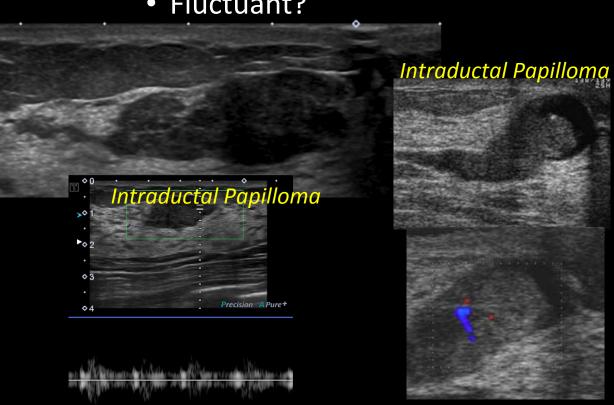
Dilated Ducts

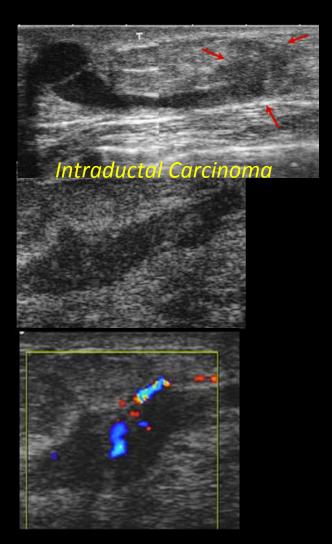
- Intraductal debris vs. papilloma vs. cancer?
 - Turn on doppler
 - Ballottment
 - Fluctuant material?



Dilated Ducts

- Intraductal debris vs. papilloma vs. cancer?
 - Turn on doppler
 - Ballottment
 - Fluctuant?





Ultrasound of Breast Implants

1. Breast Cancer Screening

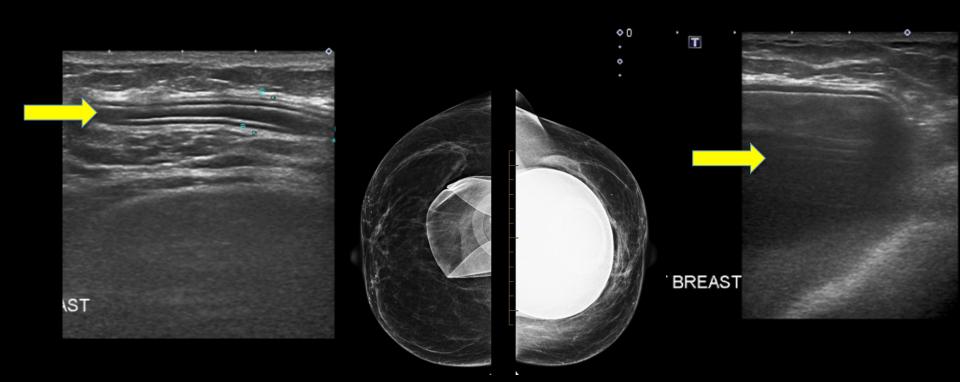
- to complement mammography
 - Mammo:
 - 40% decreased visualization of breast parenchyma for <u>subglandular</u> implants
 - 10% decreased visualization for <u>retropectoral</u> implants

2. Assess for Implant Rupture

- US 59-85% sensitive and 55-84% specific
 - (+) low cost, no ionizing radiation
 - (-) but Lower sensitivity and specificity than MRI

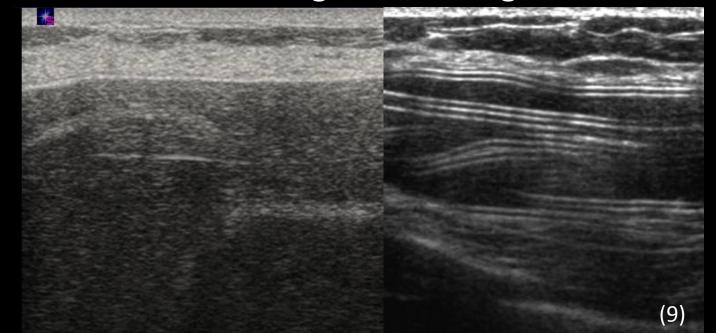
Saline Breast Implant Rupture

- Not a diagnostic dilemma
 - Clinically, on US, or on mammography



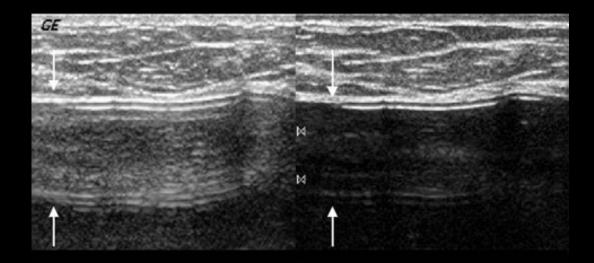
Silicone Implant Rupture - Ultrasound

- Definite Sign of Intracapsular Rupture
 - "Stepladder Sign"
 - Multiple lines traversing through implant at various levels
 - Silicone shell floating within the gel



