Ultrasound- Extremity Non-Vascular/Superficial Soft Tissue

PURPOSE:

To evaluate palpable, superficial soft tissue abnormalities not including the neck. May include face, extremity, inguinal canal, axilla, back, etc.

SCOPE:

Applies to all US extremity non-vascular/superficial soft tissue studies performed at Imaging Services / Radiology

INDICATIONS:

- Signs or symptoms associated with superficial soft tissue mass, fluid collections, or foreign body
- Signs and symptoms of localized soft tissue infection
- Abnormal findings on other imaging modalities
- Follow up known superficial soft tissue anomalies

CPT CODE: 76882 Extremity Non-Vascular

CONTRAINDICATIONS:

No absolute contraindications

EQUIPMENT:

Linear array transducers with a frequency range of 7.5-18MHz. Curvilinear transducer with a frequency range of 2-5MHz may be required for appropriate penetration and resolution, depending on patient body habitus.

PATIENT PREPARATION:

- None

EXAMINATION:

GENERAL GUIDELINES:

A complete examination includes evaluation of the superficial soft tissue region corresponding to the patient's signs or symptoms. Comparison images of the contralateral side (if applicable) are generally preferred.

EXAM INITIATION:

- Introduce yourself to the patient (AIDET)

- Verify patient identify using patient name and DOB
- Explain Test
- Obtain patient history
- Enter and store data page

TECHNIQUE CONSIDERATIONS:

- **Review any prior imaging exams that are available, making note of any abnormalities that require further evaluation.**
- Place patient in a position that allows the best imaging of the area of interest, while minimizing patient discomfort.
- Document characteristics of mass, collection, or foreign body including echogenicity, shape, borders, vascularity, size, tenderness and relationship to adjacent structures. Label images clearly in regards to body part and location. Use body marker annotation as needed.
- Extended field of view, dual screen, or panoramic imaging may be used to display large abnormalities.
- Most foreign bodies are associated with acoustic shadowing, comet tail artifact, or twinkle artifact on color Doppler.
- Cine images are useful in showing mobile echogenic debris within fluid collections, and compression of a fluid collection versus soft tissue mass. Provide images of tract, depth of abscess and images with and without compression.
- If needed, image contralateral extremity for normal comparison.

DOCUMENTATION:

- Grayscale
    - Longitudinal and transverse images of the area of interest.
    - For focal abnormalities, image with and without measurements in 3 orthogonal planes.

- Color/Power Doppler
    - Color/Power Doppler to document peripheral and/or internal vascularity, or lack thereof.
    - Cine sweeps in longitudinal and transverse of the area of interest.
    - Comparison images of contralateral or adjacent normal soft tissue, if needed.

PROCESSING:

- Review examination images and data
- Export all images to PACS
- Document relevant history and impressions in primordial.
- Present images to Radiologist

REFERENCES:

Siegel, Marilyn, (2002). Pediatric Sonography. Philadelphia, PA: Lippincott Williams and Wilkins.

ACR-AIUM Practice Guideline (Revised 2007)

REVISION HISTORY:

SUBMITTED BY:	**Kylene De Los Santos RDMS, RVT**	**Title**	**Diagnostic Sonographer**
APPROVED BY:	**Jeannie Kwon, M.D.**	**Title**	**Director of Ultrasound**
APPROVAL DATE:	**08/28/2019**		
REVIEW DATE(S):	**05/28/2018**		**Samantha Lewis B.S., RDMS**
REVISION DATE(S):	**05/28/2018**	**Brief Summary**	