

Modified slides

# PEDIATRIC Radiology

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General principles in Ped. Rad.

# 1. Radiation Safety and Dose Reduction:

- **Children are more sensitive to radiation** than adults, so minimizing radiation exposure is crucial.
- **Use the ALARA principle** (As Low As Reasonably Achievable).
- Prioritize **non-ionizing imaging modalities** (e.g., ultrasound and MRI) over X-ray or CT scans, especially in younger patients.
- **Adjust imaging protocols:** Tailor protocols according to the child's age, weight, and size (e.g., adjusting the kilovoltage (kVp) and milliamperere-seconds (mAs) on radiographs or CT scans).

## 2- Choosing the Right Imaging Modality

- **Ultrasound (US):** Often the first-line imaging modality for pediatric patients, especially for abdominal or pelvic concerns (e.g., appendicitis, kidney anomalies). It's non-invasive, safe, and doesn't use radiation.
- **X-ray:** Fast and commonly used in trauma or bone-related issues, but requires careful consideration of the radiation dose.
- **MRI:** radiation-free imaging that is particularly useful for brain, spinal cord...long scan time? sedation
- **CT Scan:** This should be used cautiously due to higher radiation exposure, but it is useful in assessing complex fractures, head trauma, or abdominal emergencies when other modalities are insufficient.



### **3- Anatomical Differences in Children:**

- Normal variants
- Incomplete ossification
- myelination

### **4- Technical Challenges**

- Movements
- limited cooperation

### **5- Developmental Physiology and Imaging**

- bone growth

### **6- Pathological Considerations**

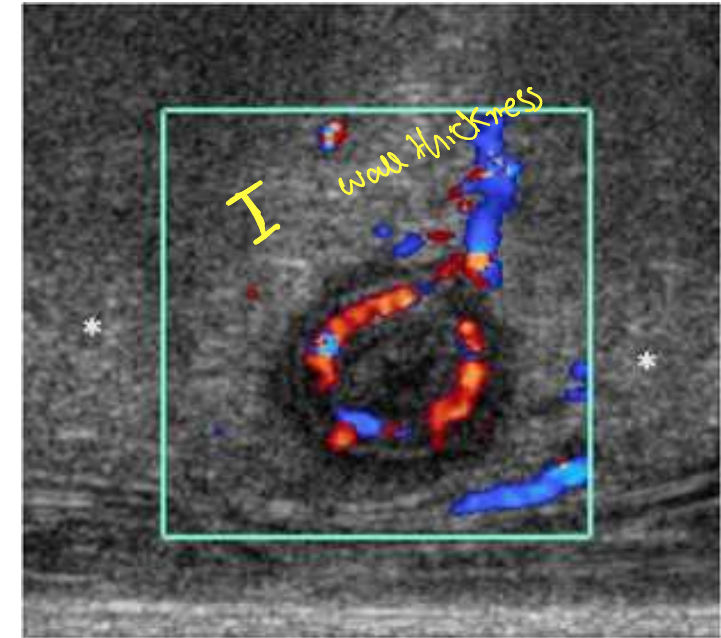
- congenital

### **7- Parental Involvement and Communication**

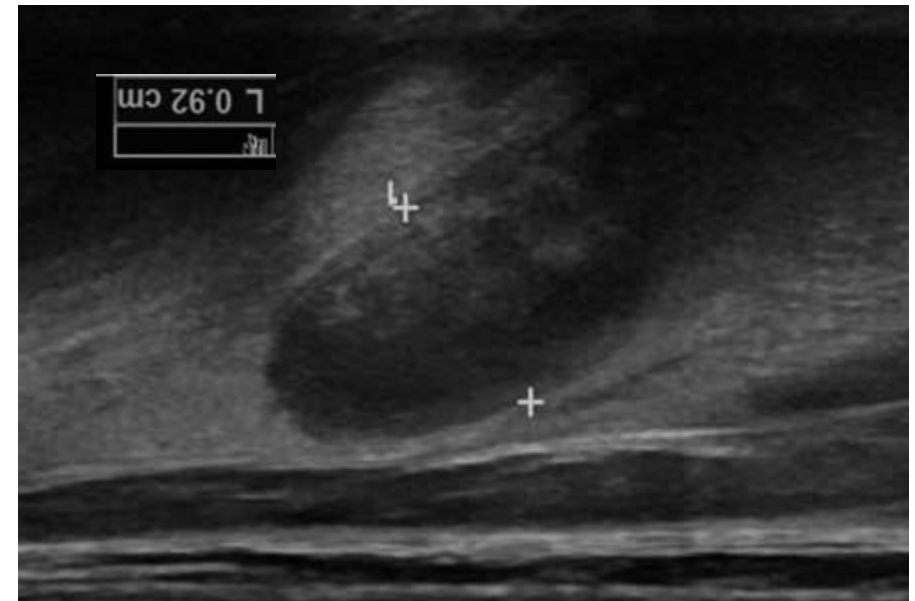
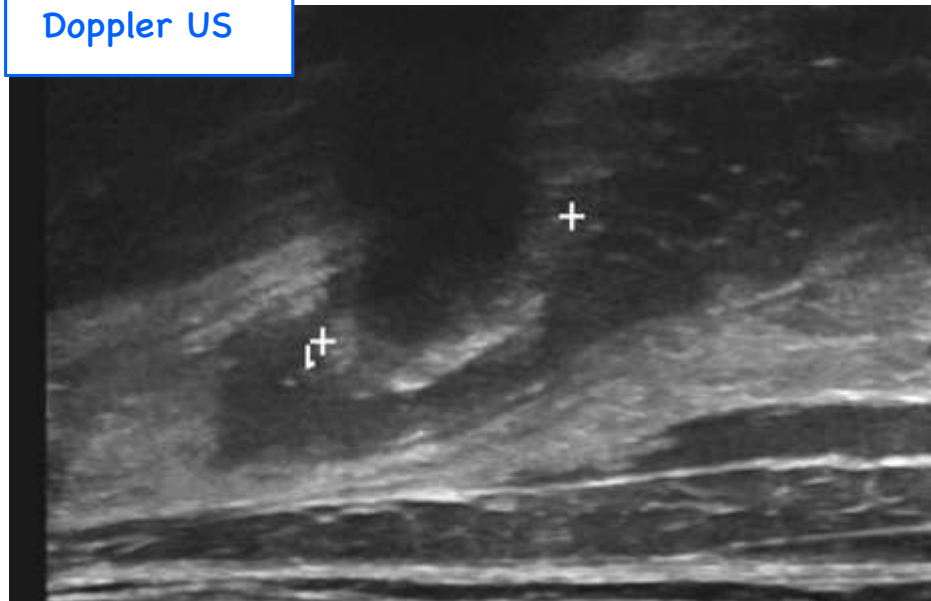
# Q1

- A 7-year-old female patient presented to ER with 36 hours of abdominal pain, nausea, and loss of appetite.
- - What is your DDX? **appendicitis, Ovarian torsion**
- - What do you request imaging-wise? **ultrasound**

Dilated appendix  
Periappendiceal fluid



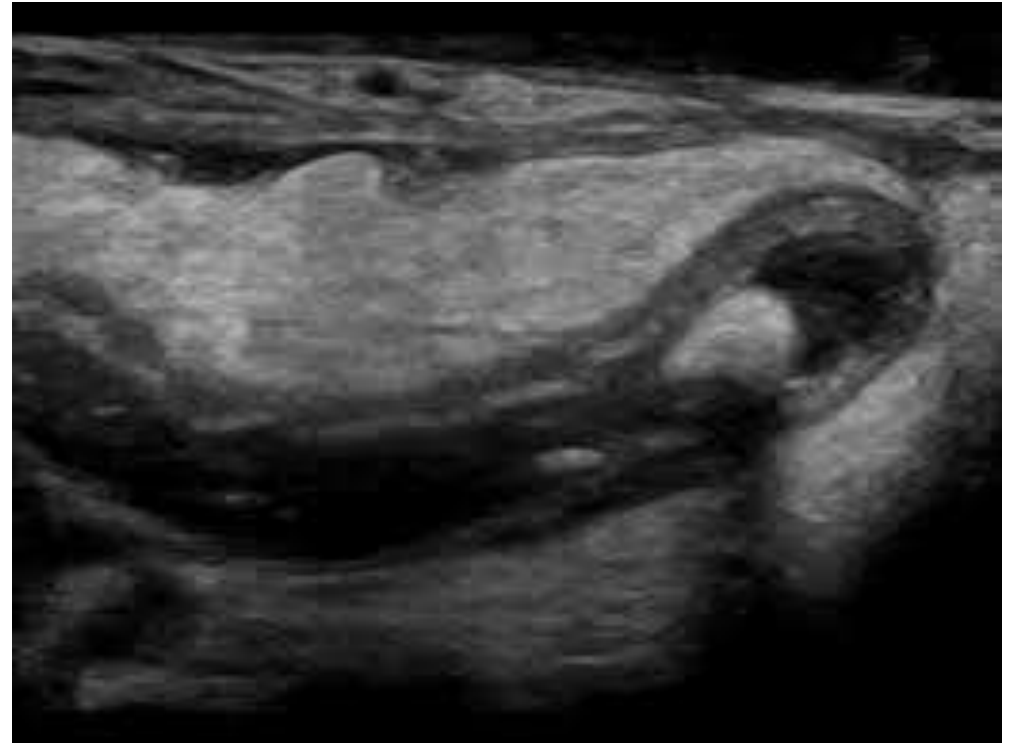
Doppler US



Ring line  
Hyperemia sign



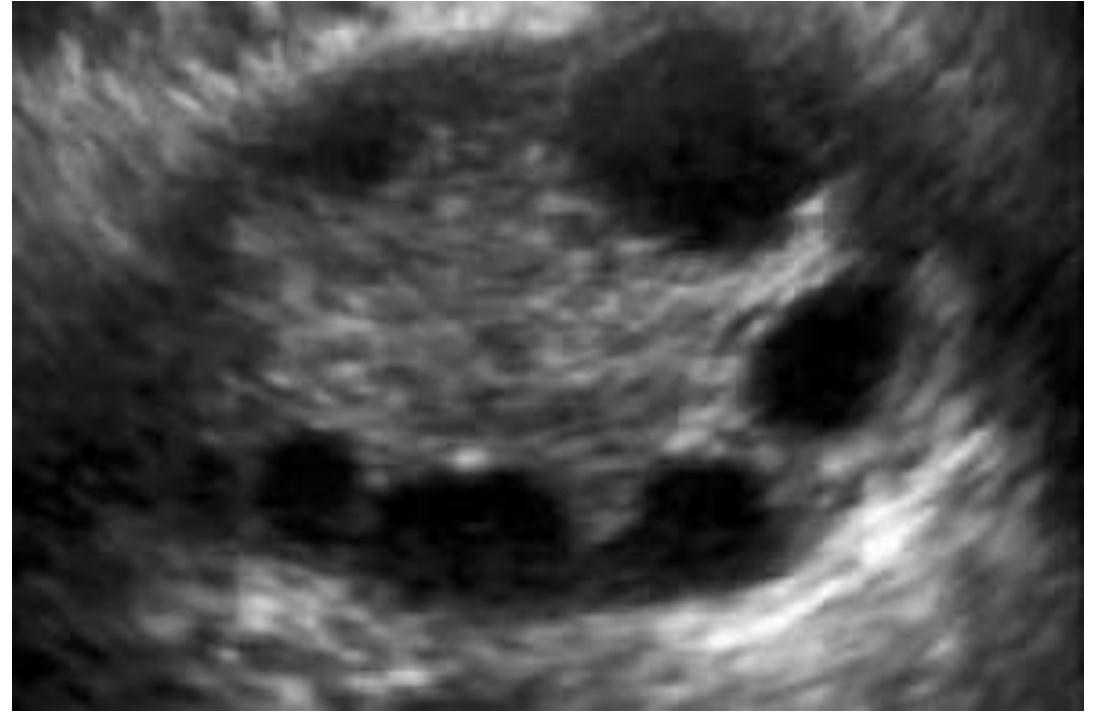
Thickened wall





Torted Ovary

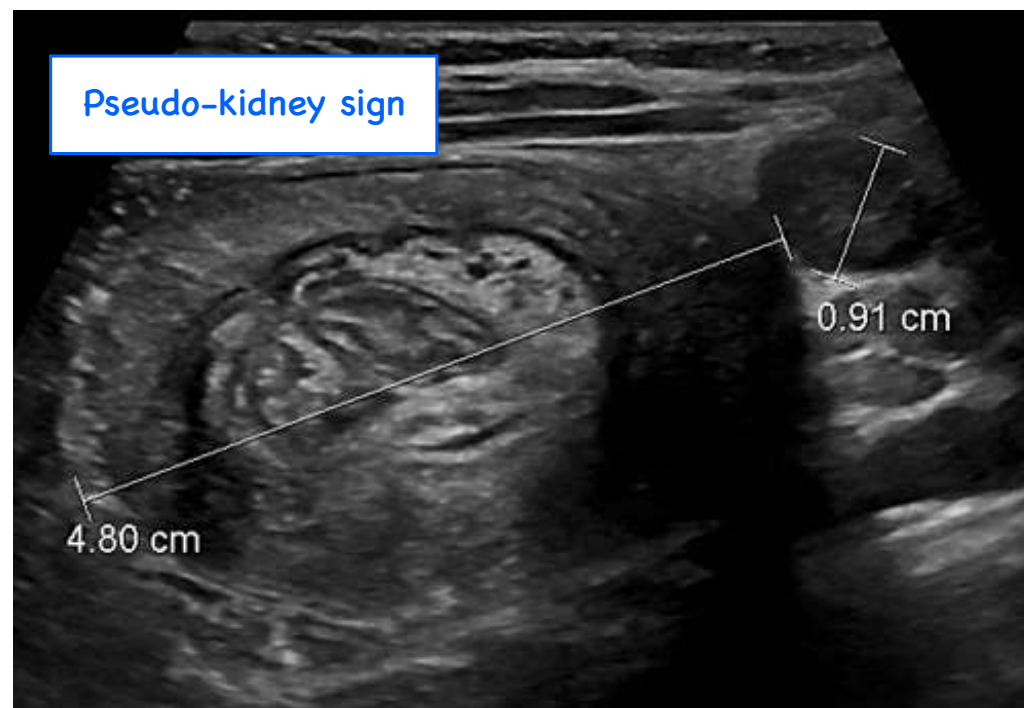
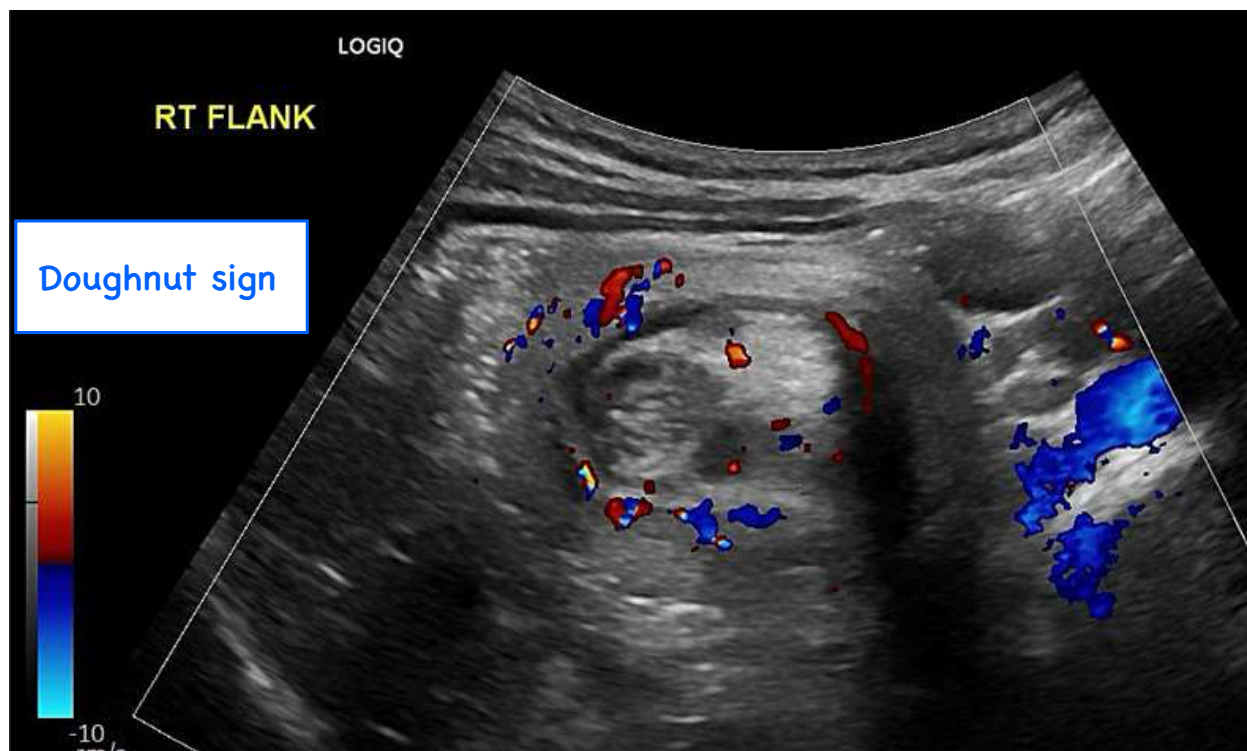
1. Echogenic medulla
2. Follicles pushed laterally, because the swollen central medulla compress follicles outward



