

Rural POCUS Rounds: Podiatry Ultrasound

Scan, Diagnose & Inject: Plantar Fascia, Achilles & ATFL

Dr. Frank Johnson, MD, CCFP (SEM), Dip.Sport Med
Sep 19, 2025

Faculty/Presenter Disclosure

- Faculty: Dr. Frank Johnson
- Relationships with financial sponsors:
 - Speakers Honoraria: Pendopharm (Monovisc, Cingal SportVis)
 - Consulting Fees: Clarius and Pendopharm to make educational videos
- Disclosure of financial support:
 - Received financial support from the AAOM, a large American Prolotherapy and PRP training organization
 - Sport Medicine Ultrasound (run by me) benefits from the sale of tickets to its live training events, a product that will not be discussed in this program

**Scan, Diagnose
& Inject**

Plantar Fascia

LEVEL 1

STEP 1

EXAMINE

History & Physical Exam

Ultrasound Scan

Interpret Normal Image

Quiz: Examine

STEP 2

DIAGNOSE

Interpret Image 1

Interpret Image 2

Interpret Image 3

Quiz: Diagnose

STEP 3

MANAGE

Manage Patient 1

Manage Patient 2

Manage Patient 3

Quiz: Manage

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STEP 3

MANAGE

Manage Patient 1

Manage Patient 2

Manage Patient 3

Quiz: Manage

HISTORY & PHYSICAL EXAM

50 year old male presents to the clinic with 6 months of plantar heel pain.

No prior memorable injuries to the affected left heel.

He previously had this on the right and it took 2 years for the pain to stop.

Foot and ankle ROM is normal and he is tender over the bottom of the heel.

Orthopedic special tests were not performed.