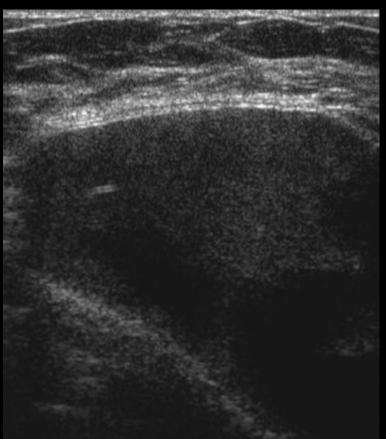
Implant Integrity - Ultrasound

- Normal, NO Intracapsular Rupture
 - "Reverberation Artifact"
 - Multiple parallel lines traversing through implant at various levels, from reverberation artifact from anterior wall, USE HARMONICS to reduce artifact



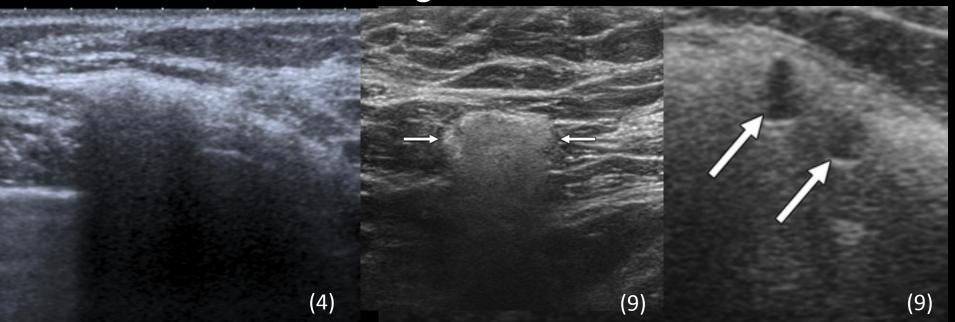
Silicone Implant Rupture - Ultrasound

- Suspicious Sign of Intracapsular Rupture
 - "Low level internal echoes" within implant



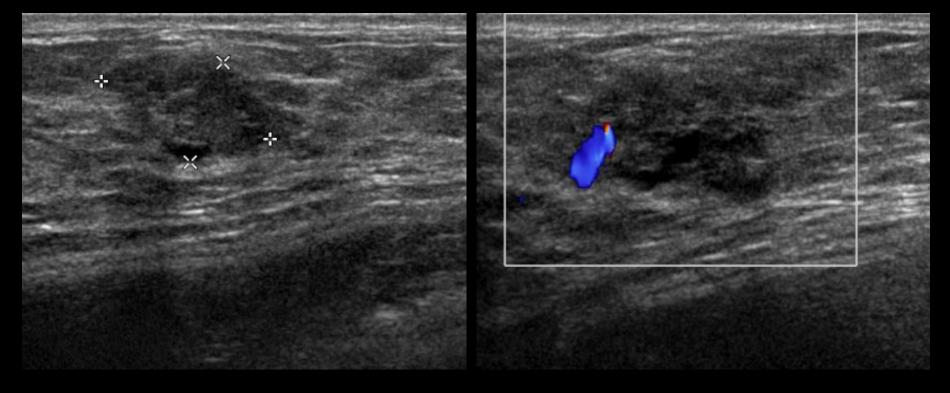
Silicone Implant Rupture - Ultrasound

- Definite Sign of <u>Extracapsular</u> Rupture
 - "Snowstorm Sign"
 - Echogenic, hypoechoic, or anechoic nodules with posterior inhomogeneity/loss of interfaces due to silicone attenuating US beam



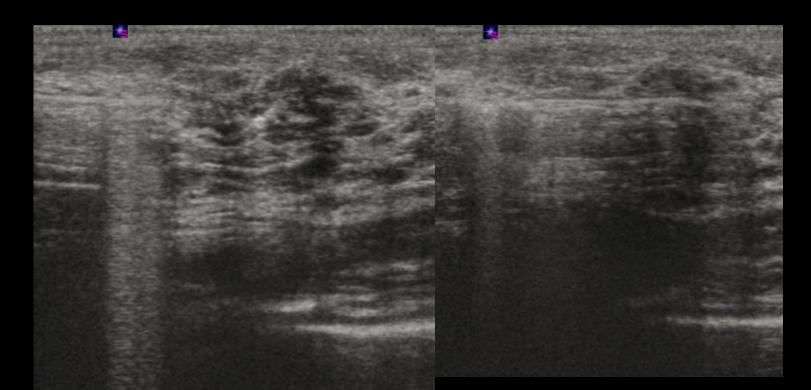
Screening for Breast Cancer with Breast Implants