Normal Ovary

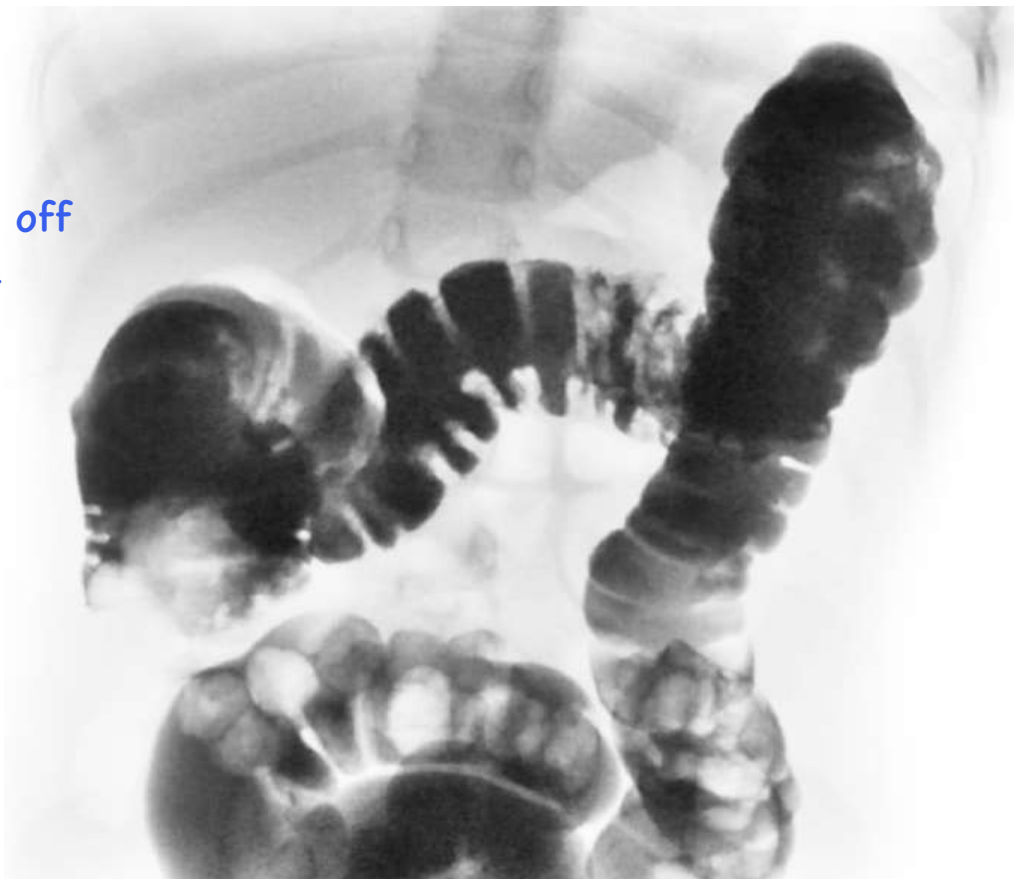
## Q2

- A 2-year-old boy, recurrent, intermittent abdominal pain for the last 16 hours.
- - DDX? [Intussusception](#)
- - Imaging ? [Ultrasound, X-ray with contrast](#)

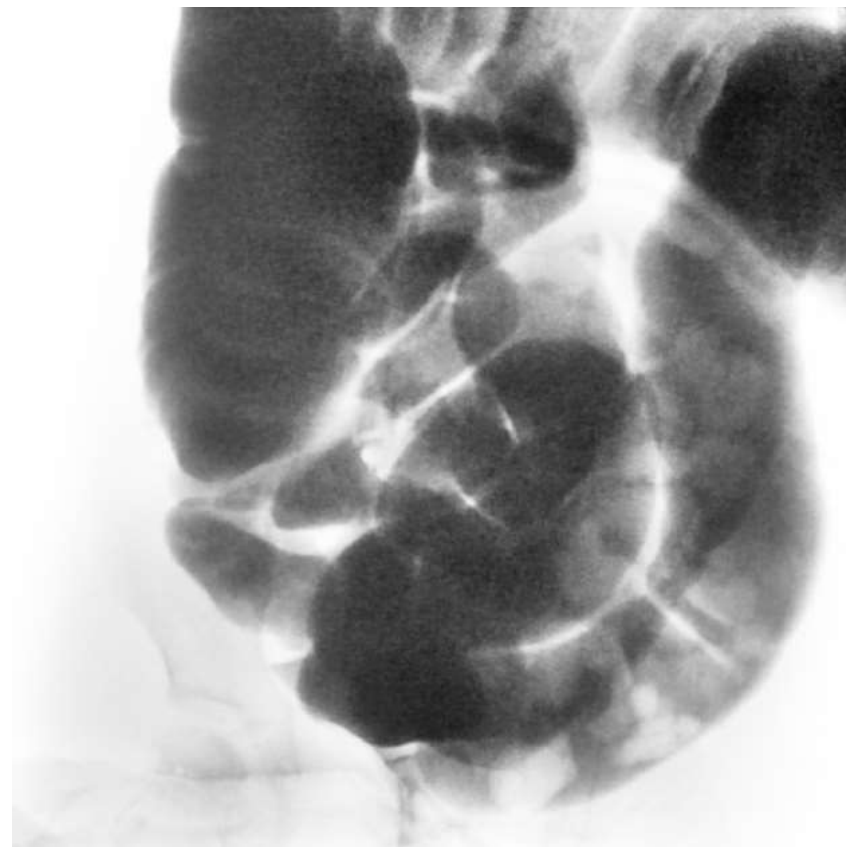




sudden cut off  
of contrast



Claw sign



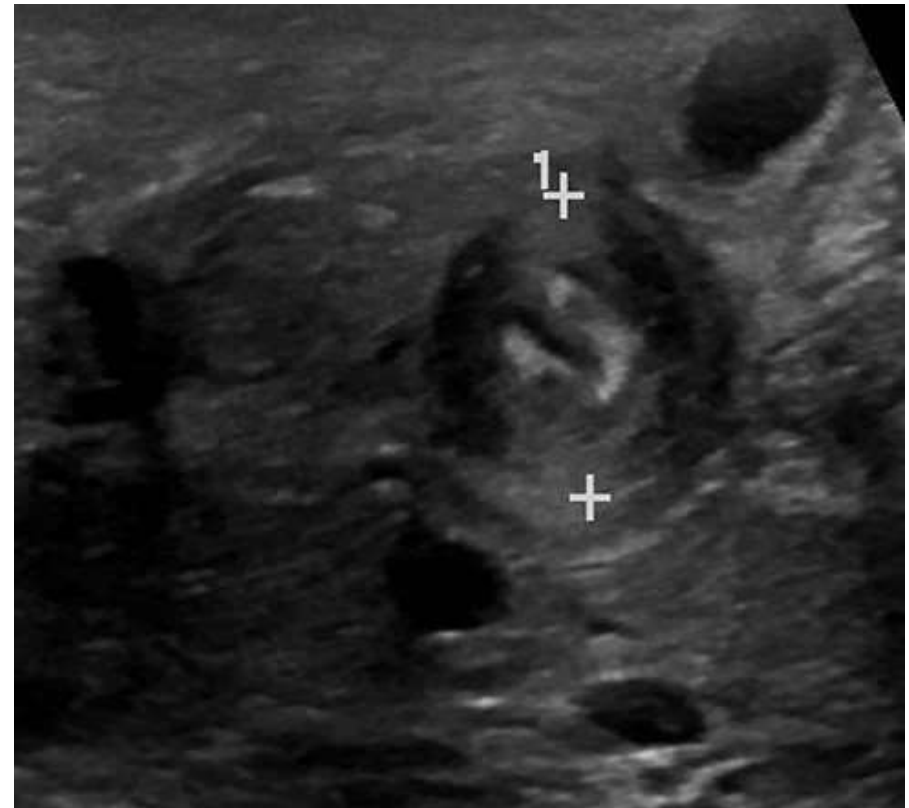
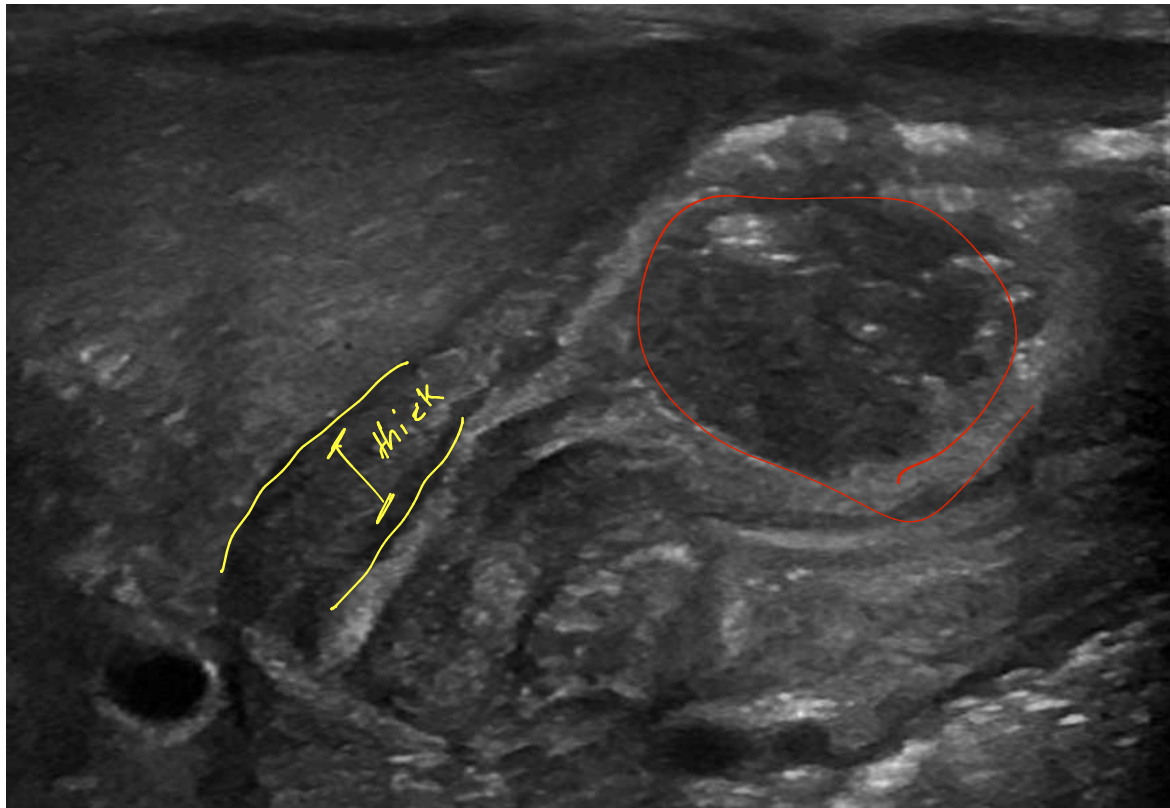


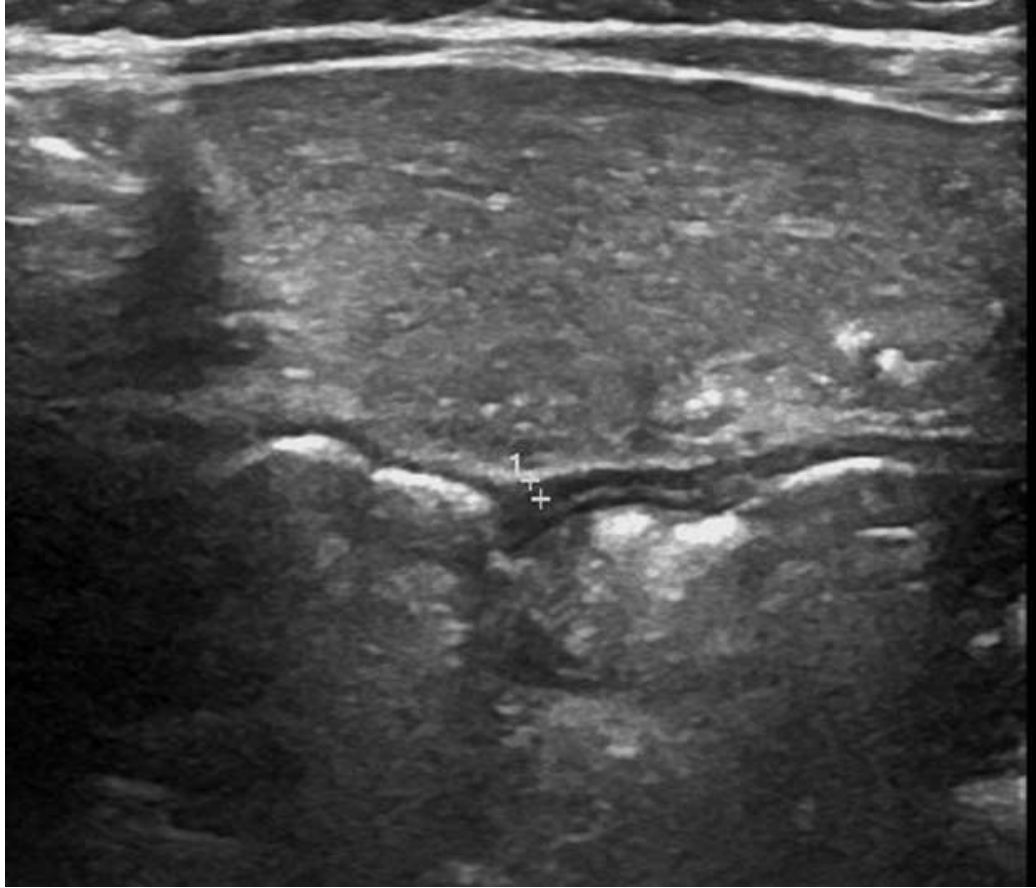


# Q3

- A 5-week-old male baby, recurrent vomiting, not gaining weight?
- - Differential diagnosis? Pyloric stenosis
- - Imaging? Ultrasound

Hypertrophic pyloric muscle→ which lead to obstruction  
Wall thickness





Normal pylorus



Idiopathic thickening of gastric pyloric musculature → progressive gastric outlet obstruction.

Pyloric stenosis is relatively common  
~ 2-5 per 1000 births,

**Symptoms usually begin between 3 and 12 weeks of age**

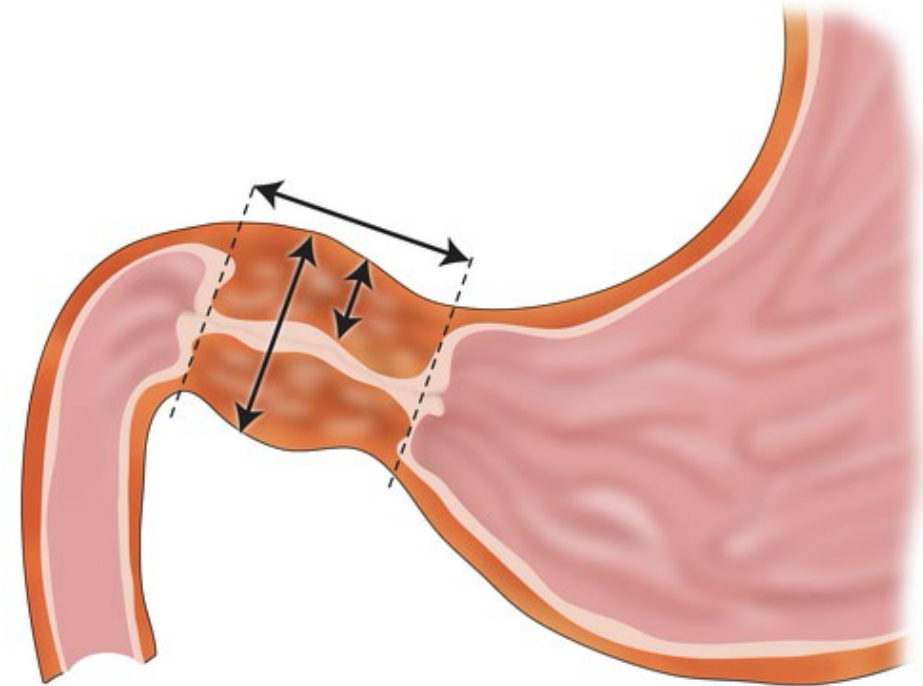
**male** predilection (M:F ~4:1).

More commonly seen in the **White** population, less common in India, and among Black and other Asian populations.

Risk factors

- **First born**
- **maternal history of pyloric stenosis**

# Pyloric stenosis



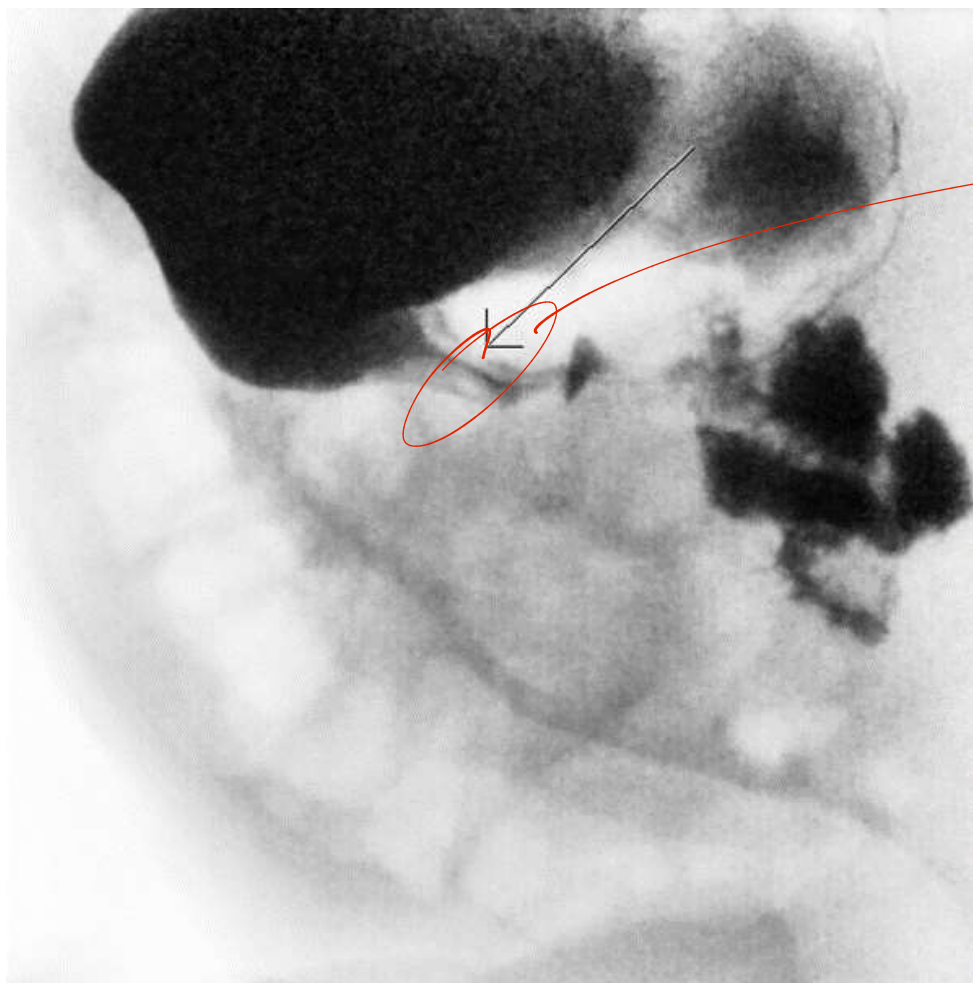
Normal values \*

Length: <15mm

Single muscle thickness: <3mm

Pyloric width: <7mm

\* values vary somewhat from publication to publication



# Q4

- A 5-year-old boy, non-weight bearing on the right side for the last 24 hours, low-grade fever