**Scan, Diagnose
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STEP 3

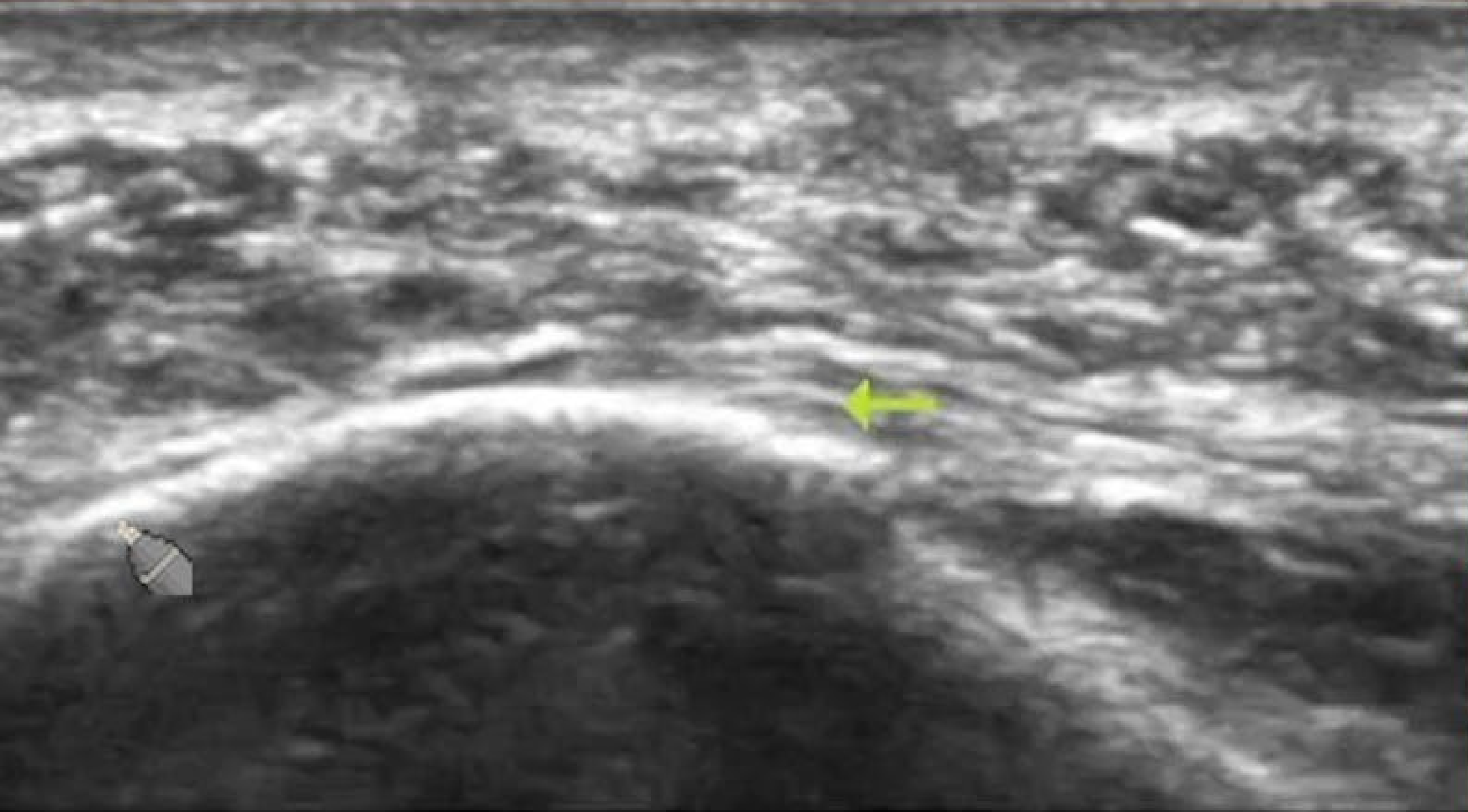
MANAGE

Manage Patient 1

Manage Patient 2

Manage Patient 3

Quiz: Manage



Bone

Cartilage

**Fluid
Bursa / Joint**

Ligament

Tendon

Muscle