• Eg . 53 yo F with implants, new R palpable lump, on US was a focal irregular hypoechoic mass with echogenic halo



Screening for Breast Cancer with Breast Implants

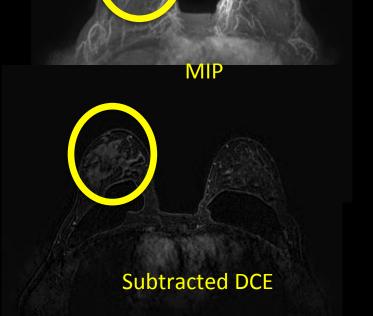
 Eg . 53 yo F with implants, new R palpable lump, US-guided core biopsy performed, ensuring trajectory parallel to implant -> DCIS

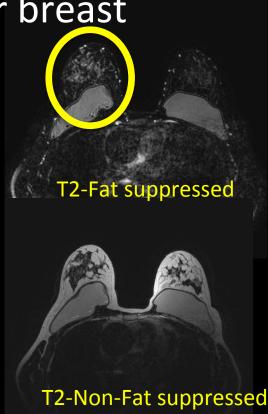


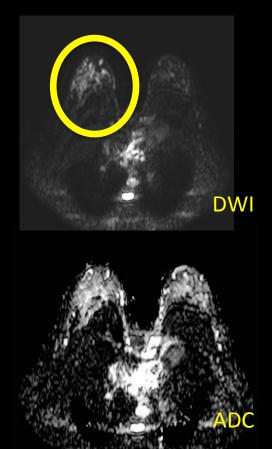
Screening for Breast Cancer with Breast Implants

 Eg. same case of DCIS on MRI→ regional asymmetric non-mass-like enhancement of

the entire R upper breast

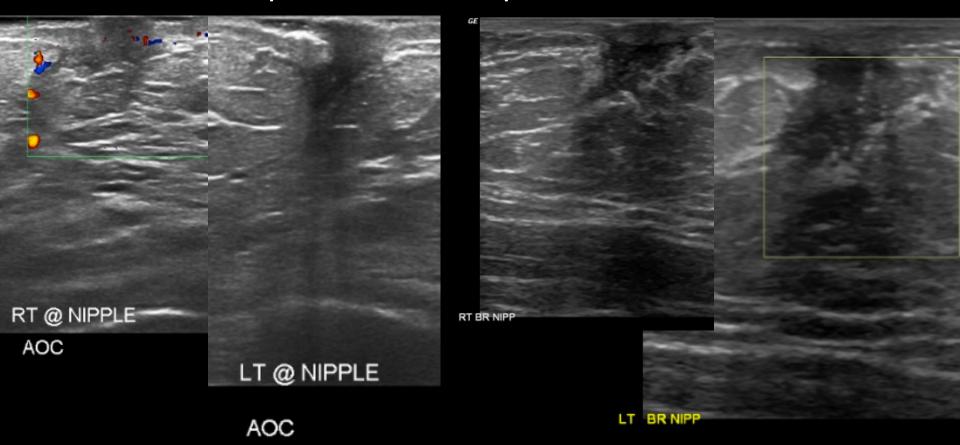






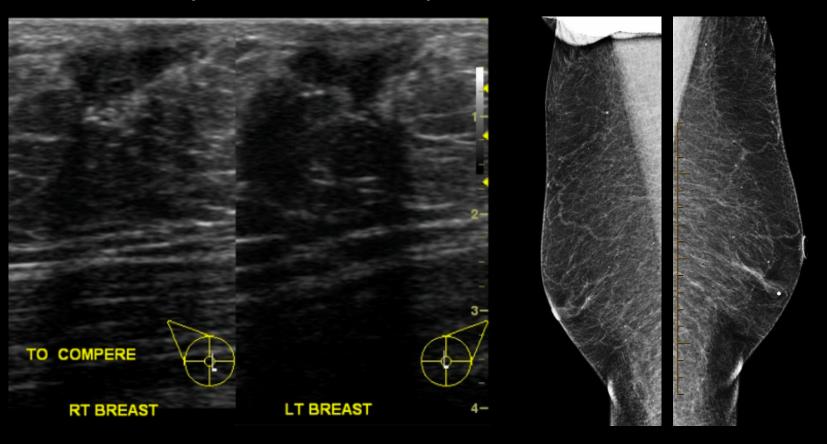
(Male) Gynecomastia

- Typical clinical history:
 - "Tender periareolar lump"



(Male) Gynecomastia

- Typical clinical history:
 - "Tender periareolar lump"



Back to the ...Overview

3 things to ask yourself for every breast US that you do:

1. "Why is this patient here?"

Have we answered the question? (even if the lump correlates with just a dense band of fibroglandular tissue)

1. "Could this be cancer?"