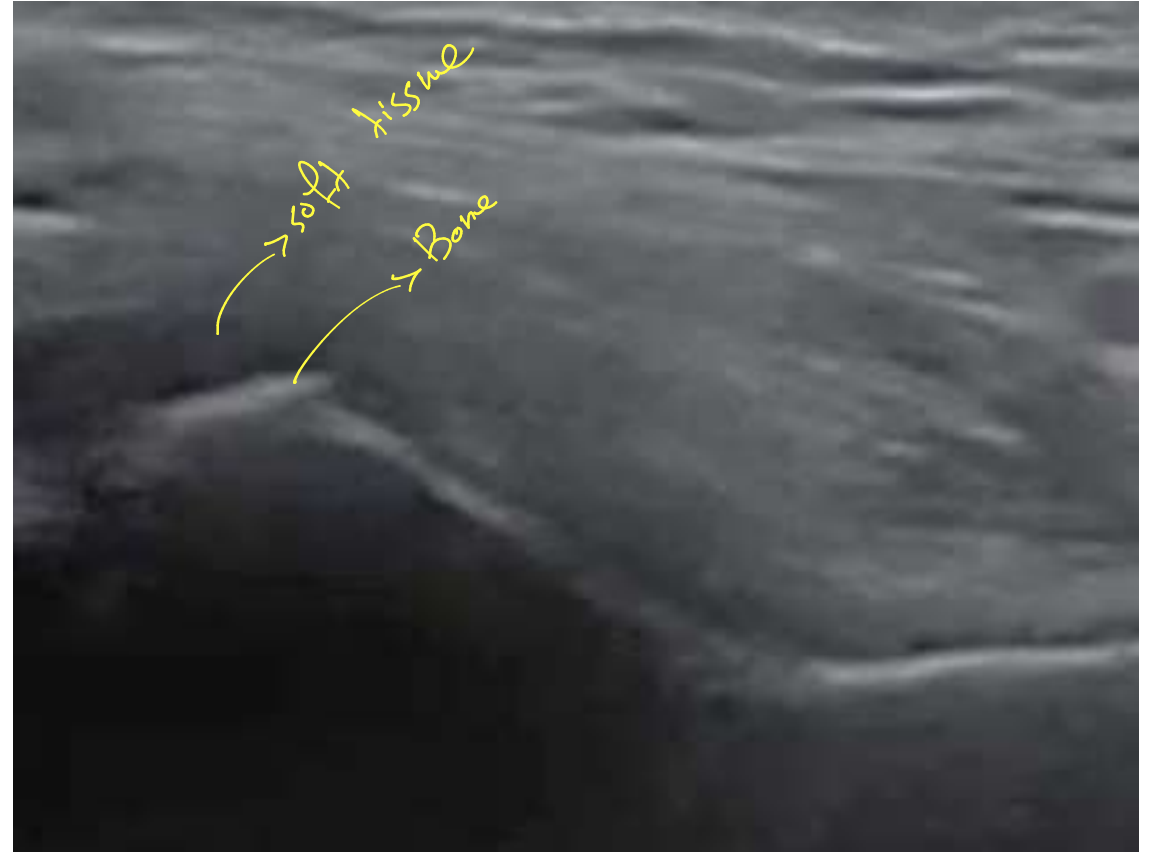
Dx: Septic arthritis

Modalities of imaging: Ultrasound (first choice) , x-ray but not sensitive in acute phases

The good standard one is MRI but expensive

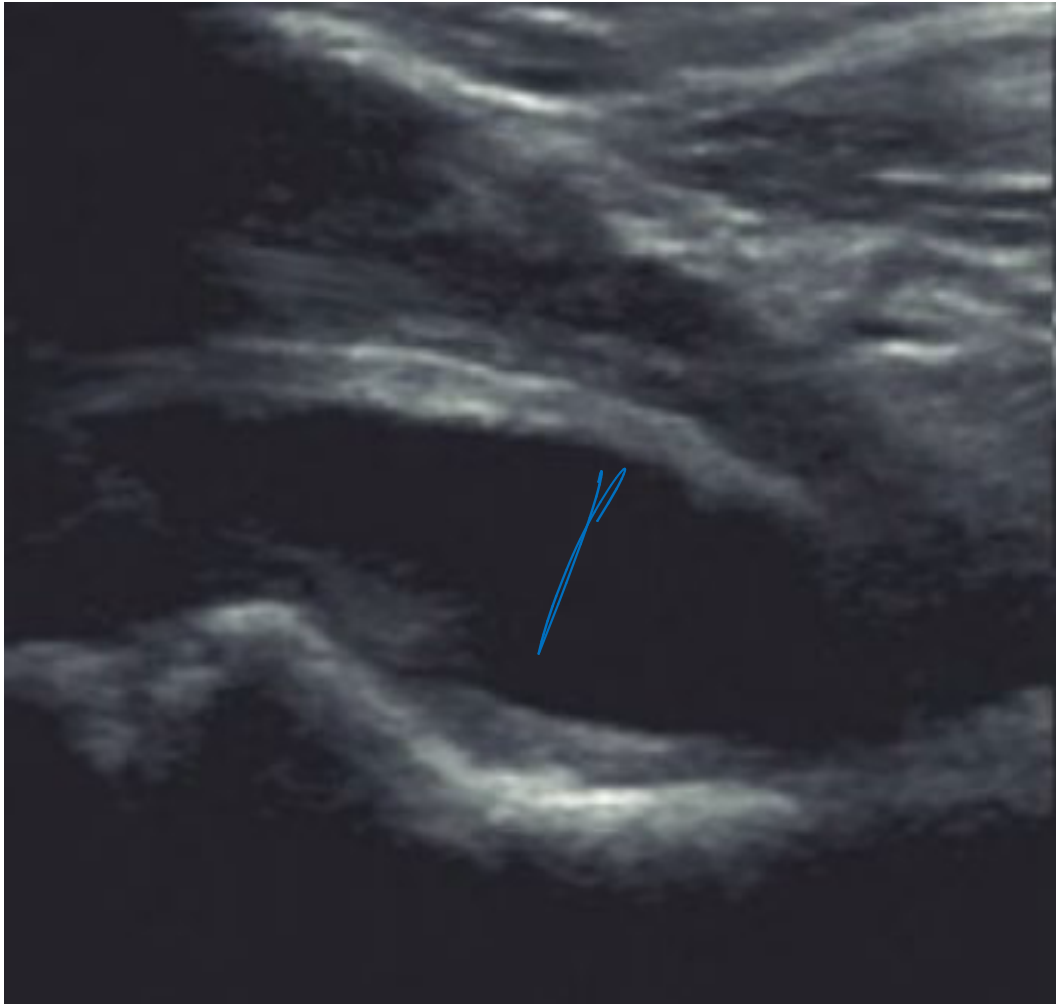


right



left





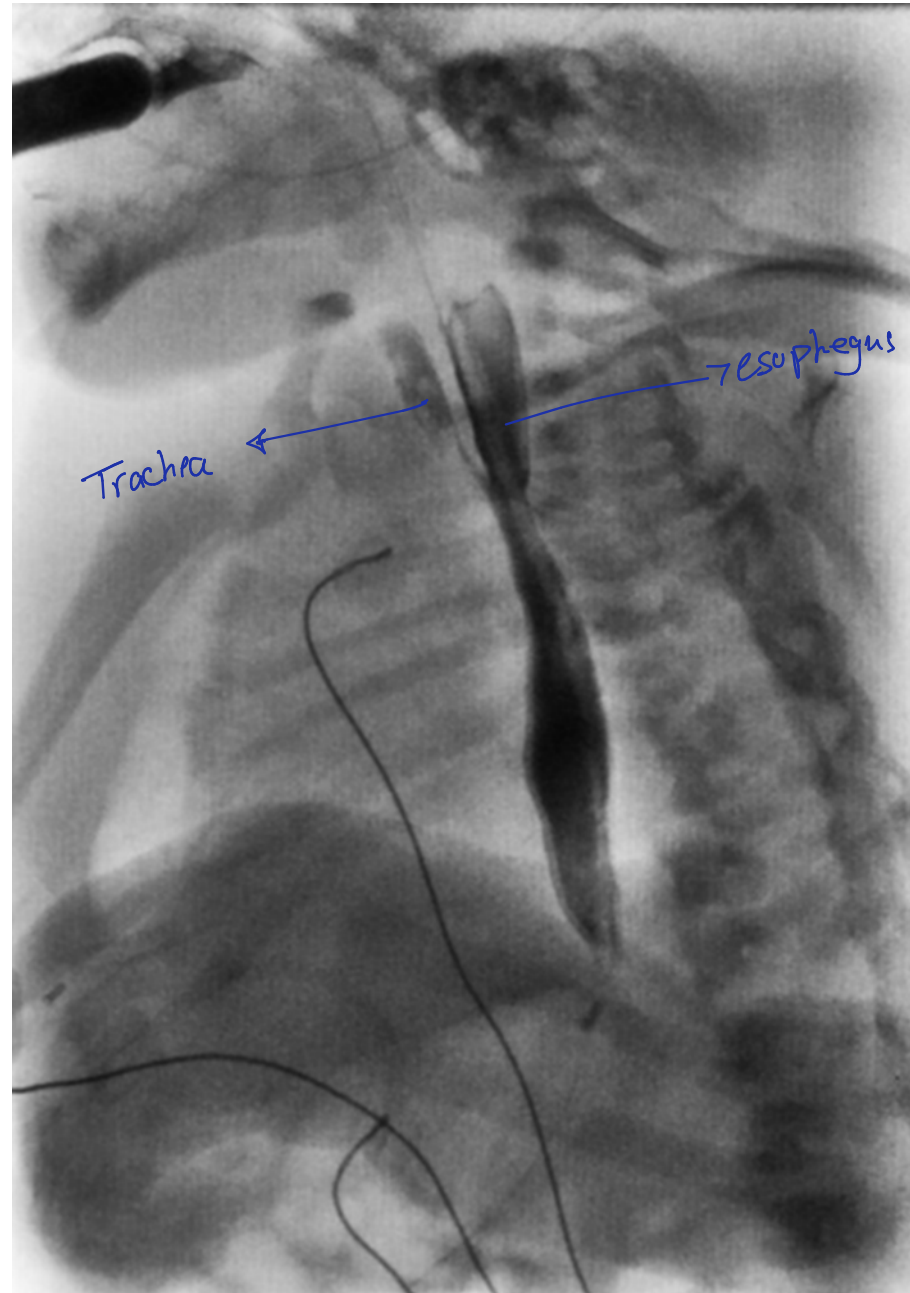
right



left

# Q5

- A 6-week-old baby has recurrent coughing or choking while nursing or taking a bottle.
  - Frothing or drooling from the mouth.
  - Vomiting.
  - Difficulty breathing while feeding.
- 
- - Differential Dx? Esophageal atresia
  - - Imaging investigations? X-ray- barium swallow



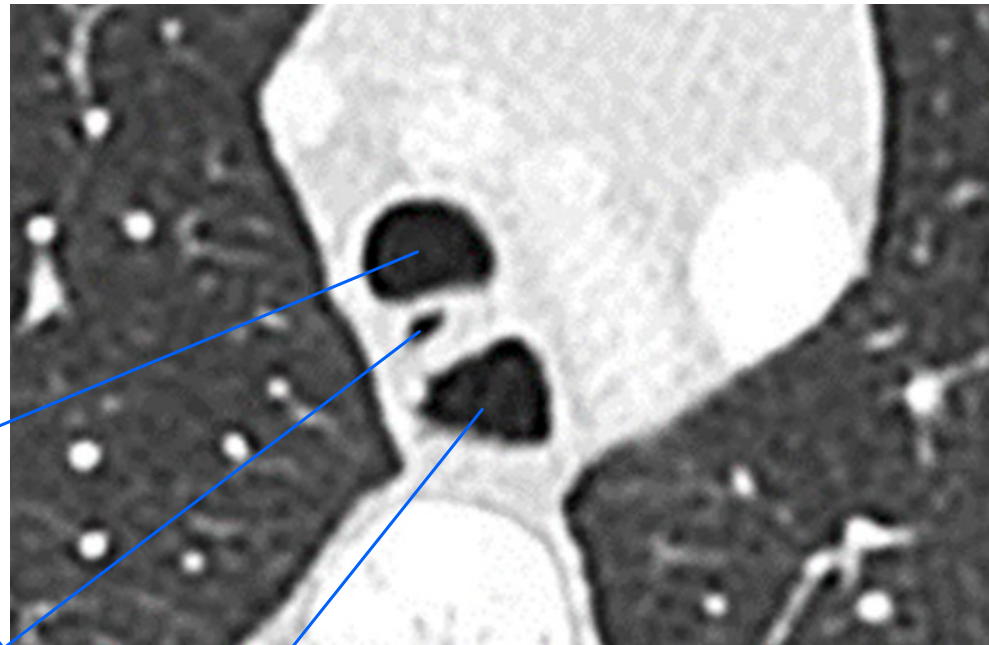
## Tracheoesophageal fistula



Isolated fistula  
H-type

~4%

Axial CT scan



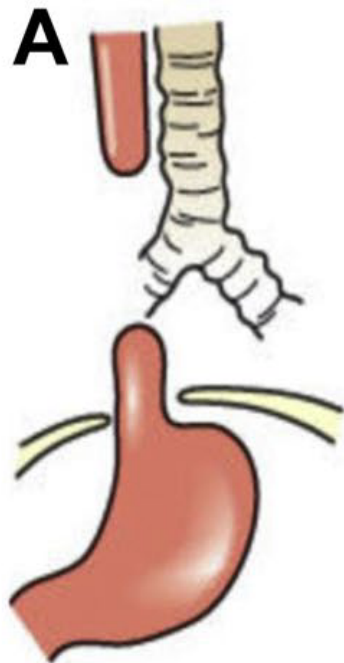
Trachea

Fistula

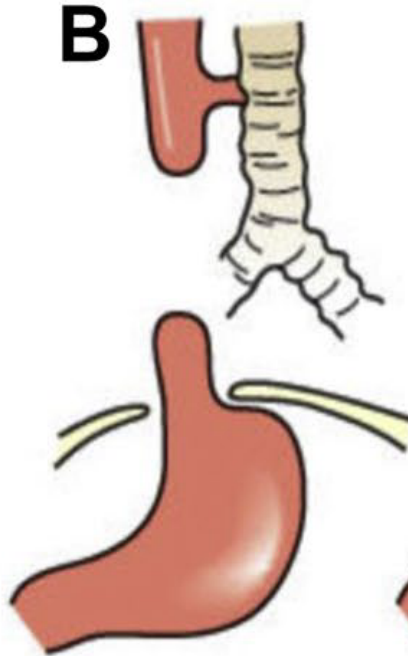
Esophagus



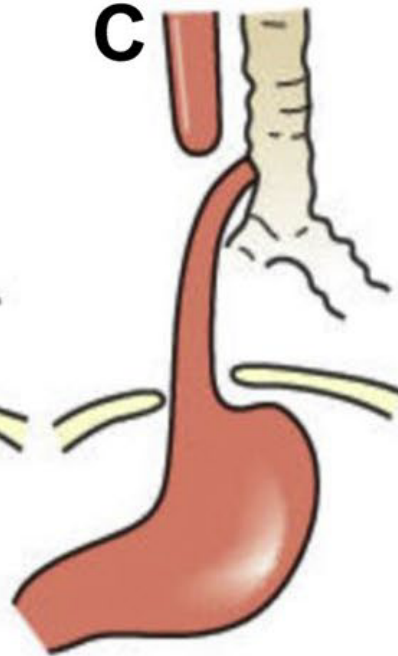
Fistula



- 8%
- Atresia alone, no fistula
- Small stomach, gasless abdomen
- Usually has a long gap between the esophageal ends
- Gross type A



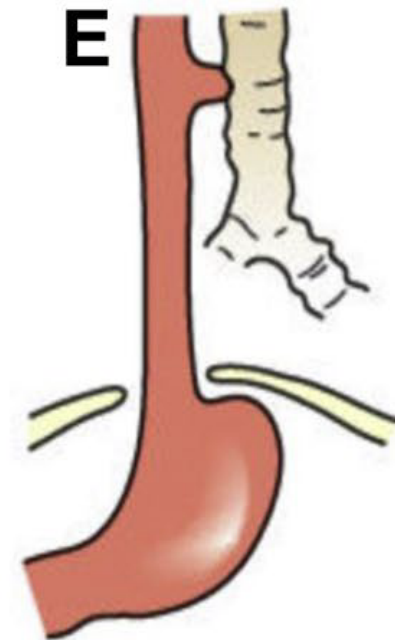
- 1%
- Proximal tracheoesophageal fistula
- No distal fistula
- Small stomach, gasless abdomen
- Often has a long gap between esophageal ends
- Gross type B



- 86%
- Most common abnormality
- Gross type C



- 1%
- Proximal and distal fistulas
- "Double Fistula"
- Gross type D



- 4%
- No atresia of the esophagus
- Congenital tracheoesophageal fistula
- H or N fistula
- Gross type E

# VACTREL Association

- **V**ertebral
- **A**norectal
- **C**ardiac
- **T**racheoesophageal fistula
- **R**enal
- **L**imb