PLANTAR FASCIA

**Scan, Diagnose
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Plantar Fascia

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STEP 3

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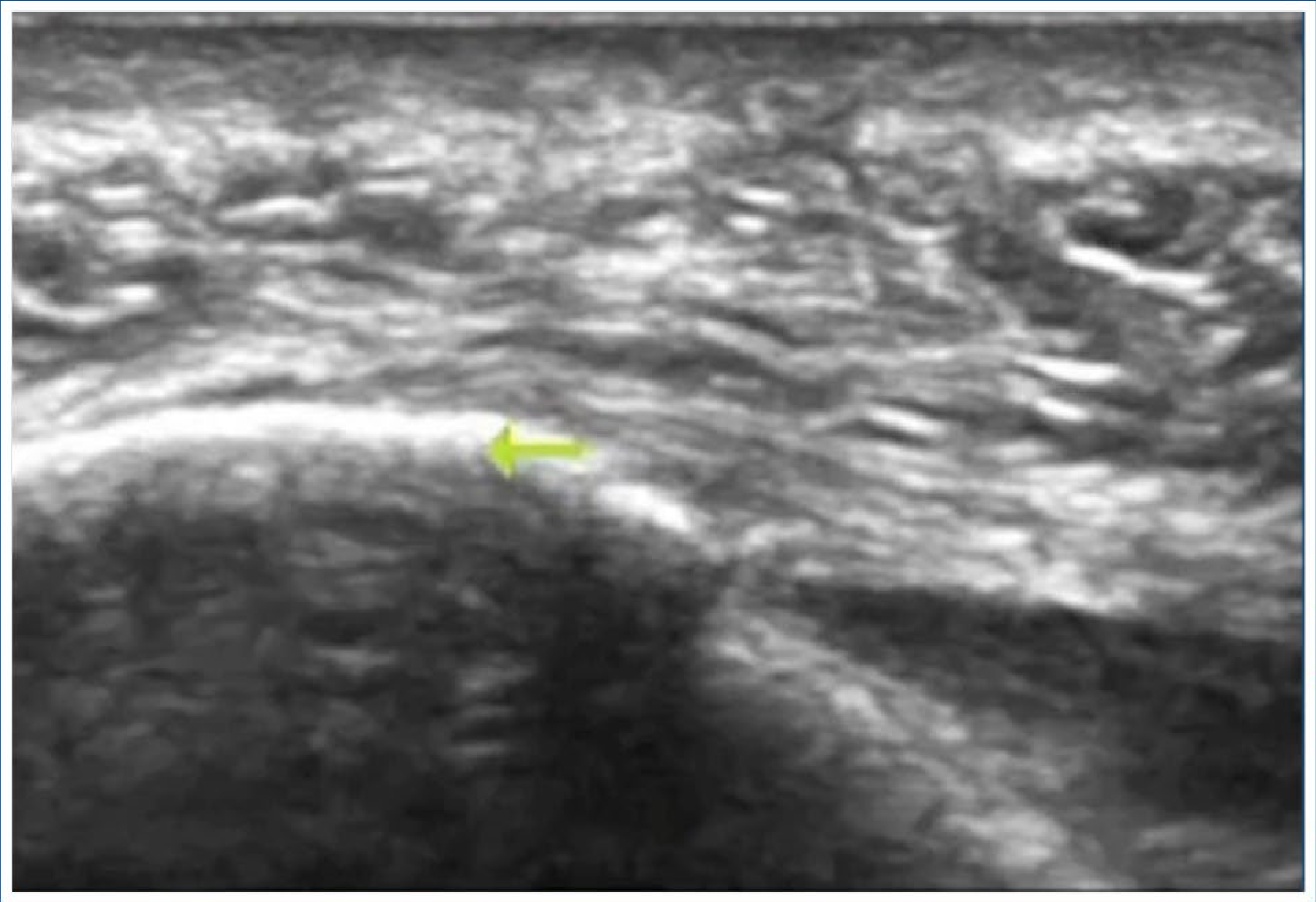
Quiz: Manage