Go with the single most suspicious finding

2. "Have I shown the finding well enough?"

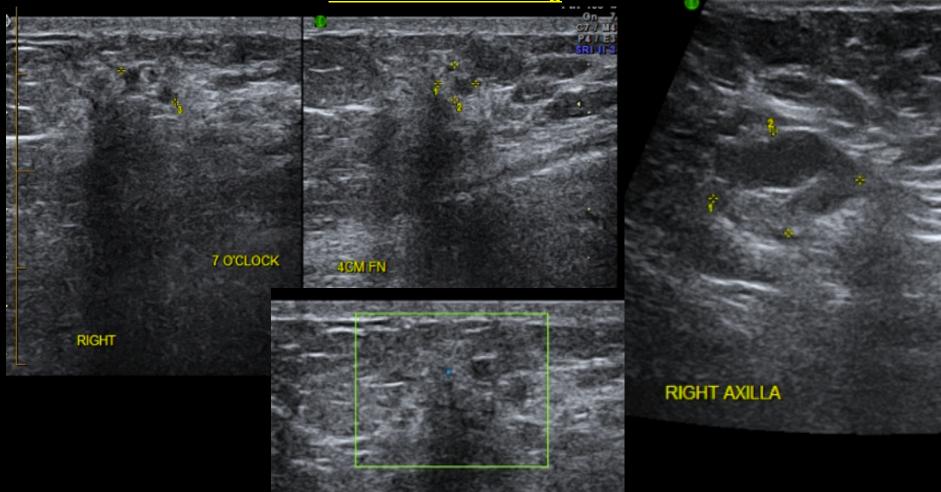
to avoid calling a cancer a "fibroadenoma" to avoid following or biopsying simple or only minimally complicated cysts

Summary

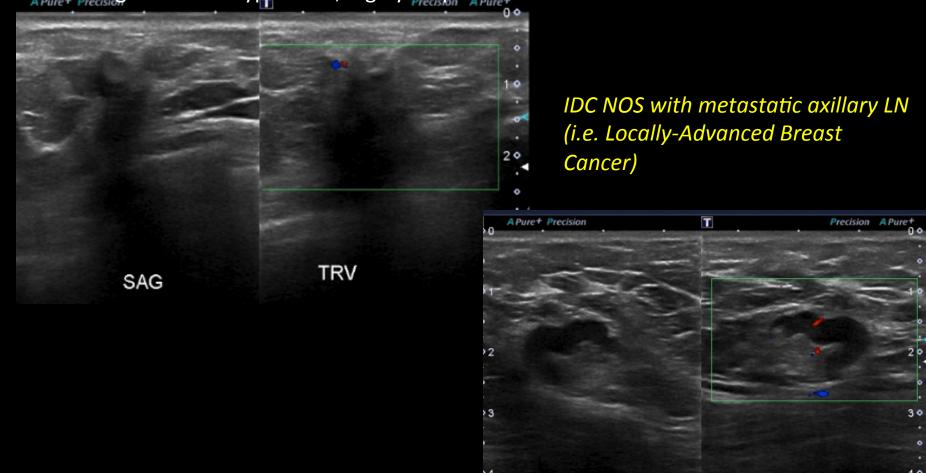
- Screening vs. Diagnostic Ultrasound
- Basic Breast Ultrasound Protocol & Positioning
- Background Breast Parenchyma a limitation?
- Breast Cancer features on US
- Cysts
- Dilated Ducts
- Breast Implants
- Gynecomastia
- (Real-life) Cases

1. "tiny cysts"?? No! Necrosis associated with breast cancer, w/ Axillary LN with cortical thickening