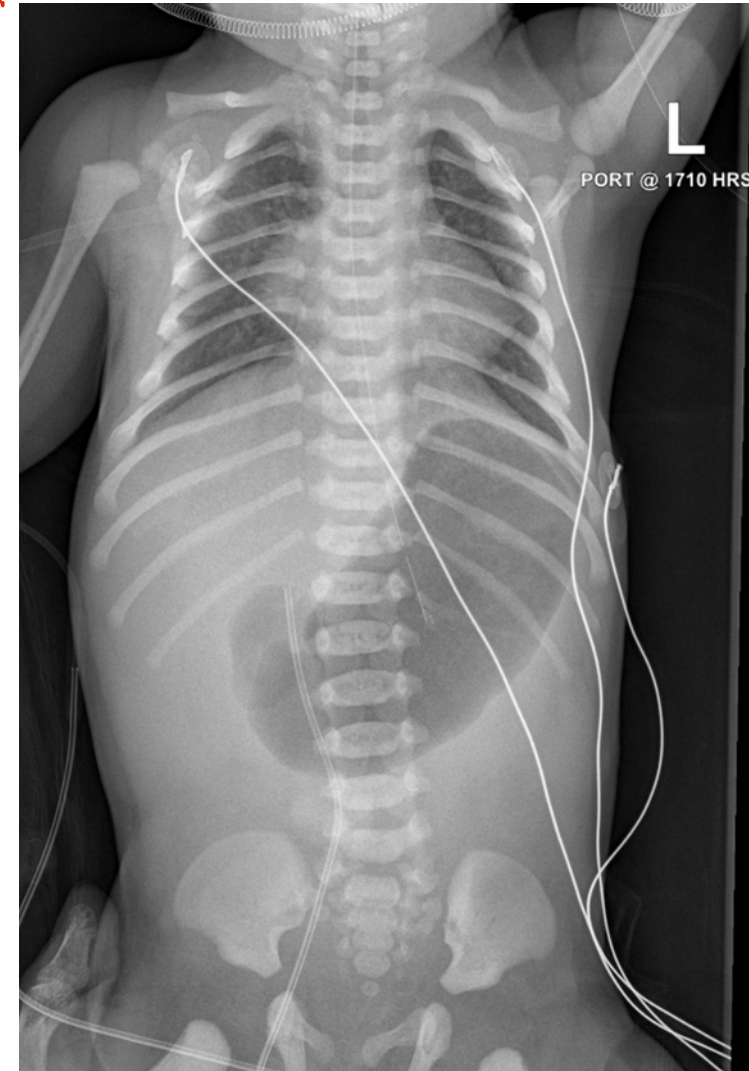


# Q6

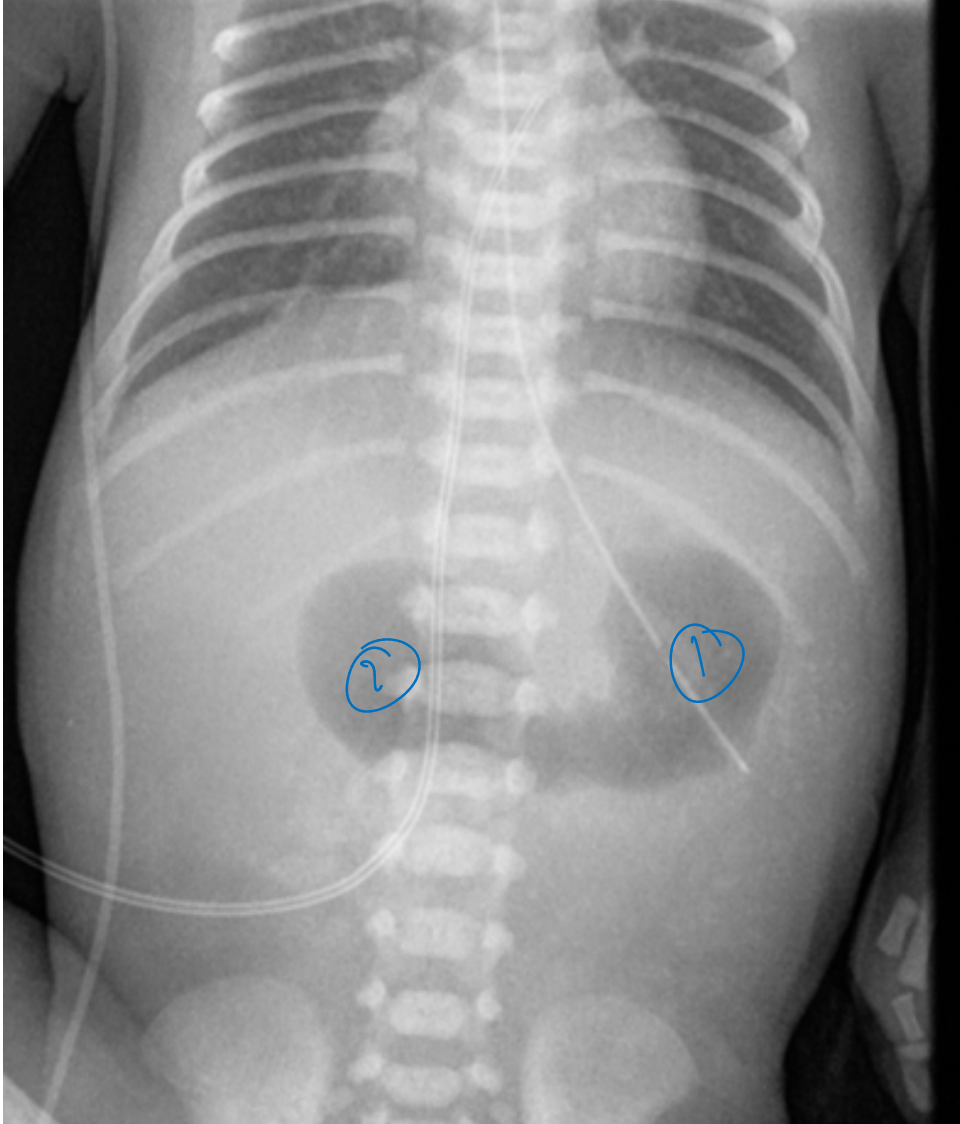
- A 12-hour old baby. Paucity of gas in the abdomen. Air is seen in the stomach and proximal duodenum
- - DDX? Duodenal atresia

Best modality: X-ray

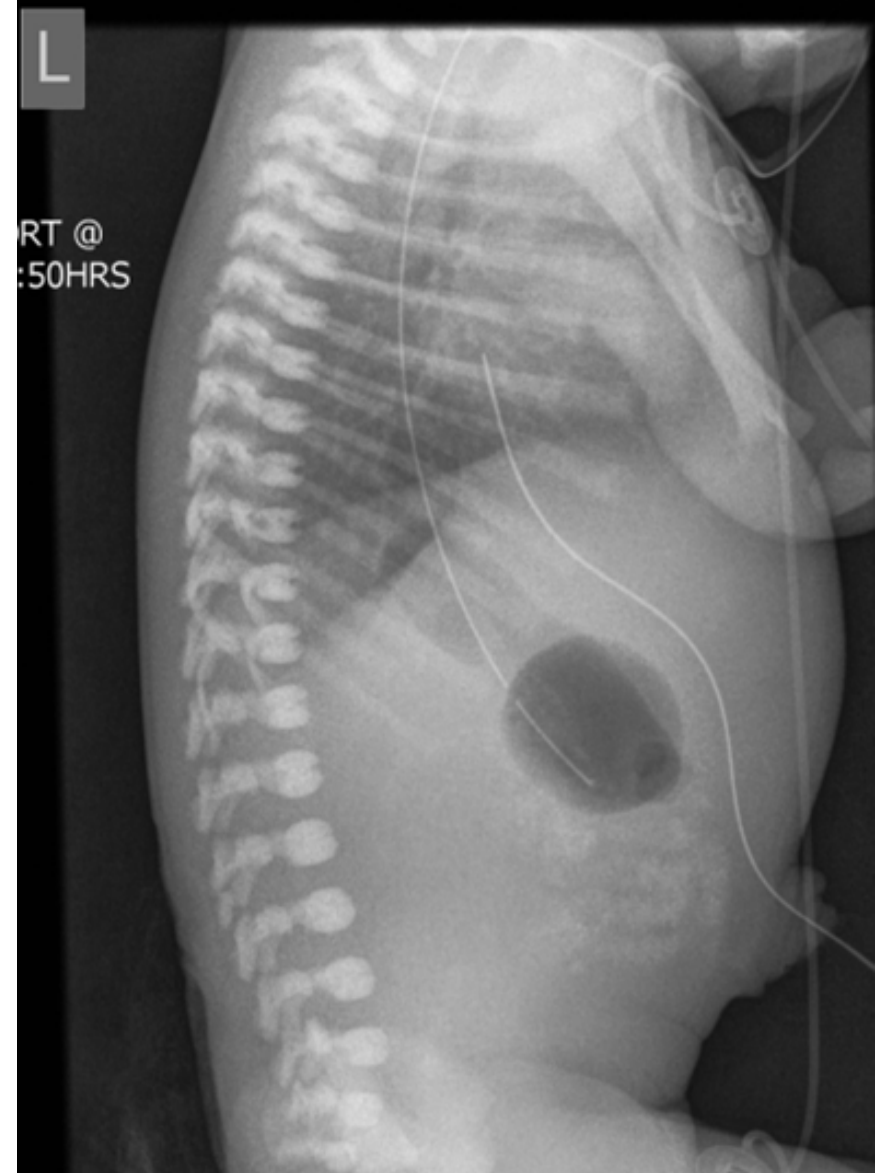
\* Double bubble sign





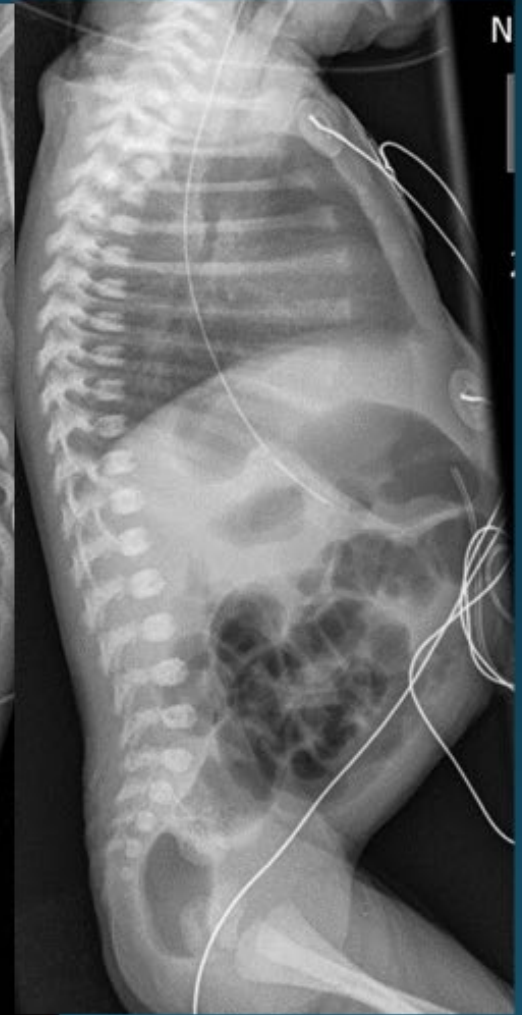
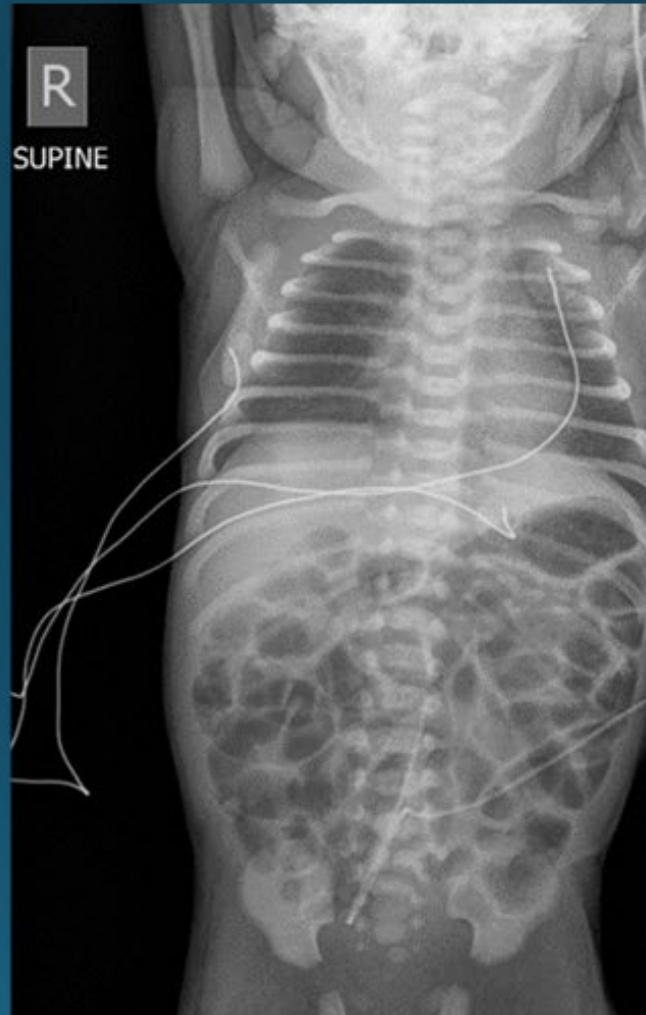


Double bubble sign



# Duodenal Atresia

- **Double Bubble sign**
- Duodenal atresia
- Results from failure of recanalization of the solid duodenal tube.  
Most often the atresia occurs distal to Vater's ampulla



2-hr

6-12-hr

12-24-hr

12-24-hr

# Q7

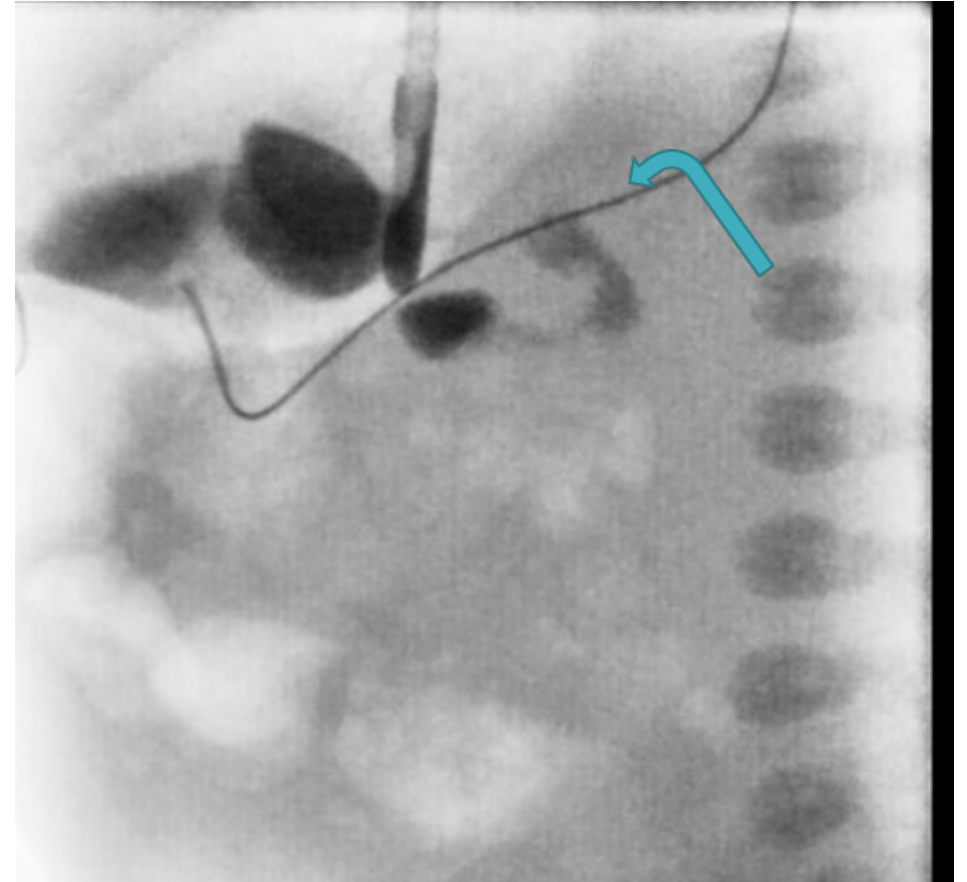
- 39 weeks, 0-day, bilious vomiting Emergent

