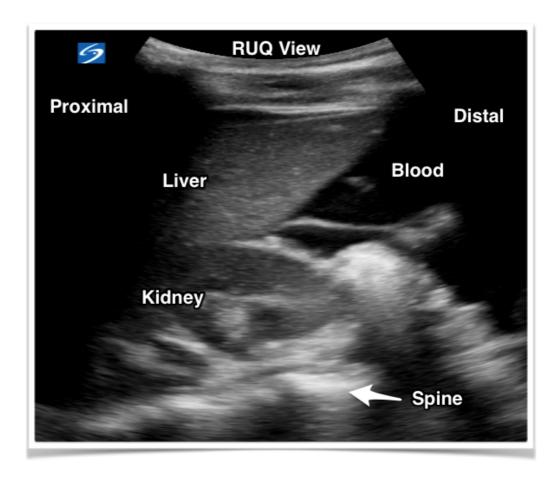
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SONIC BOOM

Fast and Furious

Ultrasound Newsletter No 5



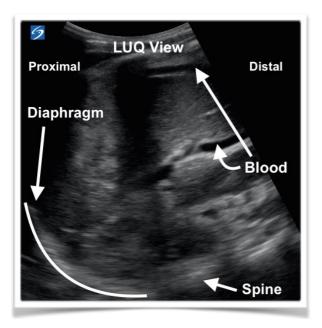
This time we focus on our bread and butter as Emergency Physicians - the eFAST. Introduced by the above image - it's in your face, it's classic FAST and it's clearly furious. This demonstrates the inferior pole of the kidney and tip of the liver - an essential view esp when looking for that little pocket of fluid (in our patient, this wasn't necessary as there were litres of blood in his abdomen). Patient was thrown off the horse and then kicked in the guts for good measure. I call Trauma Calls before the nurse can even finish her question "He was thrown off his ho.....". Trauma + Horse = Hasta La Vista Baby. The eFAST exam includes - RUQ, LUQ, Subcostal Heart, Right/ Left Anterior Lung and Pelvic Trans/Long views.

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Notice how the Spleen has lost it's normal homogenic appearance suspicious for injury



These LUQ US and CT Abdomen images have been presented here side by side to illustrate some potential differences in appearance based on imaging modality. Notice how shattered the spleen appears on the CT but a benign appearance on US. The presence of free fluid / blood is however the aim of the game in the eFAST.





"Trauma + Horse = Hasta La Vista, Baby"

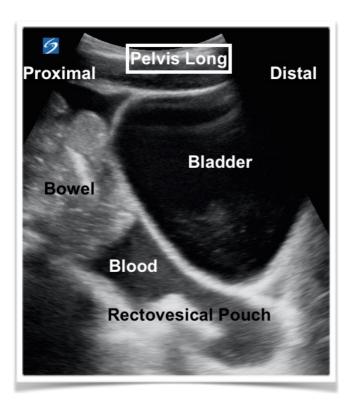
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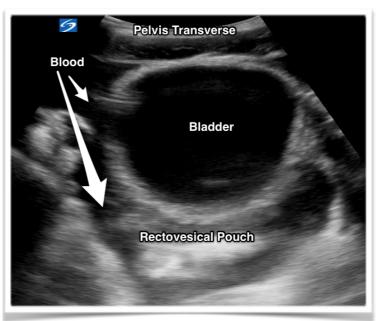
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The Pelvic View (also known as the Rectovesical, Rectouterine, or Pouch of Douglas View)—This allows assessment of the most dependent space in the peritoneum for free fluid. Analysis for pelvic fluid is best through a full bladder. When free fluid is present, it is noted most often posterior or superior to the bladder and uterus. The bladder should be scanned in its entirety in both the sagittal and transverse planes.

TIP: Scan laterally until you see the iliac blood vessels.



Notice the loops of bowel floating about in the blood - most obvious in the RIF longitudinal view ————>



The rectovesical pouch is the most dependent part in the male pelvis



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