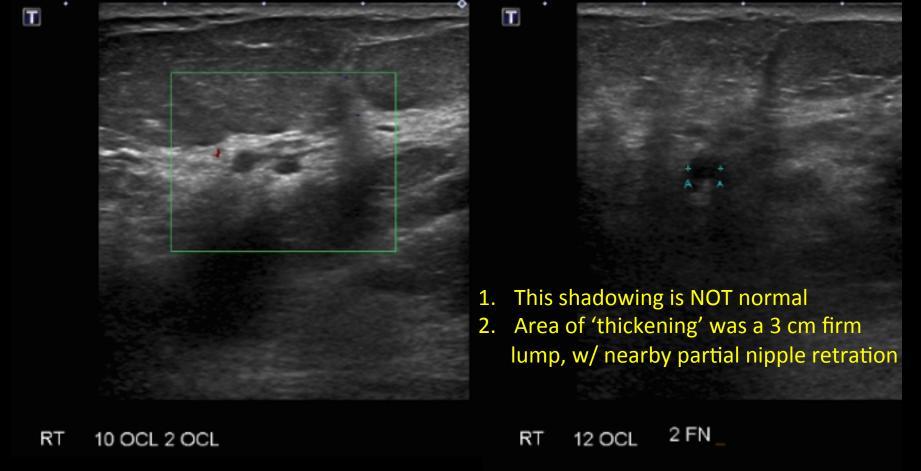
Note the **ABNORMAL shadowing**



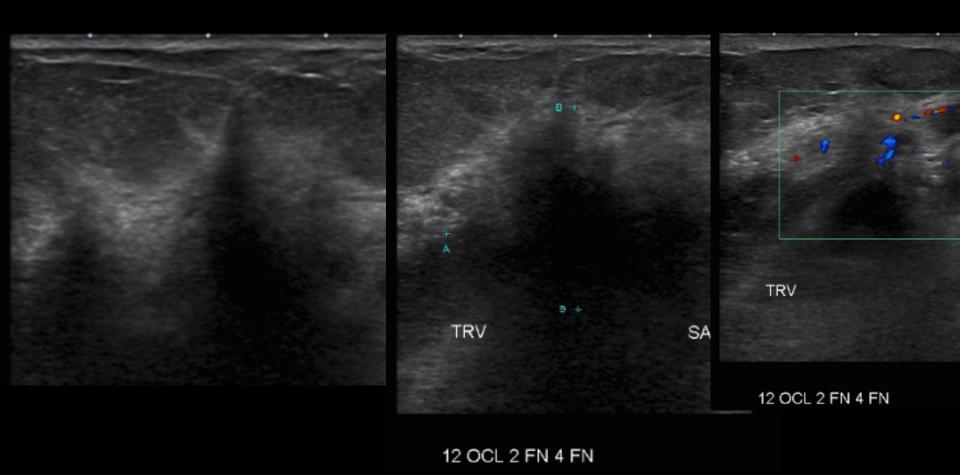
1. This is the same lesion, with harmonics:
Markedly Shadowing, hypoechoic Area/Mass with an Axillary LN with mild cortical thickening & cortical hyperemia, highly suspicious for breast cancer



- 2. 67 yoF, "new R breast lump/thickening with partial nipple inversion"
 - → Abnormal mammogram (marked architectural distortion)
 - → More tiny cysts? No! Again, note the prominent shadowing.

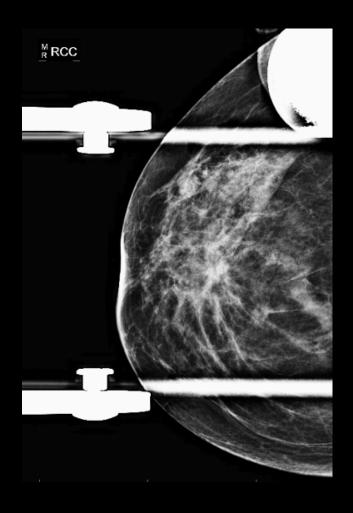


2. On physician-supervised US, a 3 cm markedly hypoechoic area with peripheral hypervascularity, highly suspicious for invasive breast cancer (pathology pending)