Dx: volvulus

Request X-ray

The main risk factor for  
volvulus → malrotation



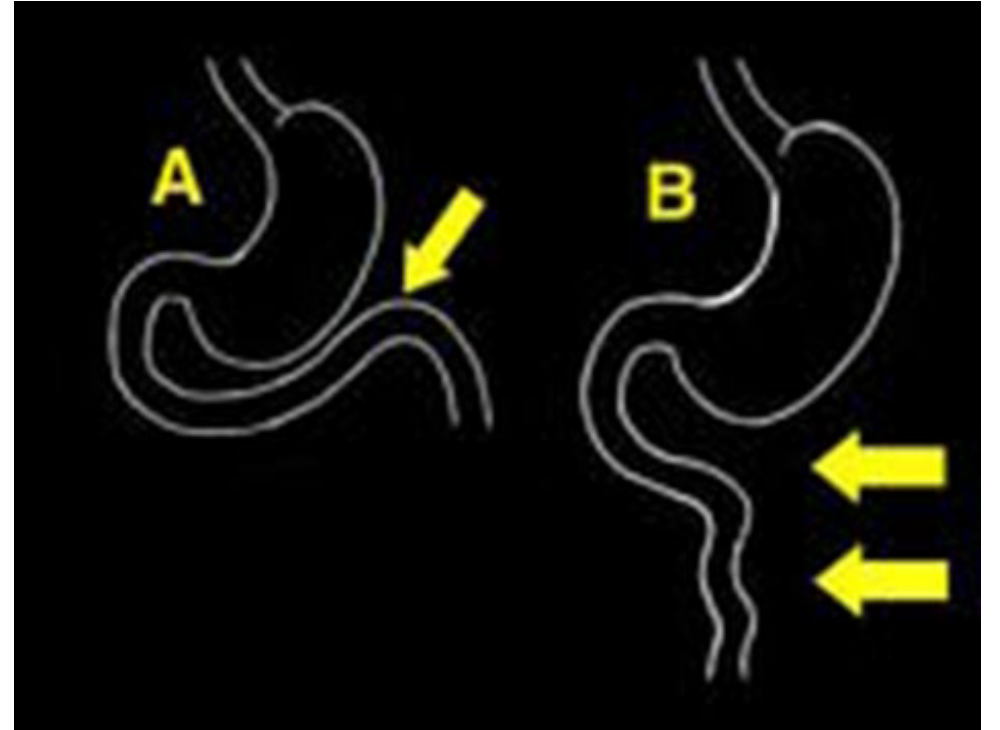


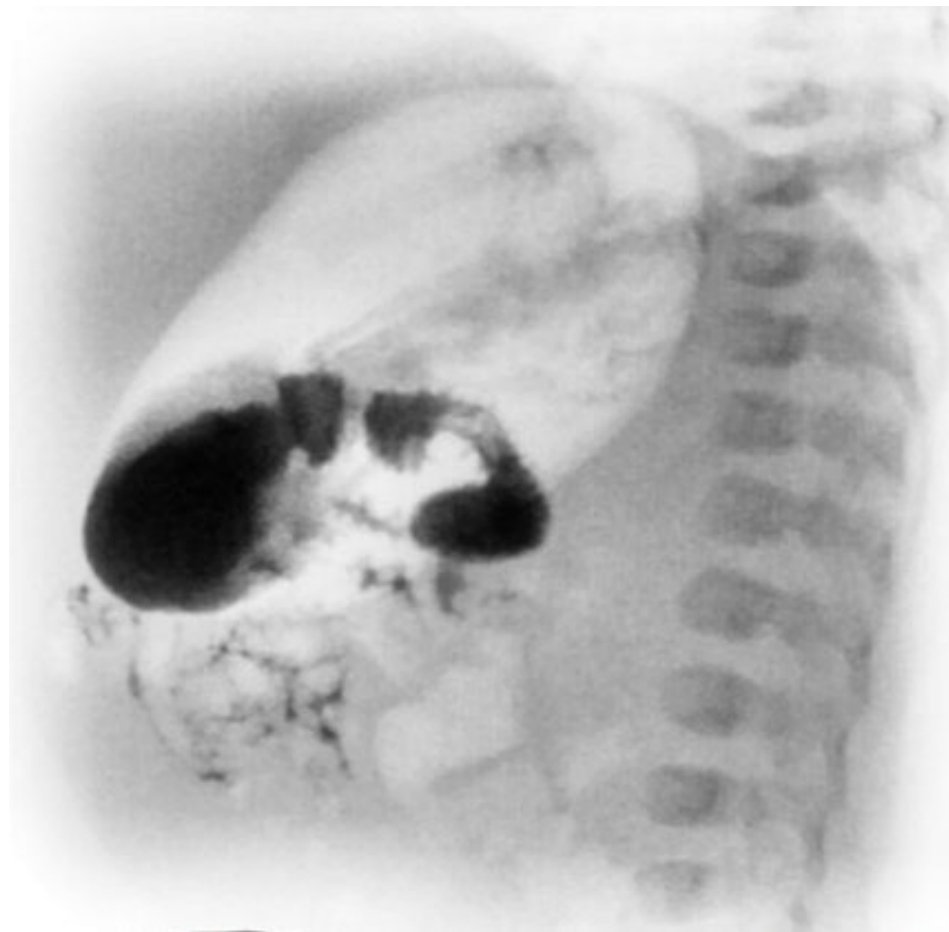
Upward direction of  
the D2



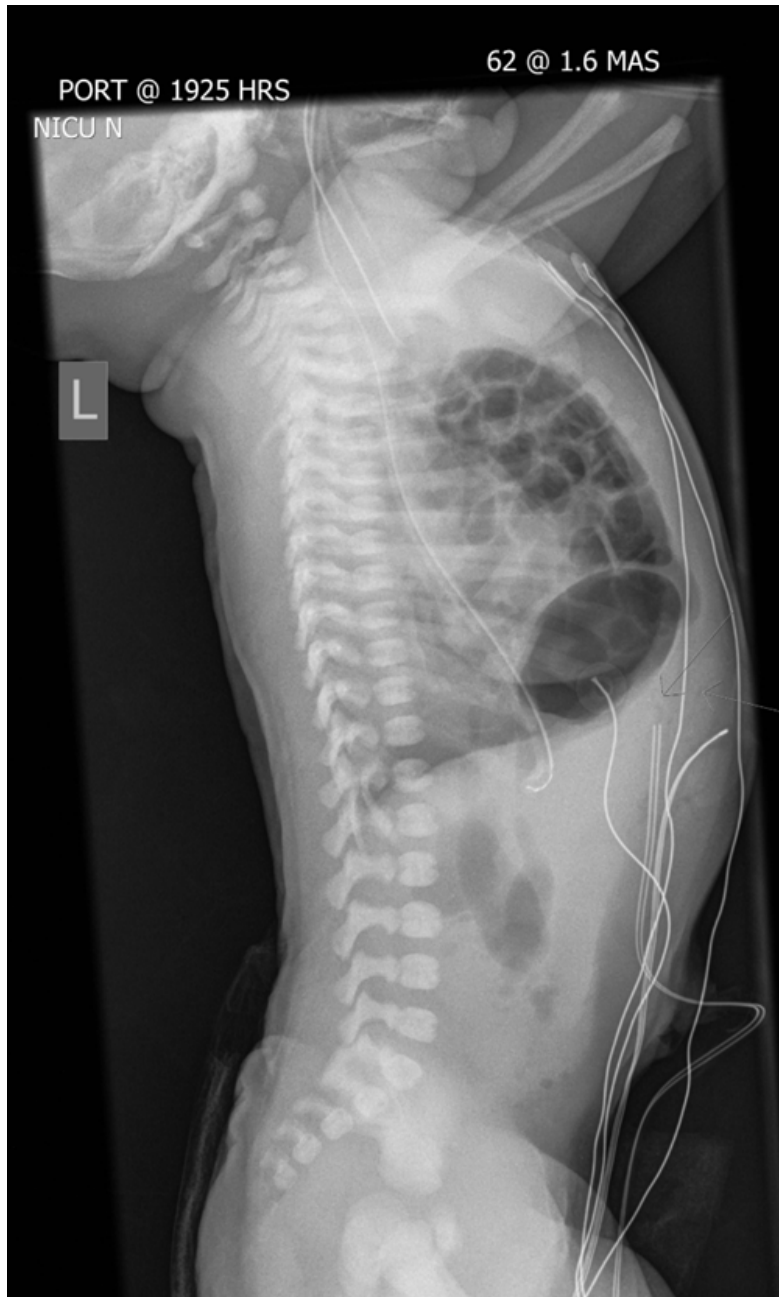


normal







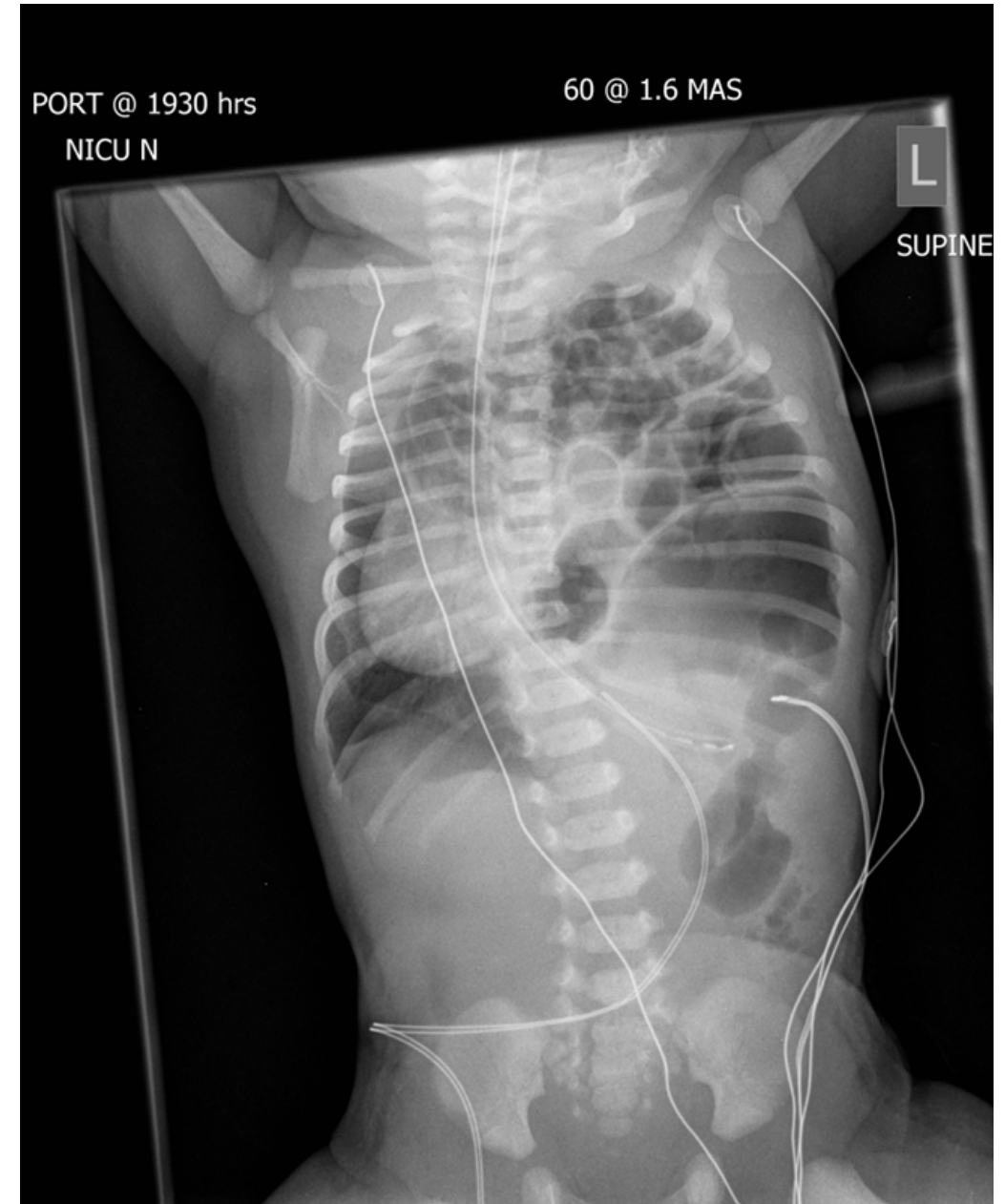


Q8

A 0- day old –  
Difficulty  
breathing

Diaphragmatic hernia

→ X-ray

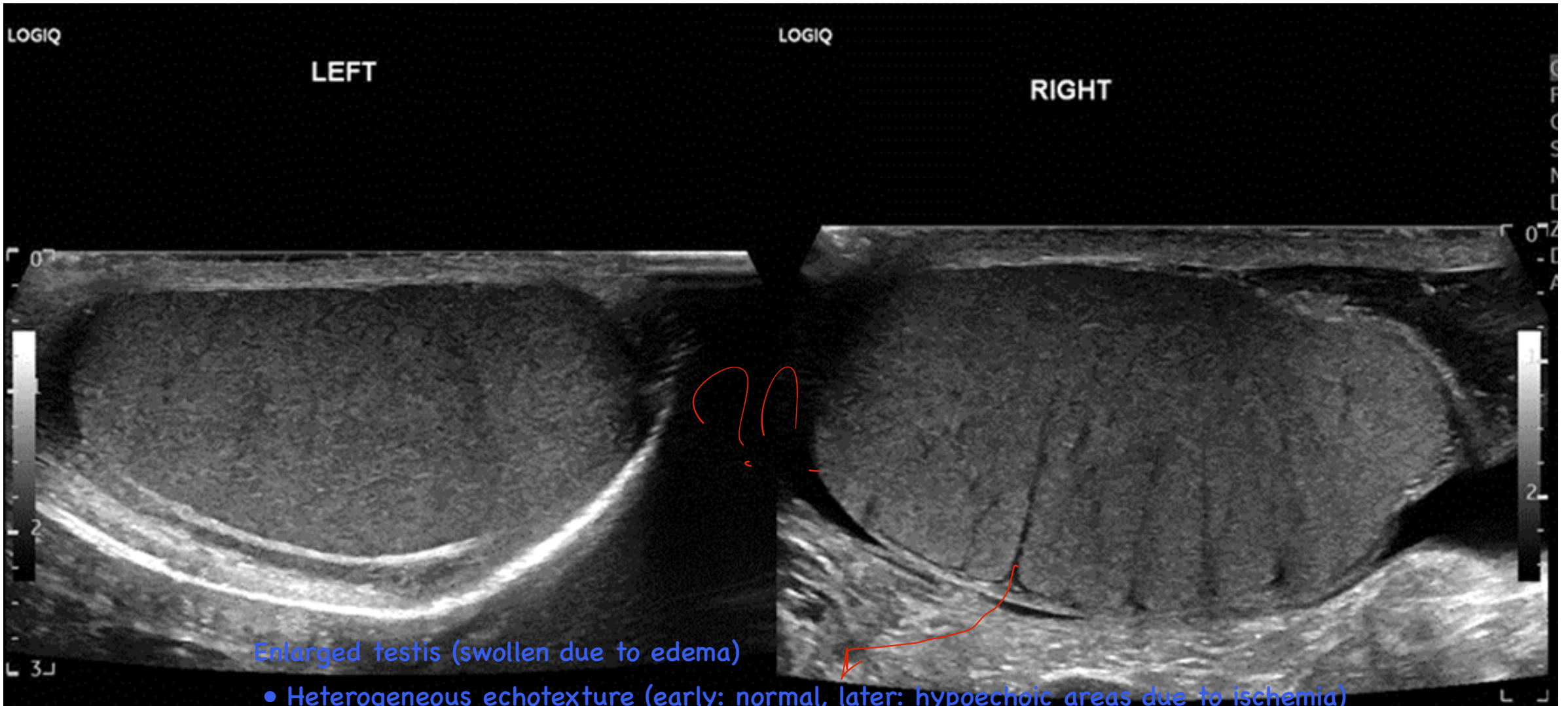


# Q9

- A 13-year-old boy, scrotal pain

Dx: Testicular torsion

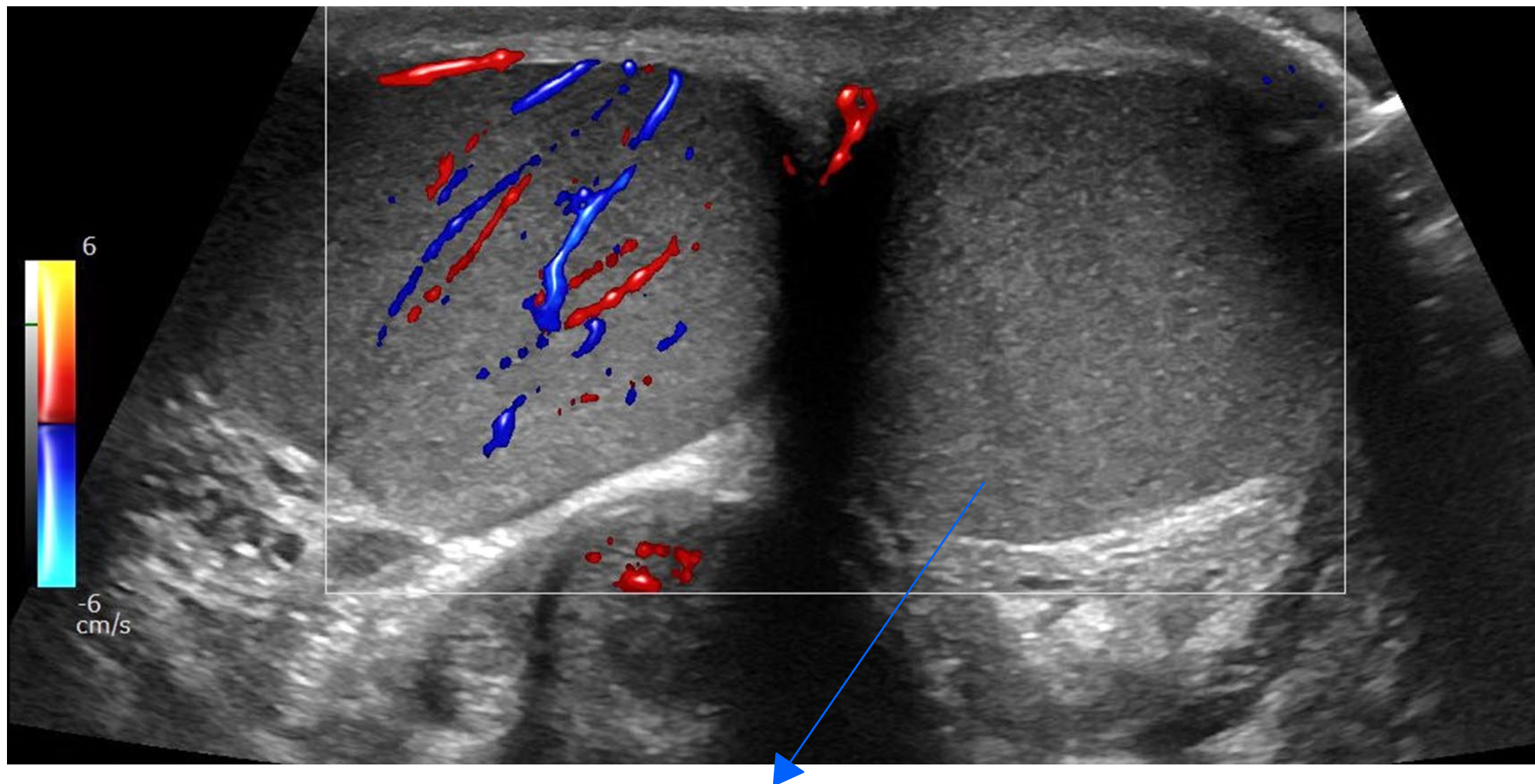
→ US



Enlarged testis (swollen due to edema)

- Heterogeneous echotexture (early: normal, later: hypoechoic areas due to ischemia)
- Reactive hydrocele (fluid around the testis)
- Thickened scrotal wall





Doppler ultrasound → absent blood flow in torsion.