INTERPRET NORMAL IMAGE

Scan, Diagnose
& Inject

Plantar Fascia

ACQUIRE THE IMAGE
LANDMARK: Calcaneus
NEAR: Heel Fat Pad
FAR: Calcaneus
AOI: Plantar Fascia



- Bone
- Cartilage
- Fluid
Bursa / Joint
- Ligament
- Tendon
- Muscle

INTERPRET NORMAL IMAGE

Scan, Diagnose
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Plantar Fascia

ACQUIRE THE IMAGE

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BONE

IRREGULAR?

REGULAR

? INDETERMINATE

IRREGULAR

BONE

Break

- Is the bone angled?
- Is the bone discontinuous?

Osteophyte

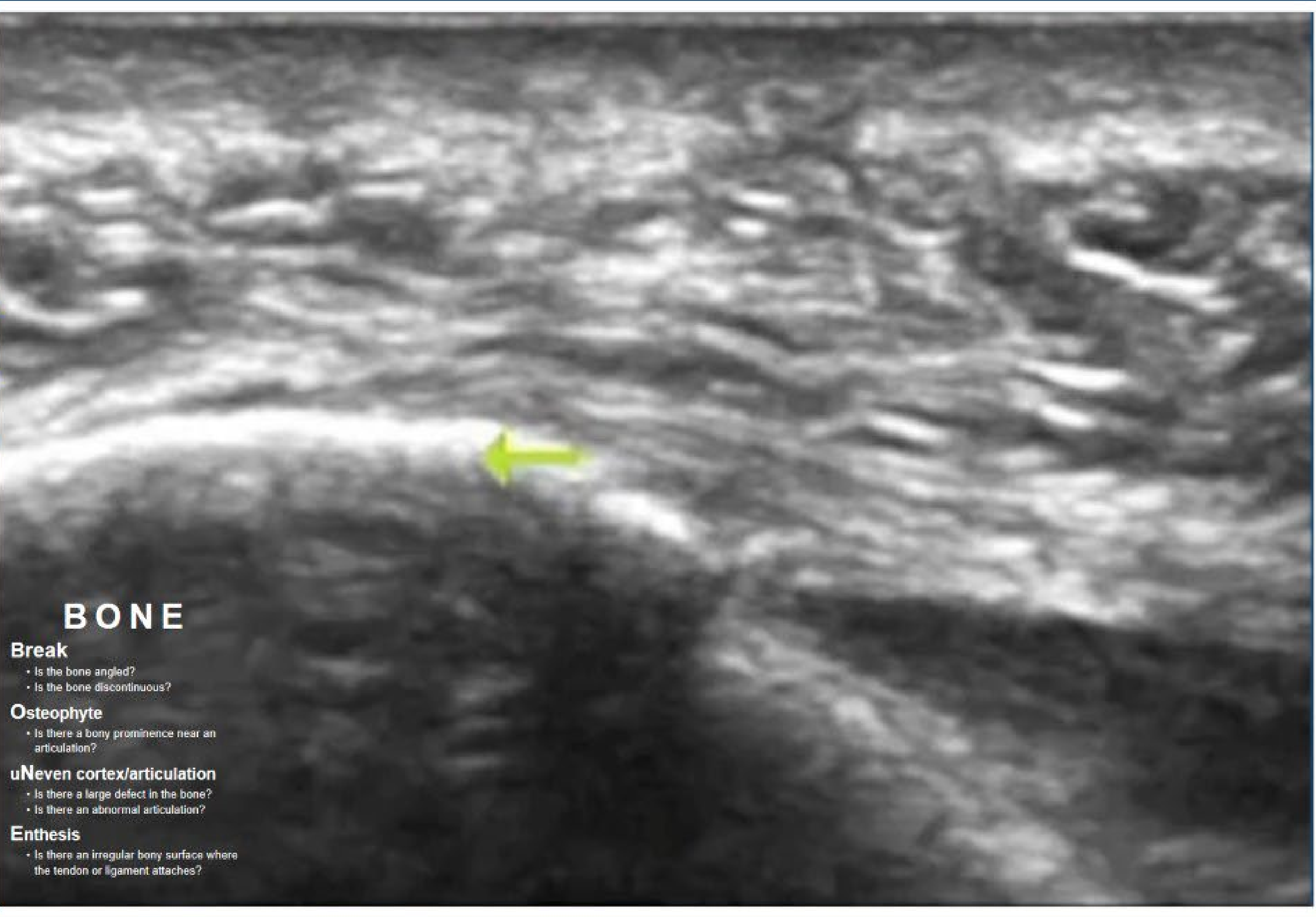
- Is there a bony prominence near an articulation?