2. Ultrasound – Mammographic correlation

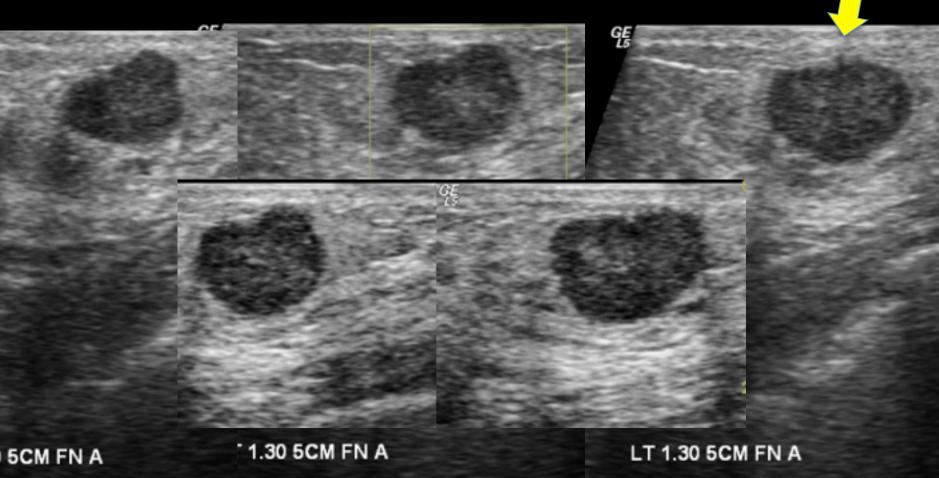




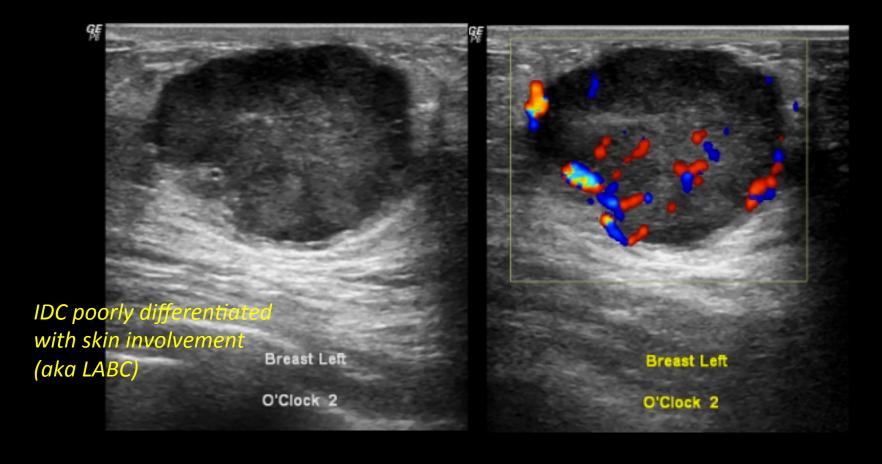
3. 40 yoF, Fibroadenoma? No. Notice the indeterminate US features (angular margins,

microlobulated, envelopping fat) Papilloma w/ DCIS **IDC NOS**

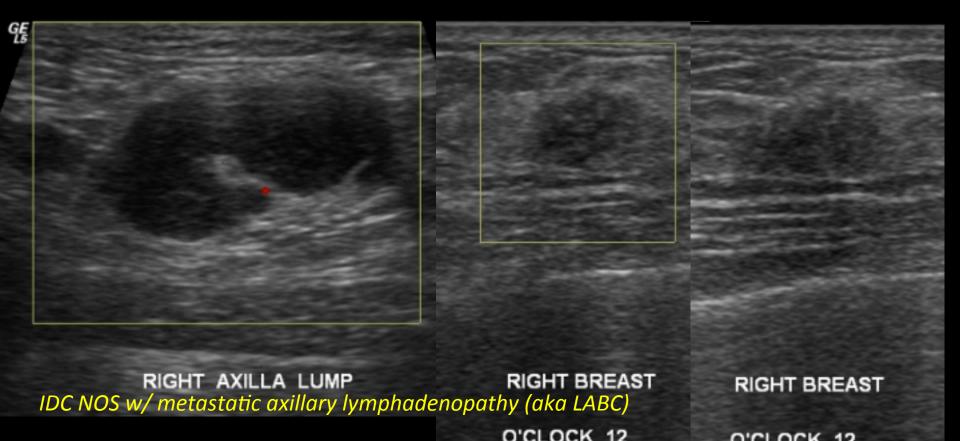
- 4. 50 yoF, "1 x 1 cm palpable firm mass"
- → fibroadenoma? No! Notice the microlobulated margins, almost round shape, and at least 1 spicule extending anteriorly towards skin



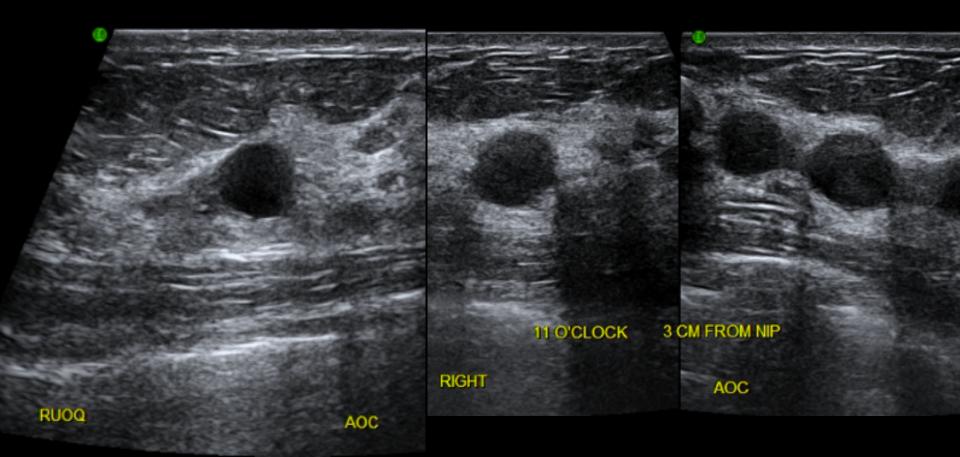
4. Hypervascular, microlobulated, heterogeneous, suspicious for breast cancer



- 5. 50 yo, "axillary lump NYD"
- → Large R axillary LN with marked cortical thickening & flattened/deformed fatty hilum
- → Indistinct, microlobulated, round, heterogeneous hypoechoic mass in the breast
- → primary breast cancer with axillary metastases