# Q10

- A 3-month-old baby, cough and irritability

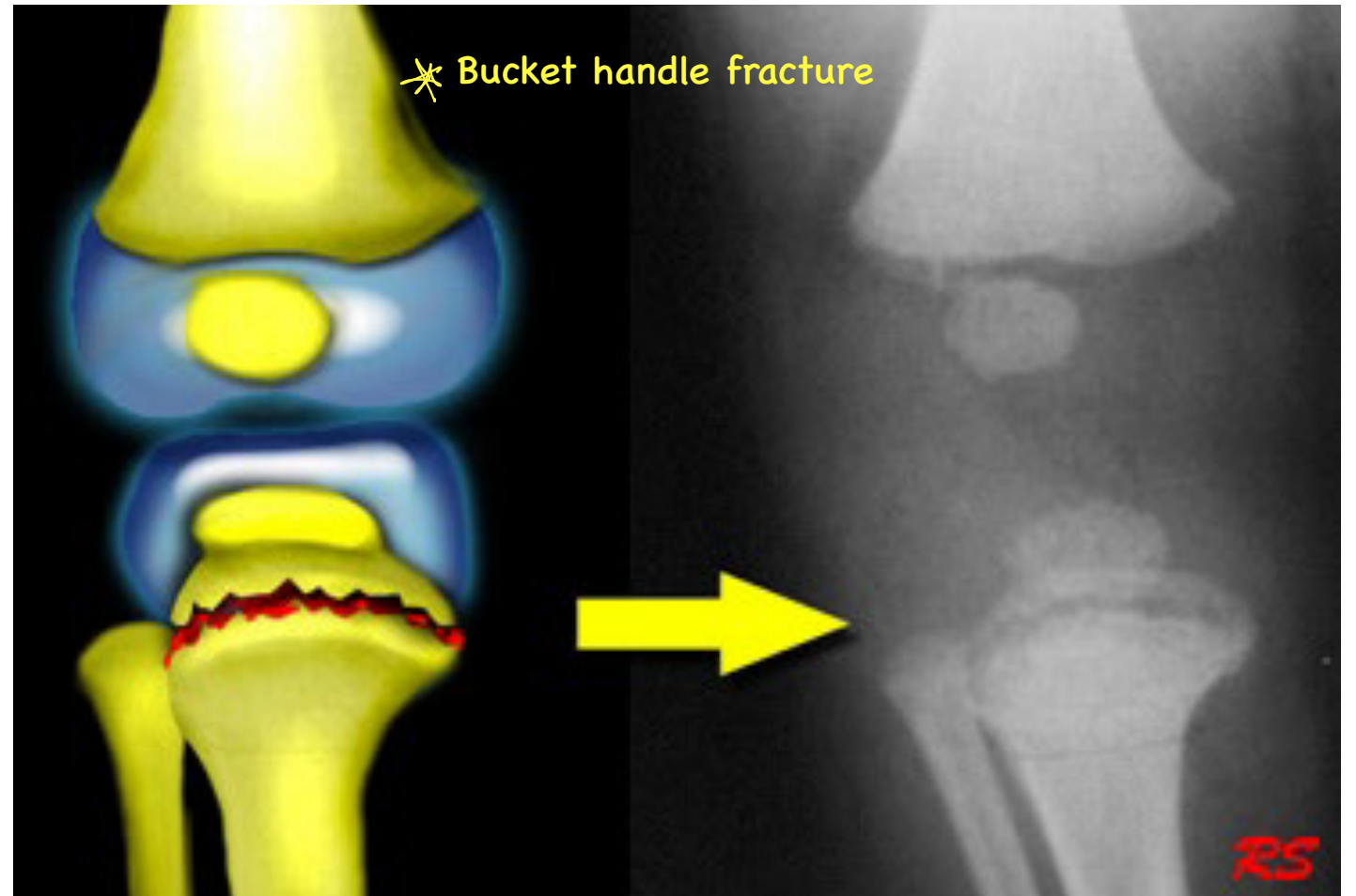
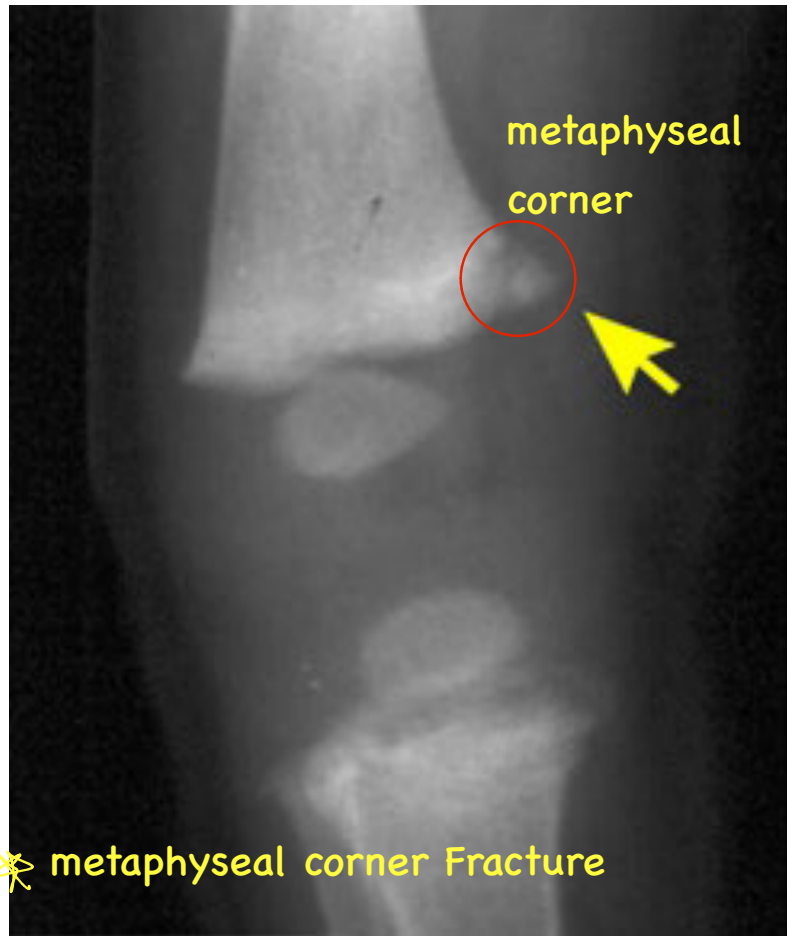
Request X-ray



Rt premothorax  
lung collapsed

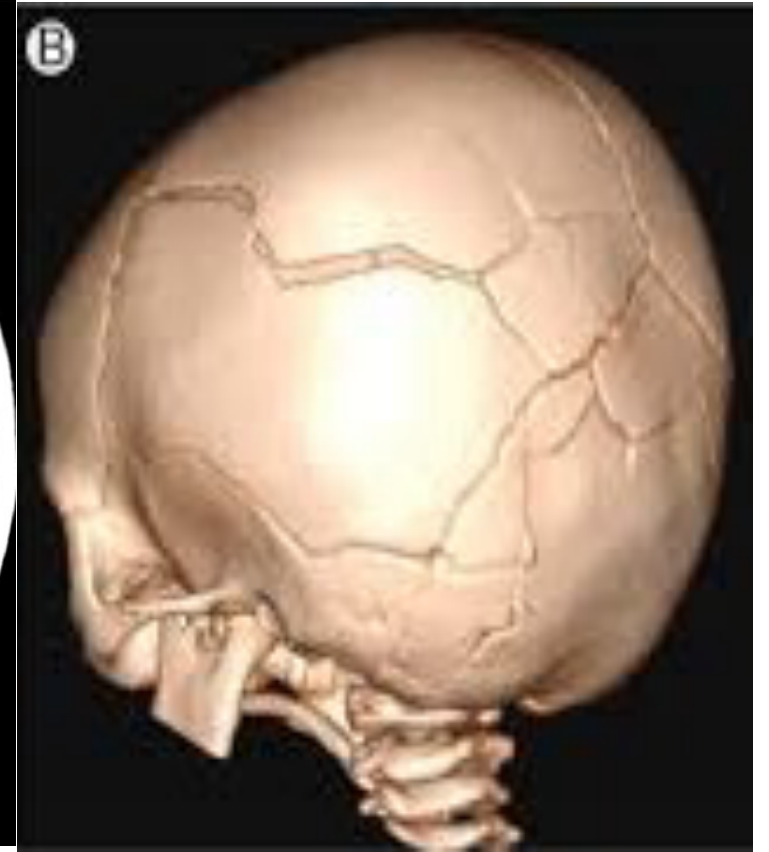
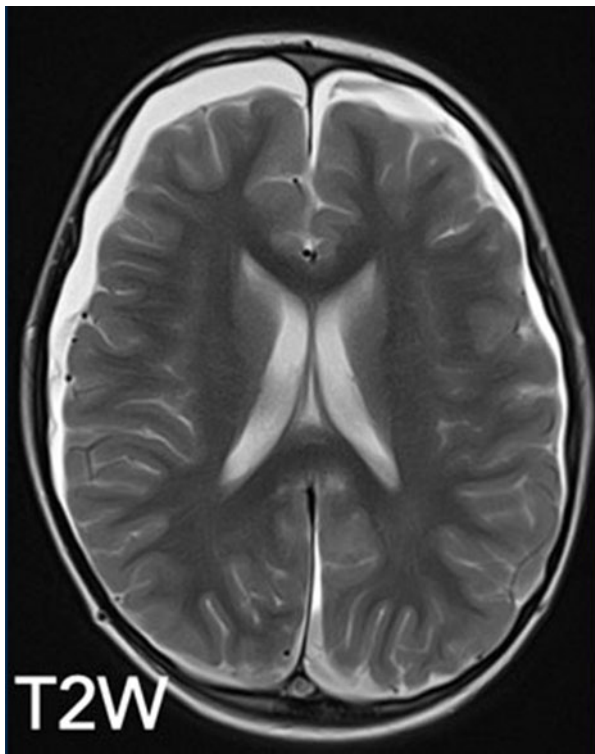
- The classical **metaphyseal corner or bucket handle fracture** is virtually pathognomonic for abuse, although a differential diagnosis does exist.
- **Rib fractures** are prevalent and highly specific for abuse in young children less than 2 years.
- Fractures of **the acromion, sternum** and **spinous processes** are so rare in accidental conditions, giving them a high specificity for abuse.





These 2 type indicates child abuse

The metaphyseal lesion in abused infants: a radiologic-histopathologic study PK Kleinman, SC Marks, and B Blackbourne, Am. J. Roentgenol., 146: 895 - 905.

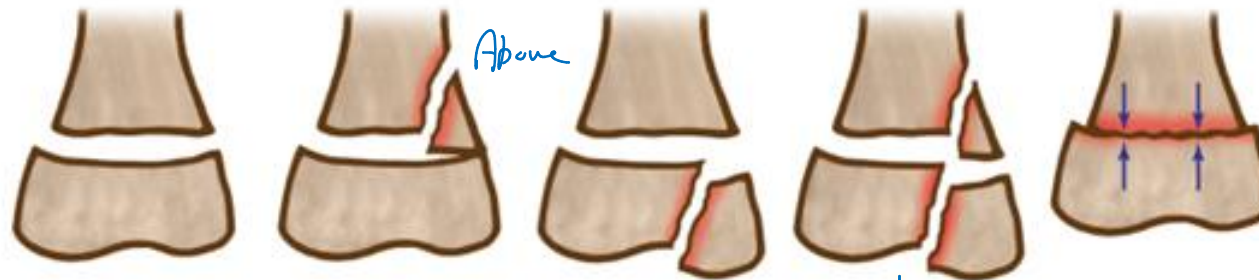
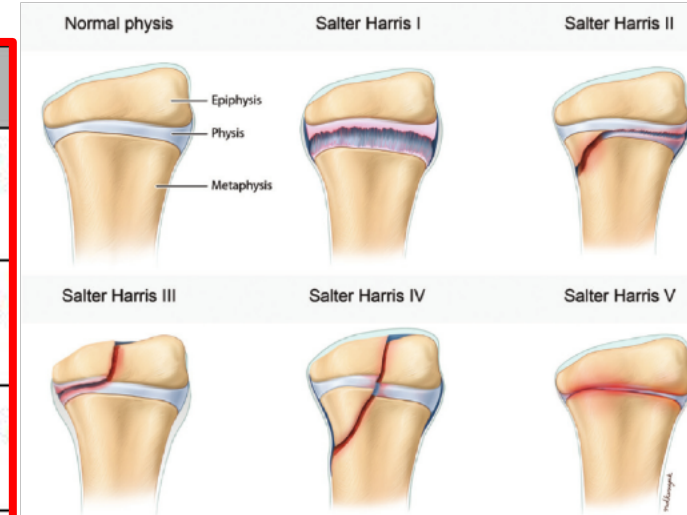


Bilateral subdural hematoma  
Shaken baby syndrome

Peds. MSK

# SALTER Harris Physeal Injury Classifications

| Type | Characteristics                                                                                               |
|------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| I    | Separation through the physis, usually through areas of hypertrophic and degenerating cartilage cell columns. |
| II   | Fracture through a portion of the physis that extends through the metaphyses.                                 |
| III  | Fracture through a portion of the physis that extends through the epiphysis and into the joint.               |
| IV   | Fracture across the metaphysis, physis and epiphysis.                                                         |
| V    | Crush injury to the physis.                                                                                   |



SH Classification from I - V

Minimally displaced oblique Salter **Harris II**  
fracture of the distal  
tibia





14-Year-old, ankle injury



14-year-old, ankle injury

Un-displaced **Tillaux fracture**

Tibial epiphysis = Salter III





Salter 4,  
Above and below  
growth plate



# ELBOW

The appearance of the ossification centers around the elbow  
The order of appearance, but necessarily the same order of fusion

**C**apitellum: **1** Y

**R**adial head: **3** Y

**I**nt. epicondyle: **5** Y

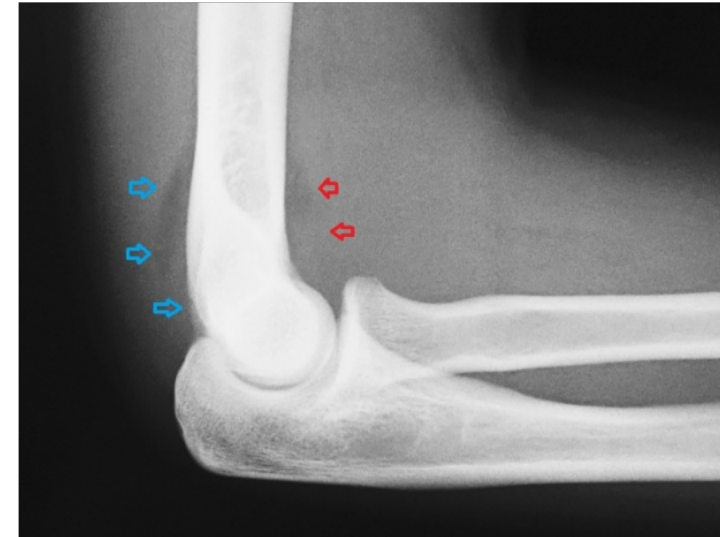
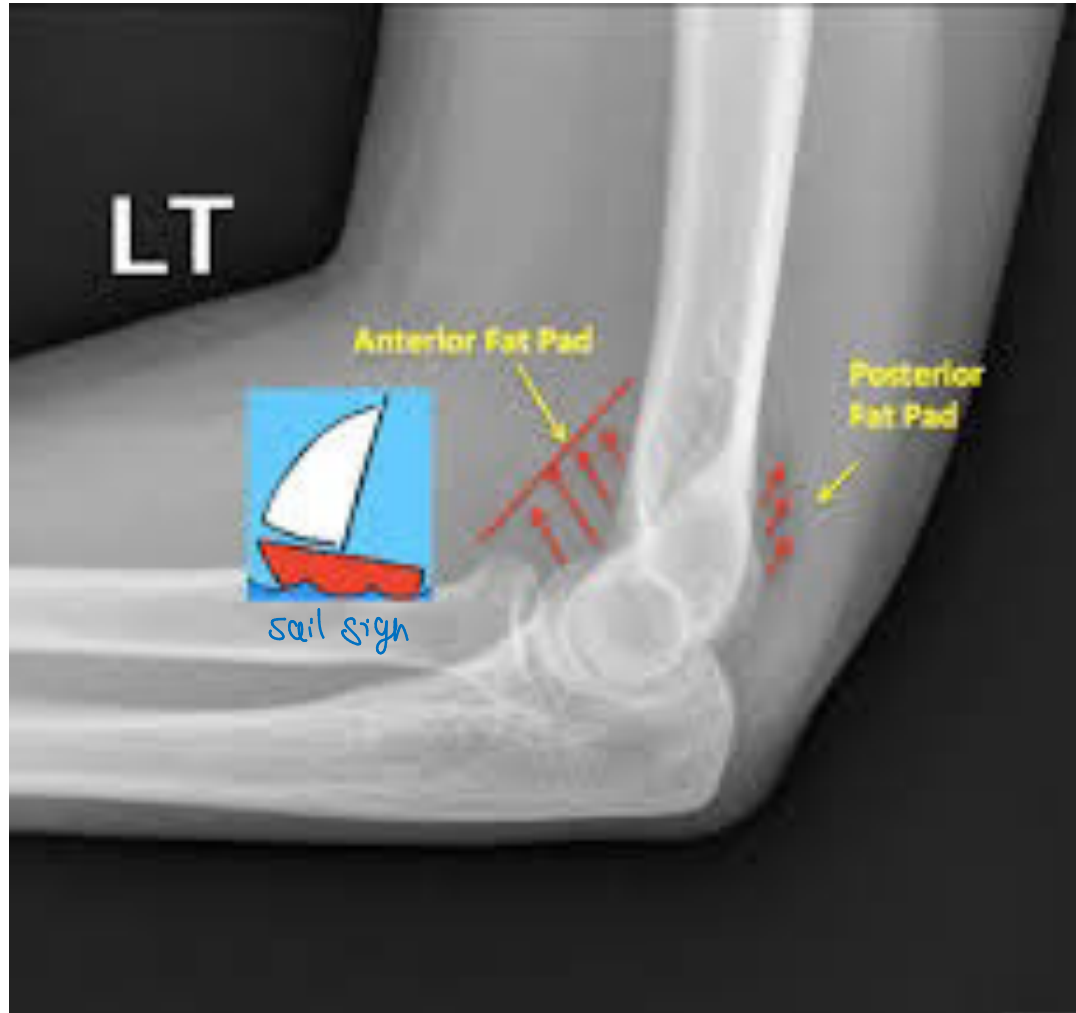
**T**rochea: **7** Y

**O**lecranon: **9** Y

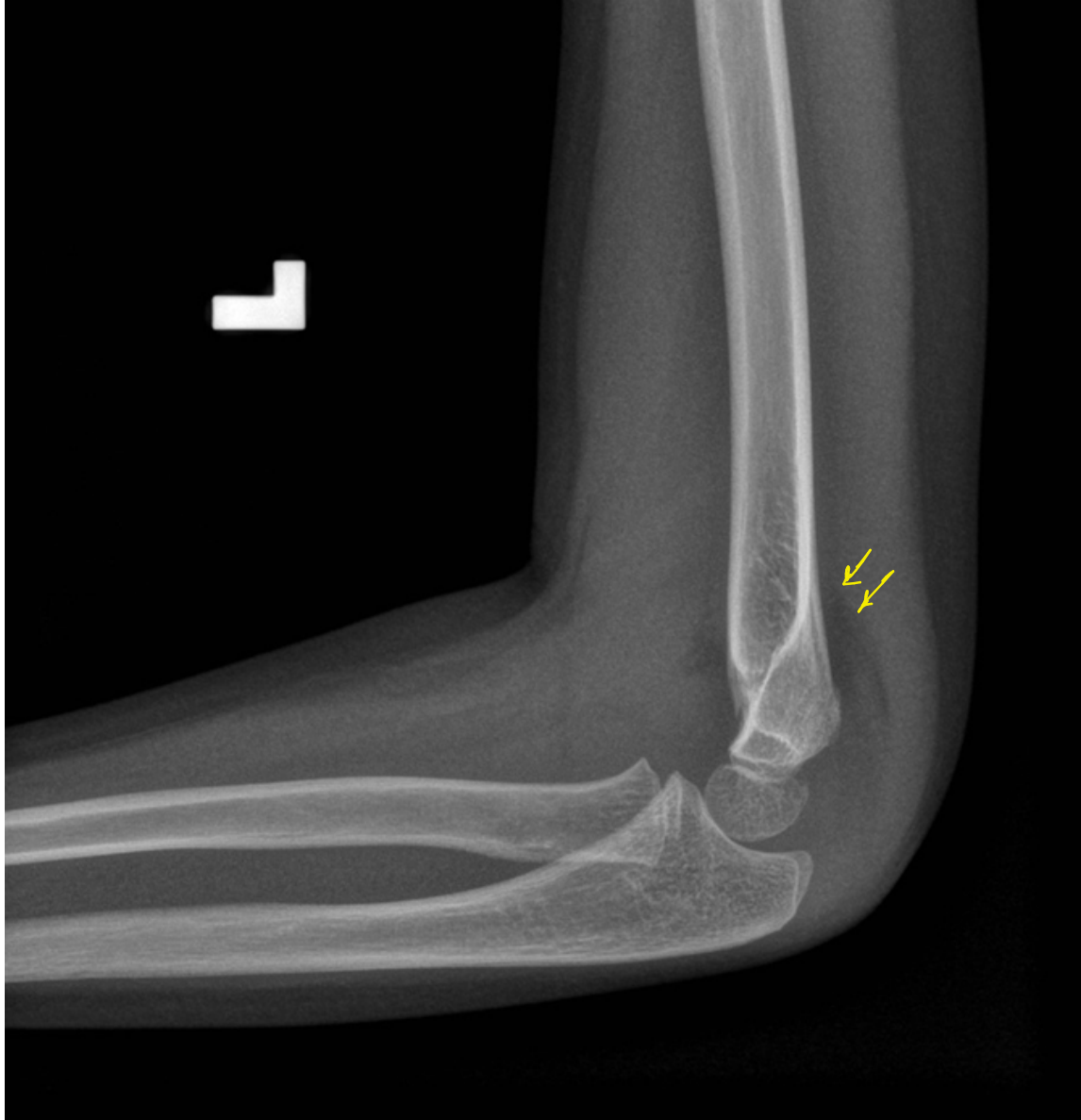
**E**xt. epicondyle: **11** Y



# Elbow fractures- Joint effusion



- Anterior fat pad → normally may be seen, but in effusion it looks elevated → "Sail sign"
- Posterior fat pad → normally not visible; if seen, it's always abnormal → suggests intra-articular fracture and effusion.



