

ICU Department 'Point of Care' Ultrasound Diagnostic Procedure

Policy Statement: Evidence based clinical care

Description: ICU Department Clinician performed Point of Care Ultrasound (PoCUS) diagnostic scans

Indications: Various

Contraindications: Nil

Who must comply with this procedure?

MH ICU Clinicians

MH ICU PoCUS faculty

MH Sonographer Educators PoCUS program – Monash Imaging & MonashHeart

This procedure applies in the following setting

This is applicable to all MH patients in ICU deemed appropriate for PoCUS performed by ICU clinicians

Precautions and Complications

MH Infection Control policies & procedures apply

MH OH&S policies & procedures apply

Equipment

- PoCUS ultrasound machines formally installed into ICU, connected to PACS image management systems (Monash Imaging Carestream & MonashHeart Excelera)
- Ultrasound equipment serviced & maintained by ICU, support available from Monash Imaging & MonashHeart as required

Procedures

Scope of practise for ICU Clinician performed PoCUS is currently limited to the following examinations:

- **FOCUS ECHO** (Effusion, Ventricular size, Function assessment)*
- **LUNG** (Pleural effusion, Consolidation, B Lines, Pneumothorax assessment)^

* Training & credentialing by MonashHeart

^Training & credentialing by Monash Imaging

- Note PoCUS program provides training in image acquisition for ultrasound guided vascular access only. All procedures are supervised & credentialed by ICU.
- Further scope of practise development may be negotiated by PoCUS faculty, in consultation with Directors of ICU, Monash Imaging & MonashHeart

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List of Implementation Tools

- No clinical management decisions or interventional procedures should be based on PoCUS findings without engagement of PoCUS accredited ICU Consultant and/or formal imaging confirmation
- No diagnostic ultrasound examinations shall be performed beyond agreed scope of clinical practise [see ICU Lung US Accreditation & ICU FoCUS Accreditation documents]
- The performing clinician shall save images of the examination per scan protocol
- The performing clinician shall complete ultrasound scan findings for every examination in EMR
- All ICU diagnostic ultrasound scans will be uploaded to Monash Imaging or MonashHeart PACS systems for quality audit & clinician electronic logbook maintenance purposes
- The PoCUS governance group (composed of Sonographer educators, ICU Consultants, ICU medical educators, ICU Deputy Director/Directors) will meet regularly to provide internal governance for the program; engaging in matters including credentialing approval, education planning, clinical quality case review, peer to peer support, program compliance, development of new scopes of practise & equipment issues

Additional Resources

- MH Training & Accreditation documents for ICU ECHO & LUNG modules

References:

CICM Trainee Guidelines (2020) <https://www.cicm.org.au/Trainees/Training-Courses/Focused-Cardiac-Ultrasound>

Keywords or tags

Ultrasound, Point of Care Ultrasound, PoCUS, Intensive Care

Document Management

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Executive sponsors: Director of ICU, Director of Ultrasound, Director of Cardiology, Monash Health

Person responsible: Sonographer Educators - PoCUS program, Monash Health

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