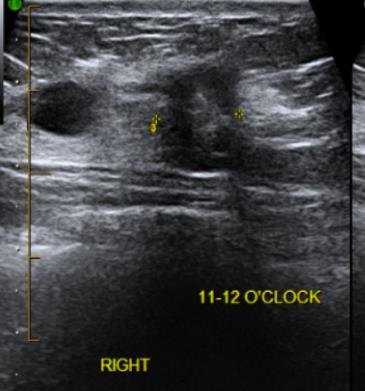


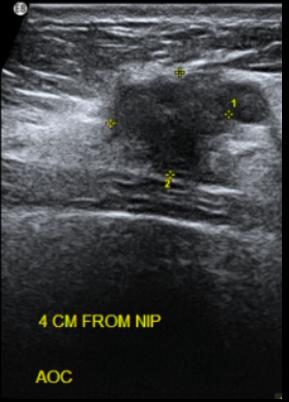
6. 47yoF, "known fibrocystic breasts, now new RUOQ lump"

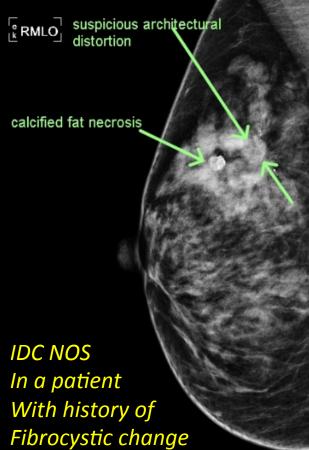


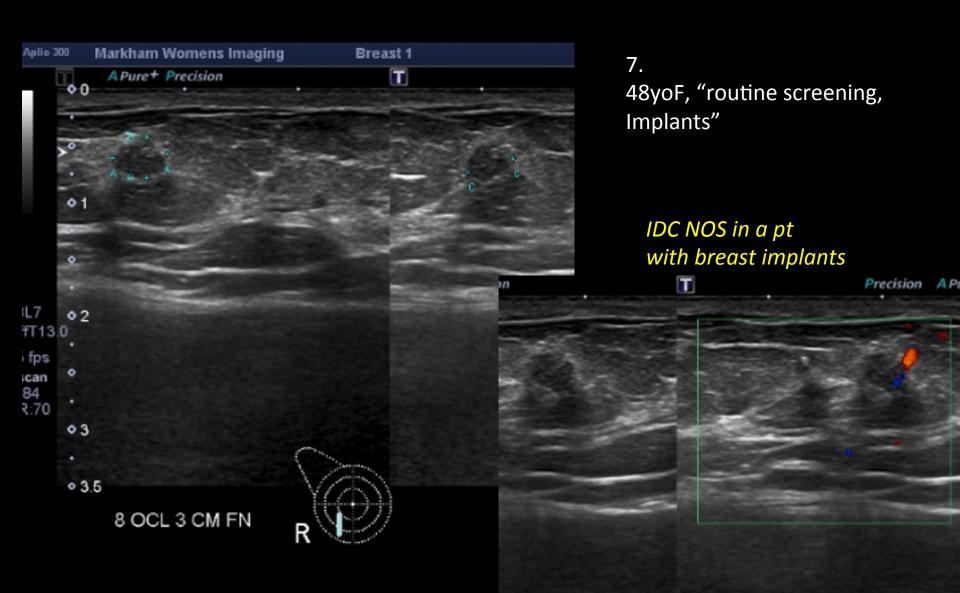


6. 47yoF, "known fibrocystic breasts, now new RUOQ lump"