Nondisplaced  
supracondylar  
humeral fracture

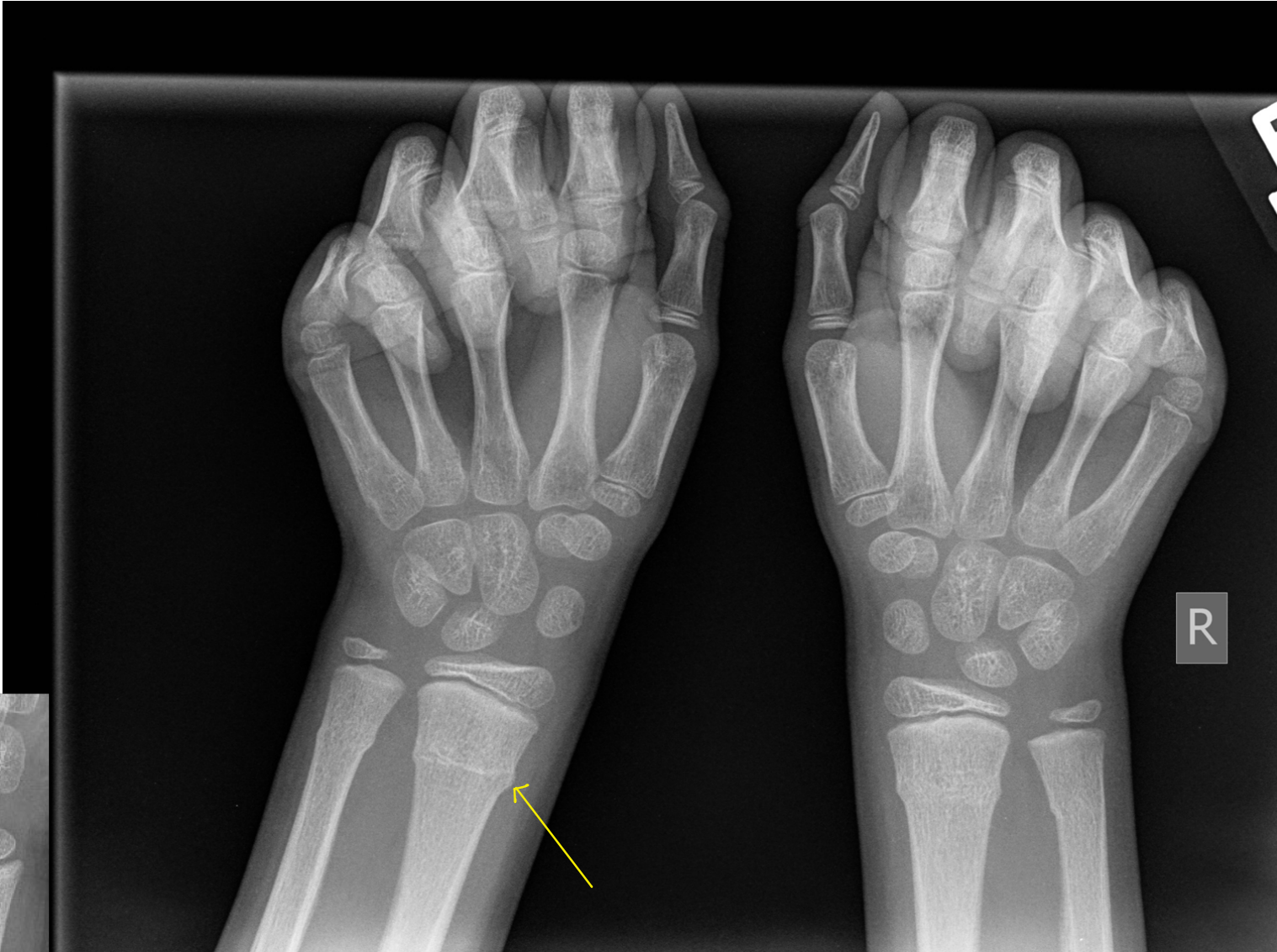






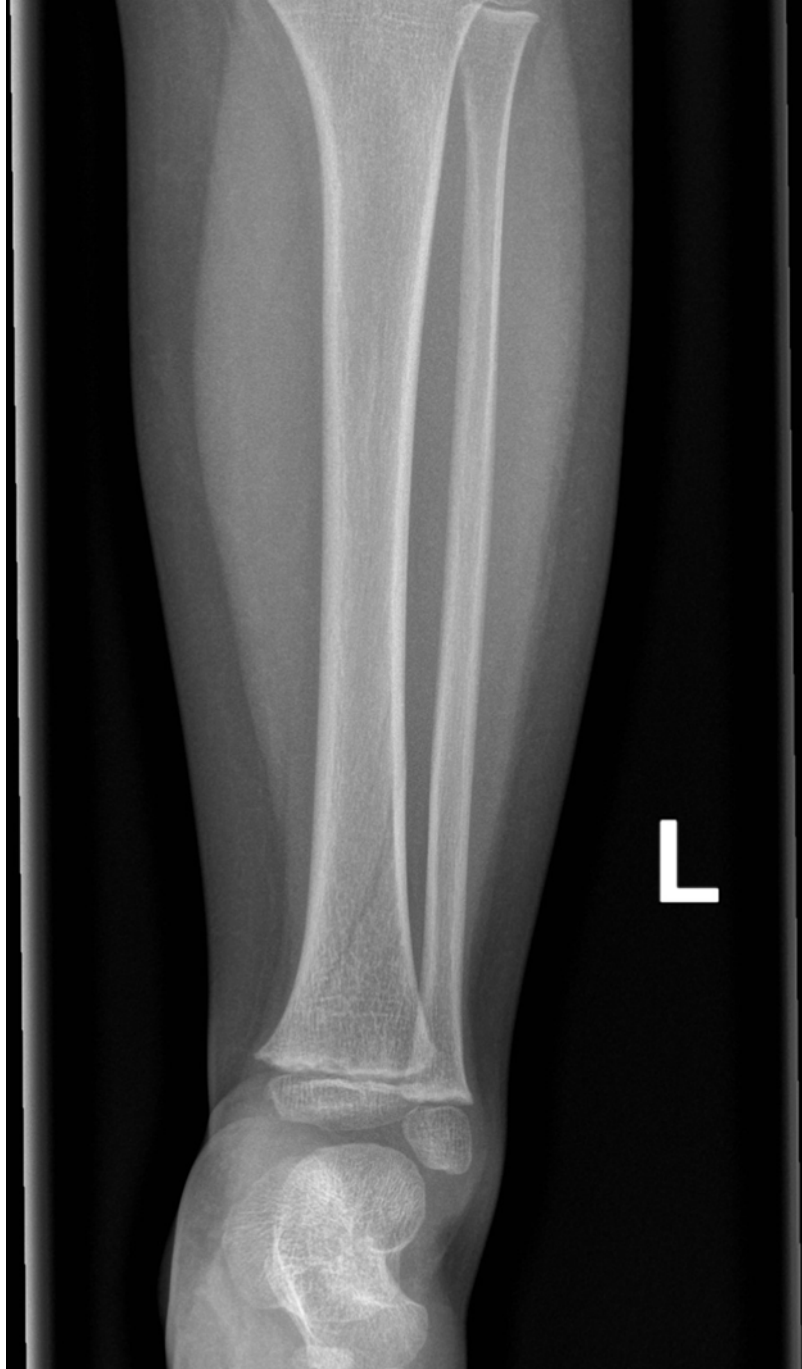


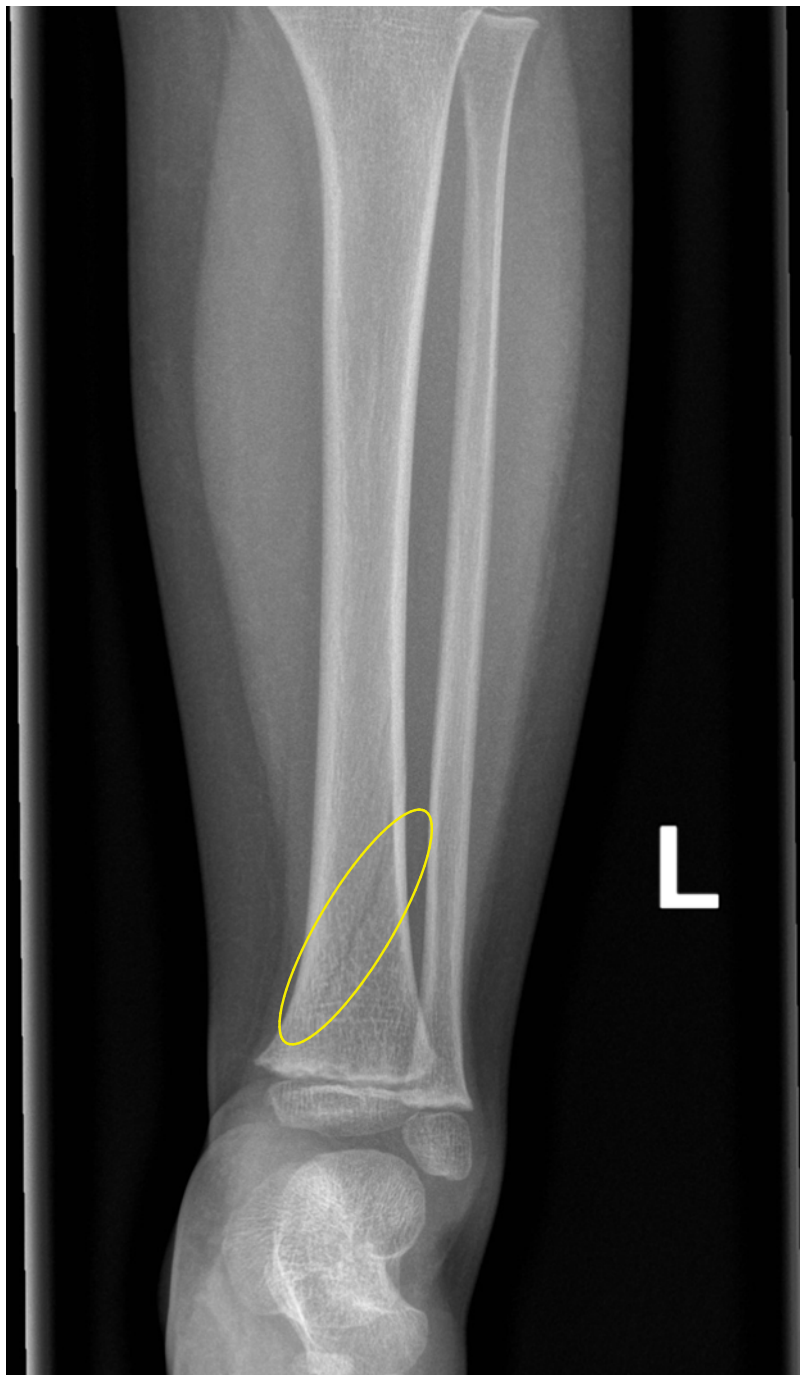
Buckle Fracture



Buckle fracture  
of distal radial  
metaphysis



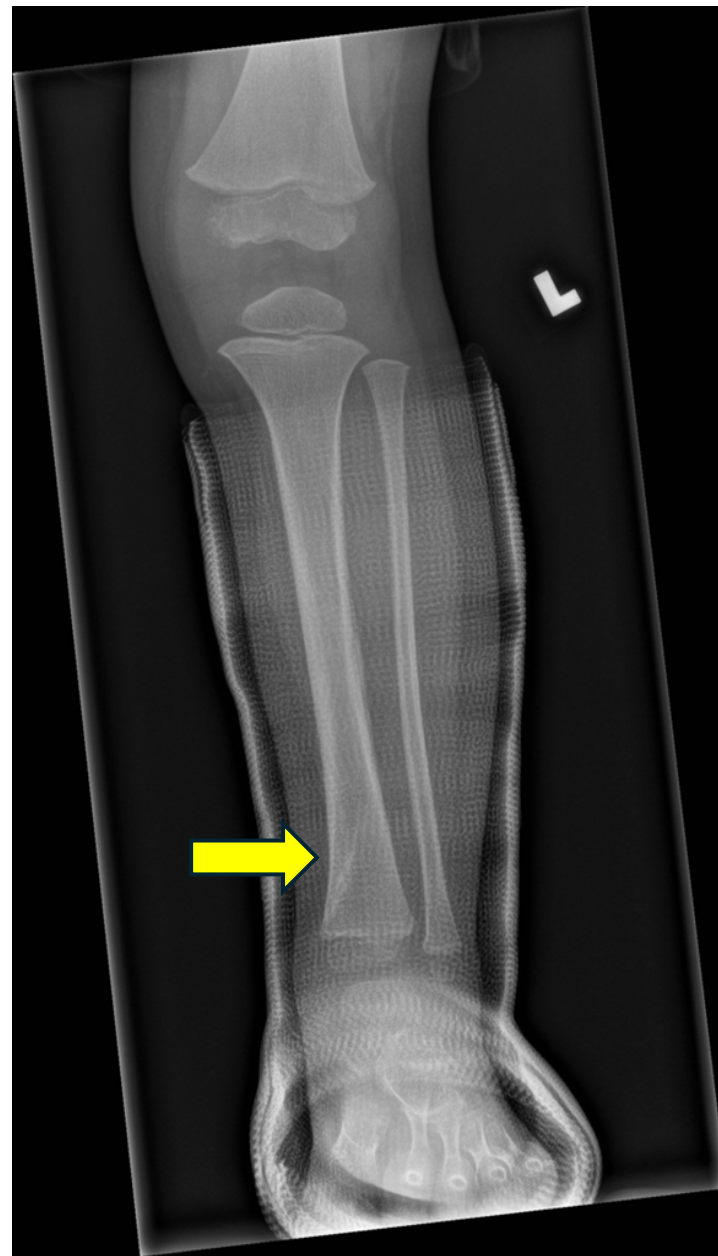
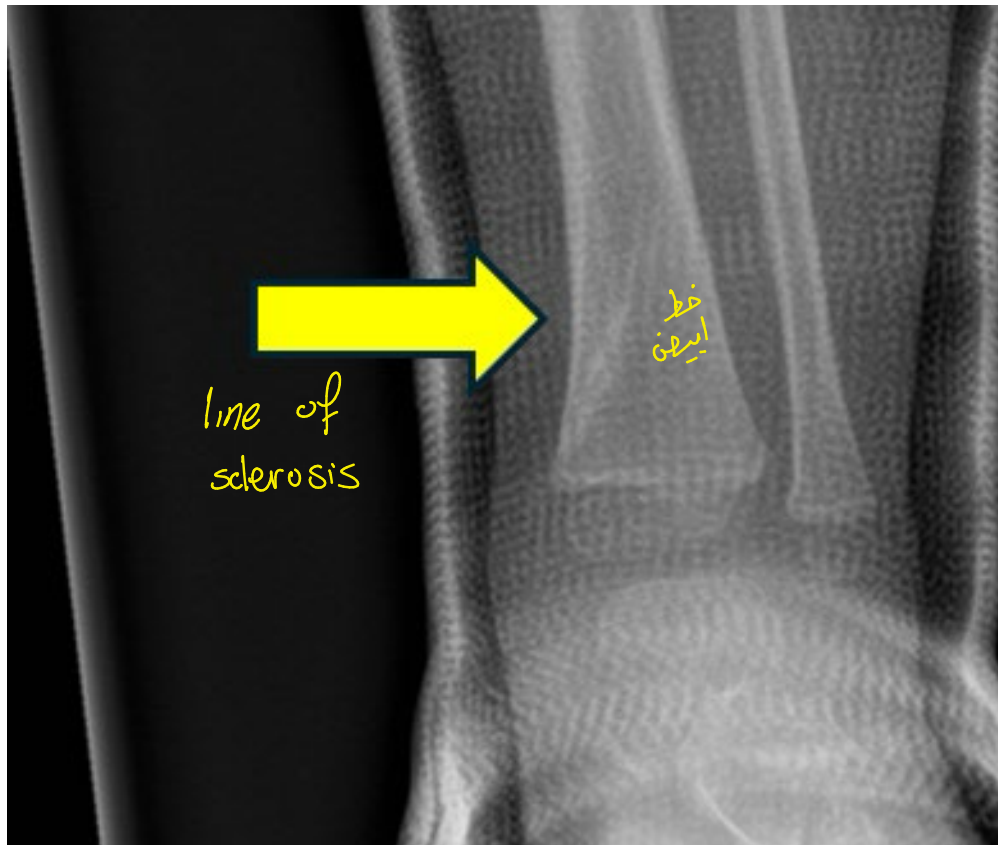




