
Normal Ultrasound Anatomy of the Musculoskeletal System

Enzo Silvestri • Alessandro Muda •
Luca Maria Sconfienza
Editors

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A practical guide

 Springer

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Preface

The use of Ultrasound has become widely accepted as an imaging modality in assessment of the musculoskeletal system, as it is quick, cheap, and readily available. Also, recent technological improvements in this field have demonstrated that this imaging modality can provide extremely useful information to diagnose and treat musculoskeletal diseases.

When first approaching musculoskeletal ultrasound, many obstacles may be encountered: for example, it may be difficult at first to position the probe correctly, or the ultrasound images may not be correctly interpreted. Also, the high number of artifacts and pitfalls that can be encountered in clinical practice may further complicate the approach to this imaging modality. Finally, most medical professionals find it difficult to remember the normal anatomy of the musculoskeletal system.

For these reasons, we decided to prepare this handbook, which aims to be a quick and practical reference in daily routine. It is based on a distance-learning project, prepared in 2010 for Italian radiologists, orthopedists, and rheumatologists. We wanted to keep the text as concise as possible, to allow plenty of space for anatomical schemes, pictures of anatomical landmarks for a better understanding of the correct placement of the probe, and ultrasound images, highlighting the most relevant anatomical structures of the main joints: shoulder, elbow, hand and wrist, hip, knee, ankle and foot. In addition, an initial chapter dealing with basic principles of musculoskeletal ultrasound is included.

Finally, we acknowledge the hard work of our colleagues Emanuele Fabbro, Giulio Ferrero, Chiara Martini, and Davide Orlandi, whose help with drawing most anatomical schemes and acting as models for anatomical pictures made an invaluable contribution to this book.

Genoa, November 2011

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