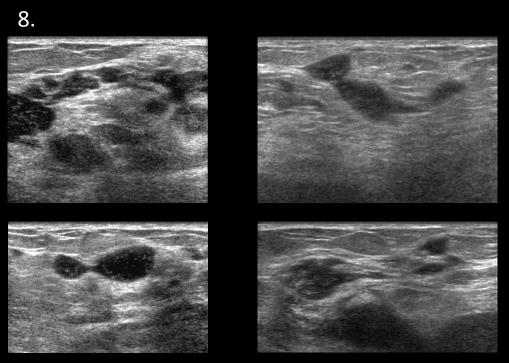






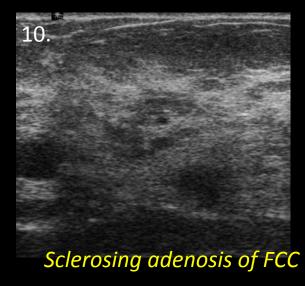


Cases - Benign Disease



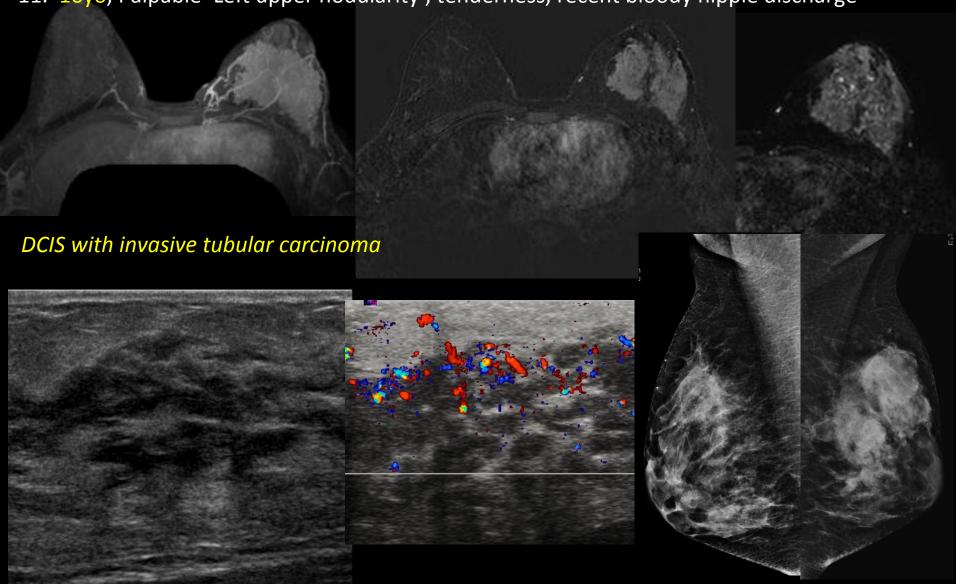
Granulomatous mastitis in a Diabetic patient



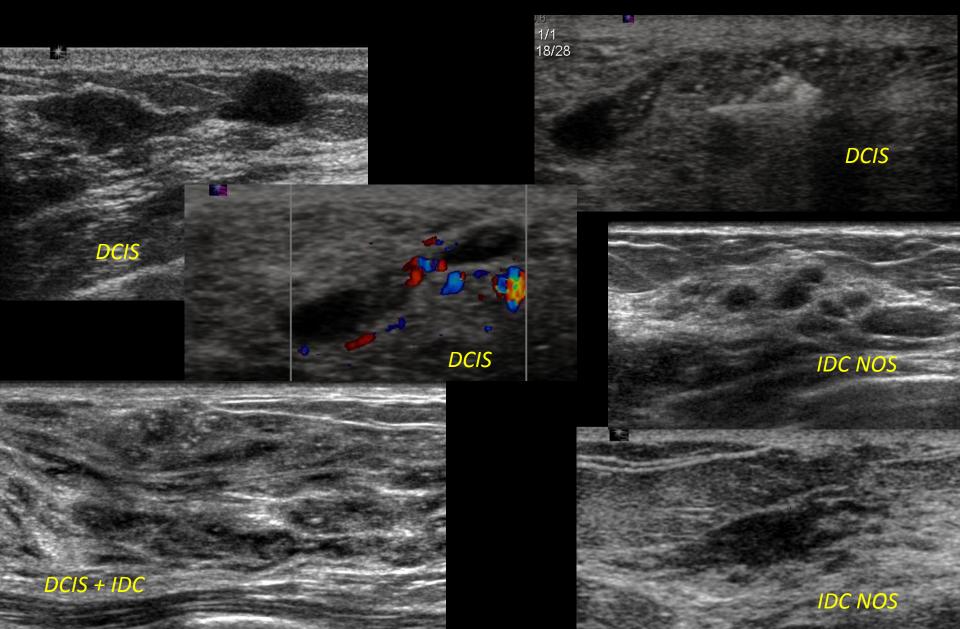


Cases - Cancer

11. 16yo, Palpable 'Left upper nodularity', tenderness, recent bloody nipple discharge



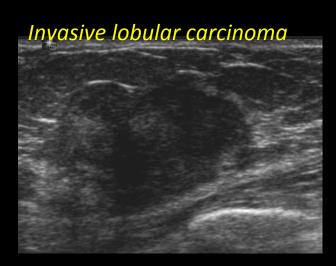
Cases - Cancer

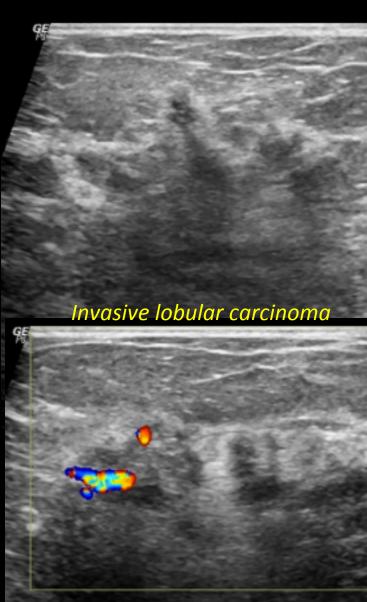


Cases - Cancer









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