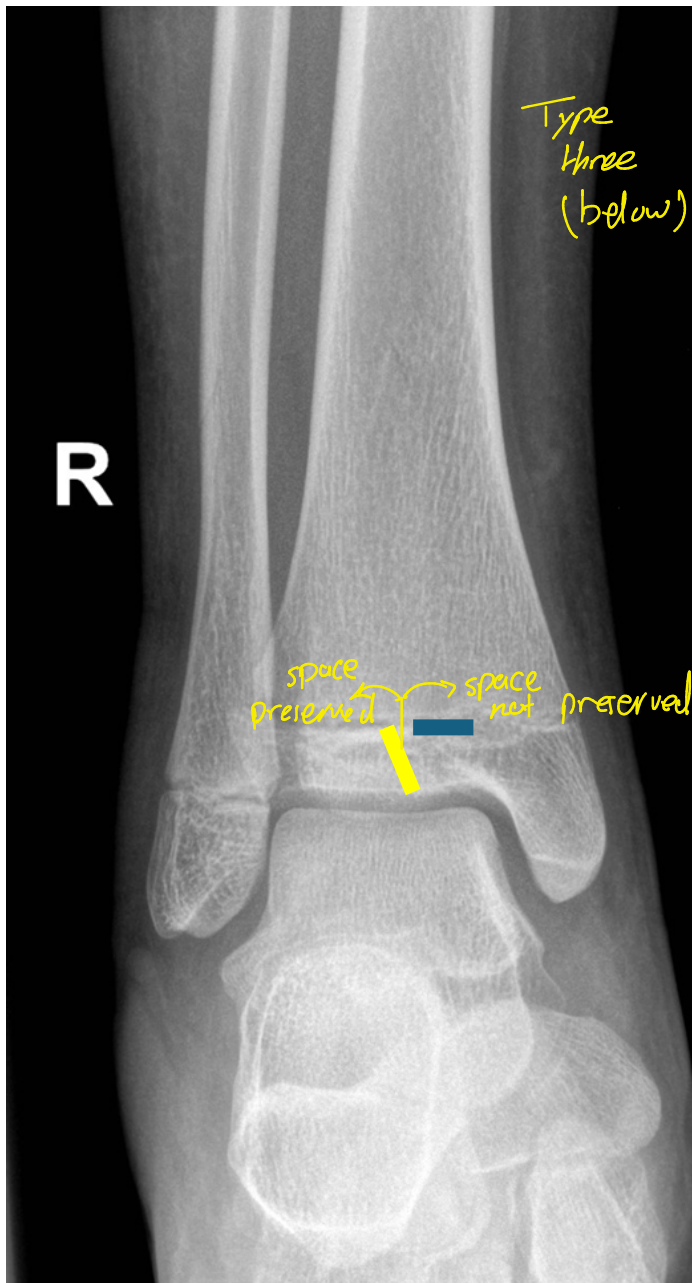
Toddler's fracture  
of the distal tibial  
metaphysis



Follow-up x-ray →:  
Ongoing healing







Triplane fracture

# Triplane (triplanar) fracture

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- Only occurring in **adolescents** → As the physiological closure of the physeal plate begins **medially**, the lateral (open) physis is prone to this type of fracture.
- Usually considered as a **type 4 Salter-Harris** fracture.
  - [Salter-Harris 3 fracture](#) on AP
  - [Salter-Harris 2 fracture](#) on lateral
- It comprises 3 components:
  - a vertical (**sagittal**) fracture through the **epiphysis**
  - a horizontal (**axial**) fracture through the **physis**
  - an oblique (**coronal**) fracture through the **metaphysis**



Salter-Harris type 2 fracture

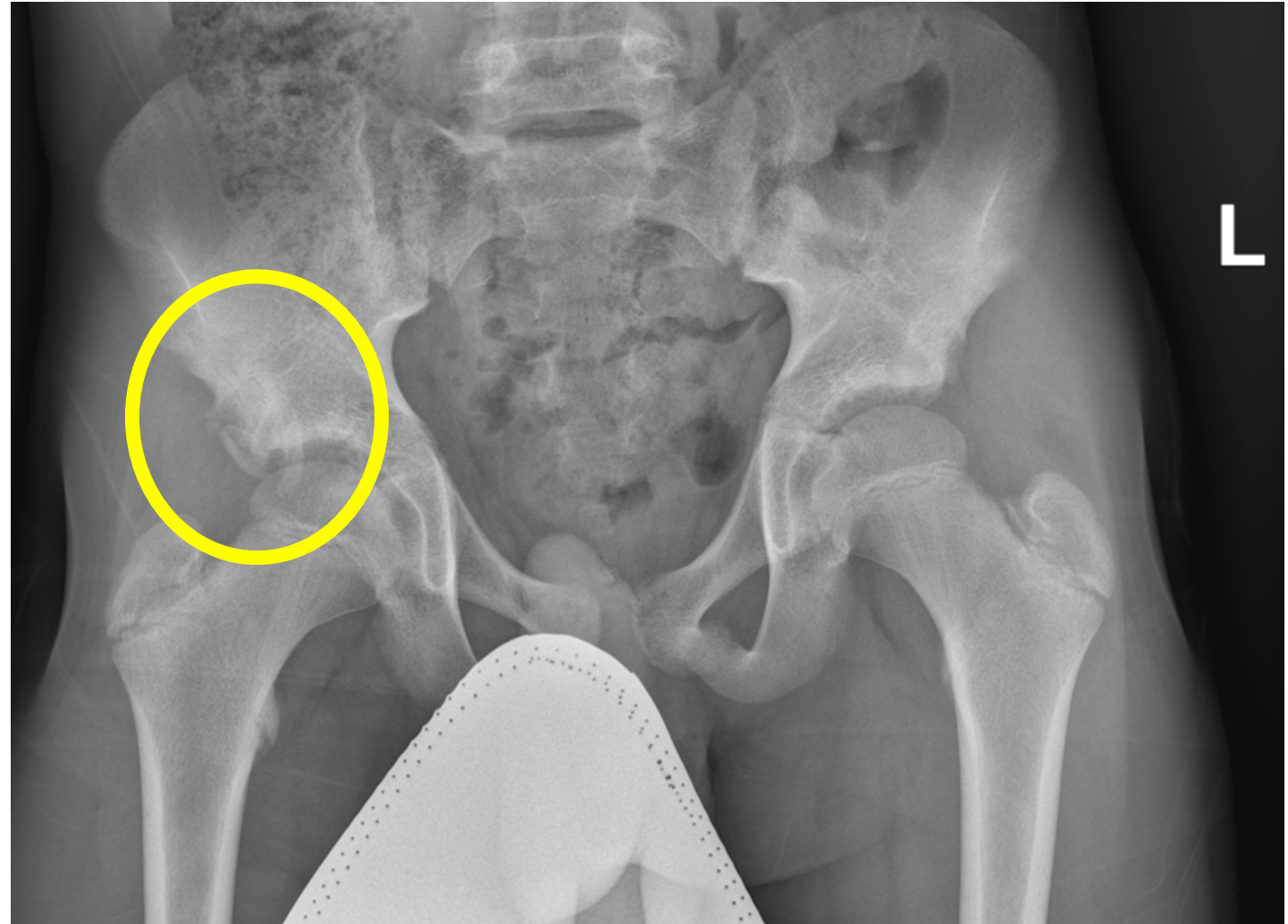


A 13-year-old male  
with 1 month of  
right hip  
pain, decreased  
internal rotation of  
the right hip.



Abnormal calcific densities in the region of the **superior right hip joint** →

in keeping with a **subacute avulsion injury of the rectus femoris** muscle.



Minimally displaced oblique Salter Harris II fracture of the distal tibia





# DDH

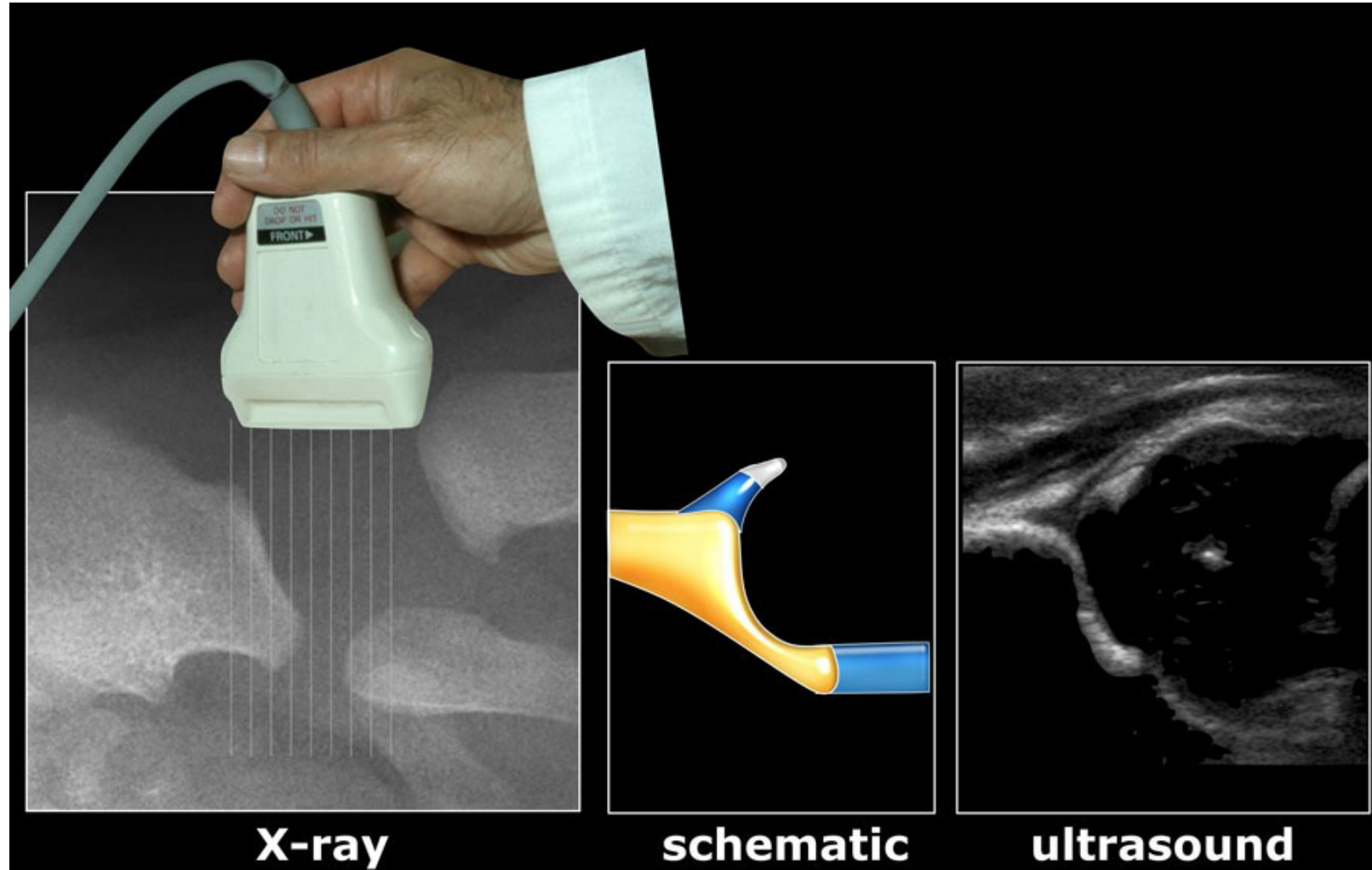
Developmental dysplasia of the hip (DDH) denotes aberrant development of the hip joint and results from an abnormal relationship of the femoral head to the acetabulum.



# Risk factors include

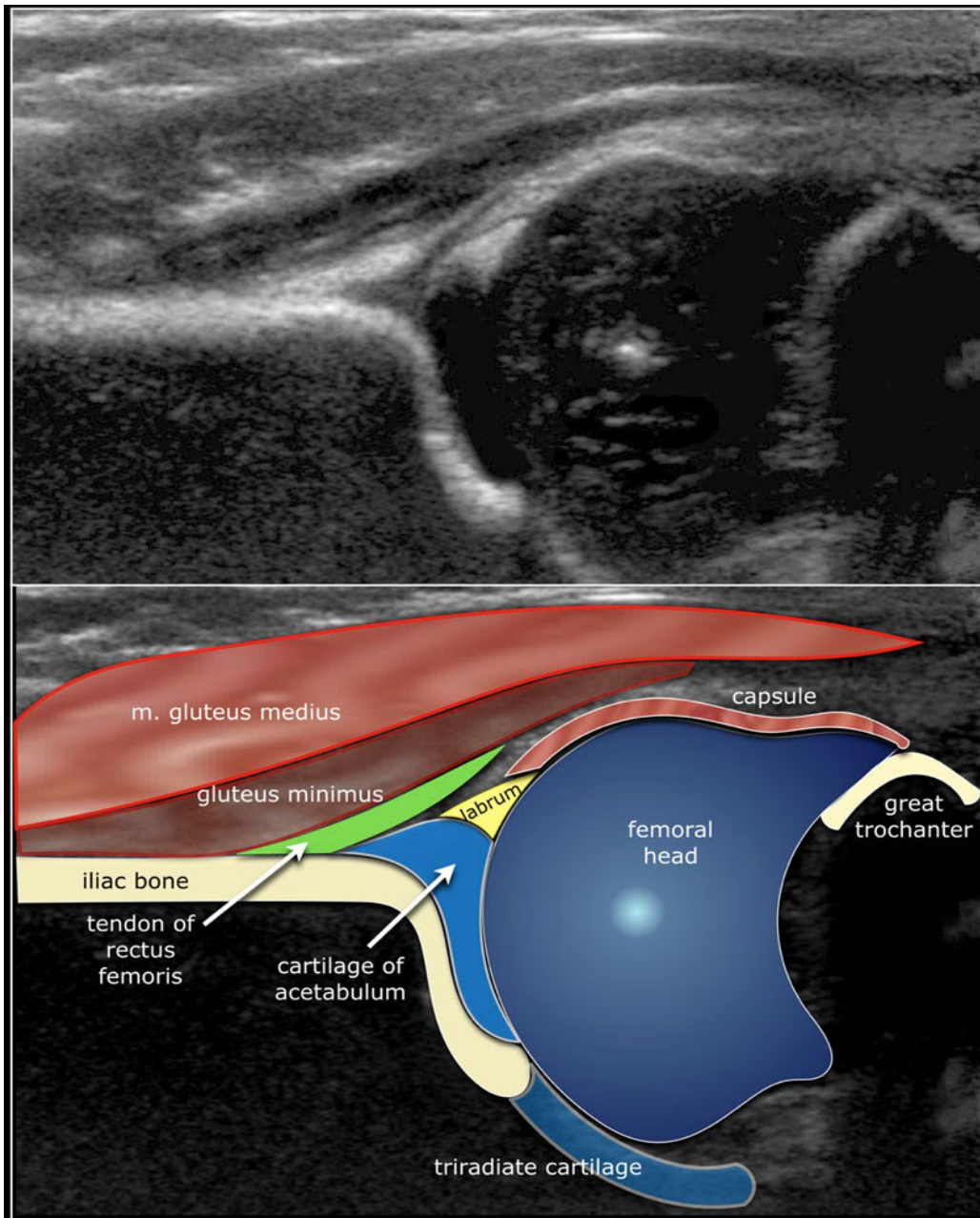
- Female gender (M:F ~1:8)
- Firstborn baby
- Family history
- Breech presentation
- Oligohydramnios

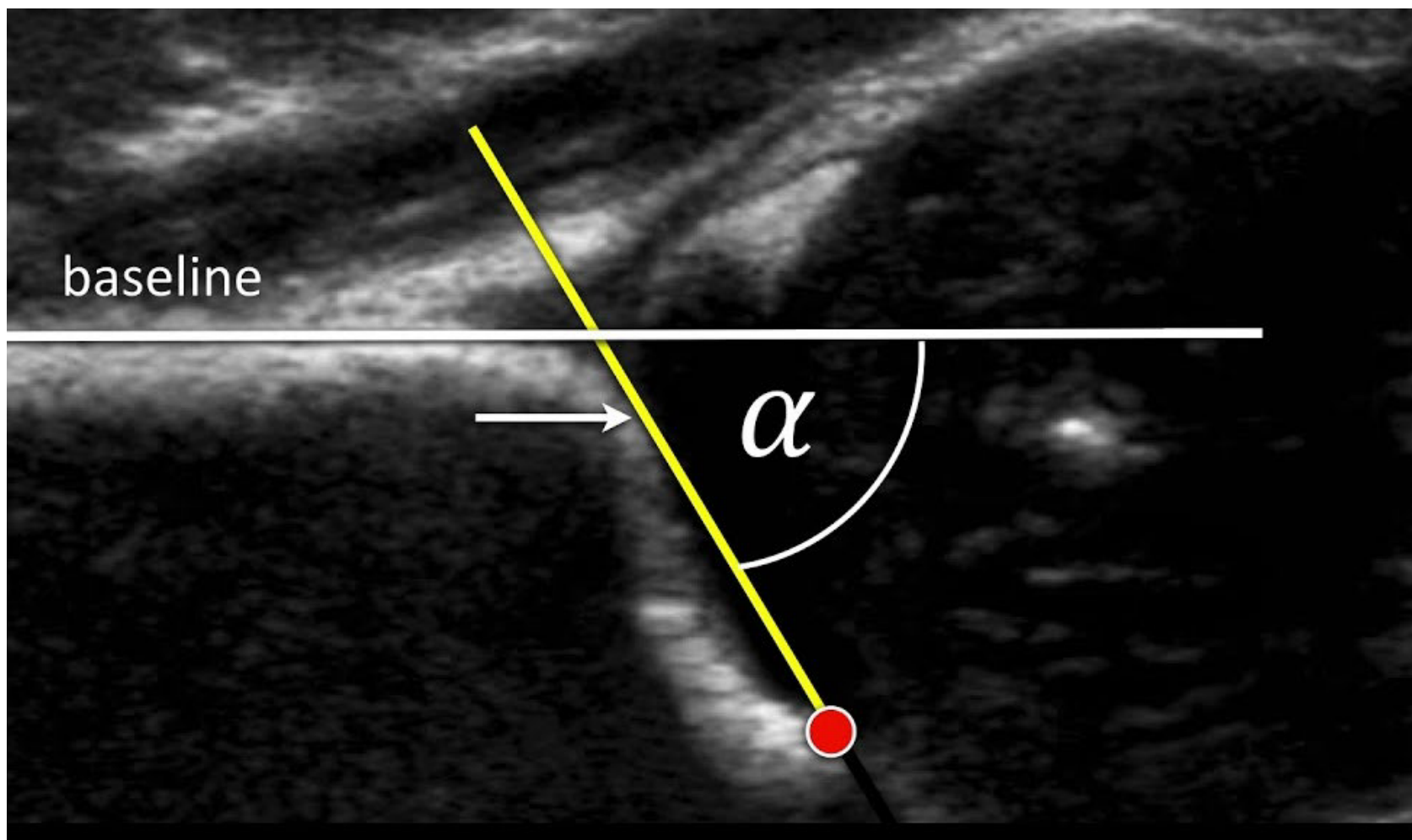
# DDH



# ULTRASOUND

Imaging Findings: femoral head partially or completely out of acetabulum.







shallow acetabulum,  
lateral displacement of  
femoral head,  
increased acetabular  
angle





THANK  
YOU