uNeven cortex/articulation

- Is there a large defect in the bone?
- Is there an abnormal articulation?

Enthesis

- Is there an irregular bony surface where the tendon or ligament attaches?



Bone

Cartilage

Fluid
Bursa / Joint

Ligament

Tendon

Muscle

LSD

Location

- Superficial or Deep
- Anterior or Posterior
- Medial or Lateral

Shape

- Linear
- Curved
- Irregular

Dimensions

- In mm

INTERPRET NORMAL IMAGE

Scan, Diagnose
& Inject

Plantar Fascia

ACQUIRE THE IMAGE

LANDMARK: Calcaneus

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BONE

IRREGULAR?

REGULAR

? INDETERMINATE

IRREGULAR

FLUID

PRESENT?

NO FLUID

? INDETERMINATE

FLUID

H 2 O

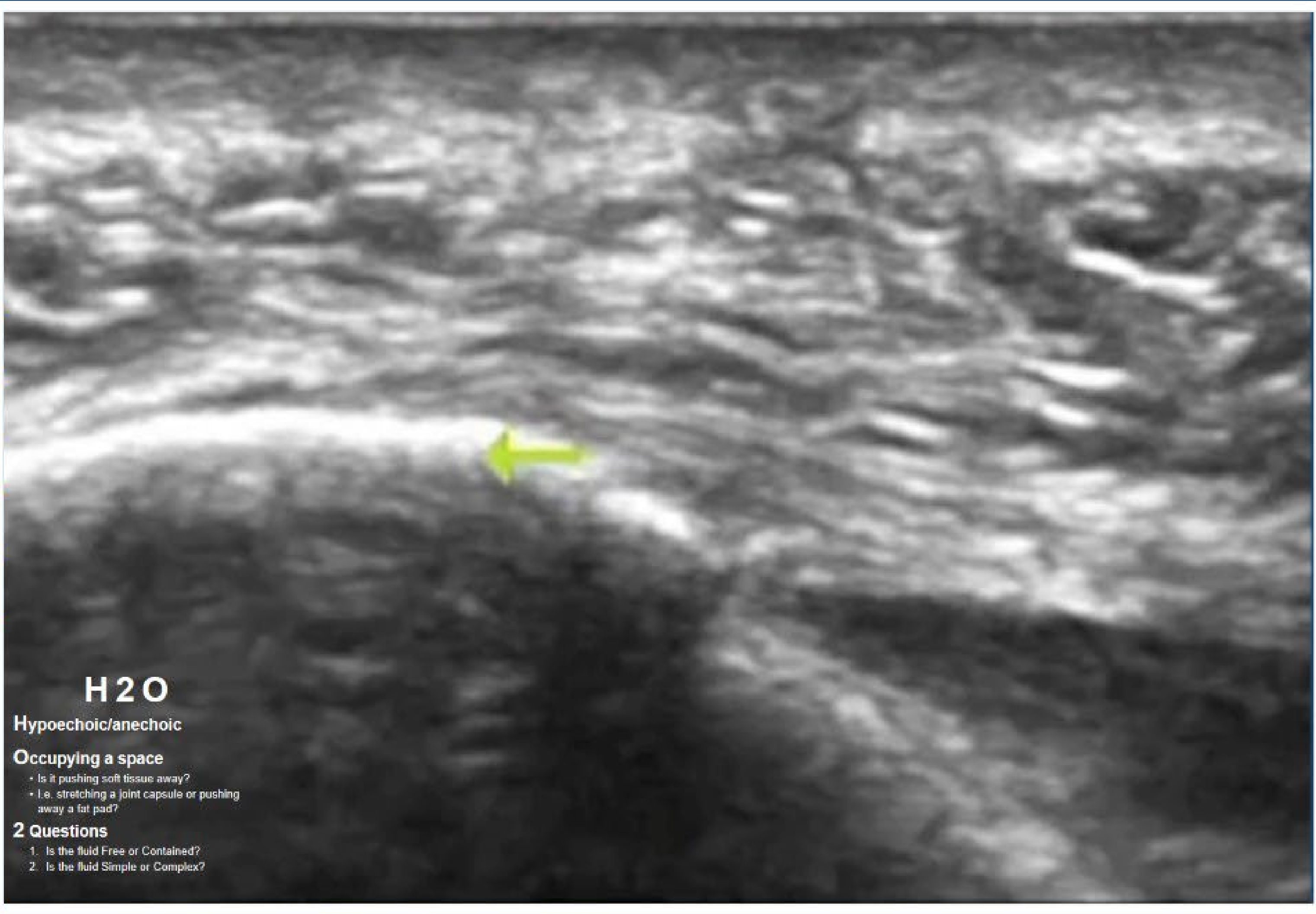
Hypoechoic/anechoic

Occupying a space

- Is it pushing soft tissue away?
- I.e. stretching a joint capsule or pushing away a fat pad?

2 Questions

1. Is the fluid Free or Contained?
2. Is the fluid Simple or Complex?



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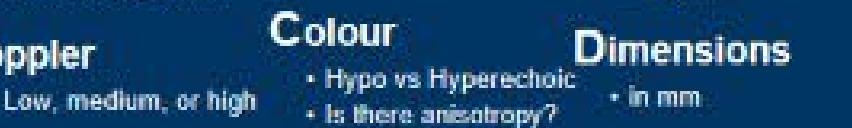
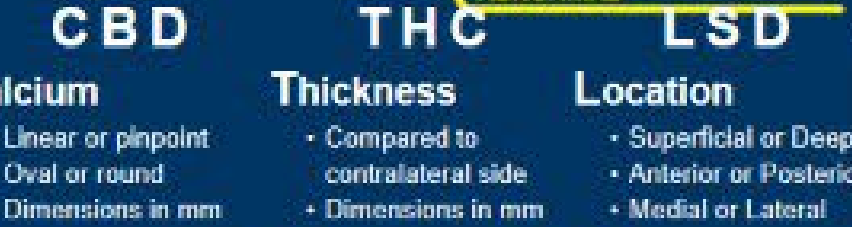
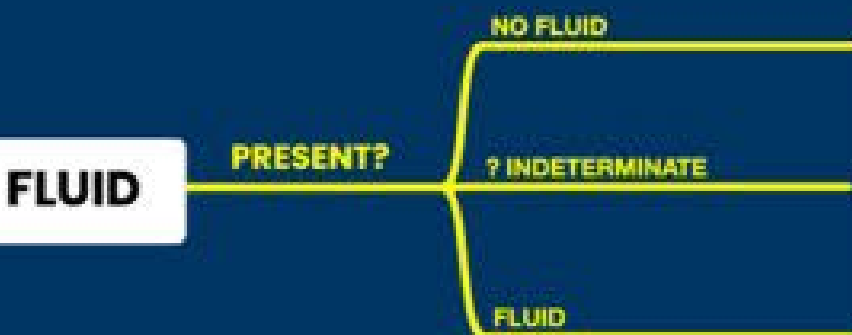
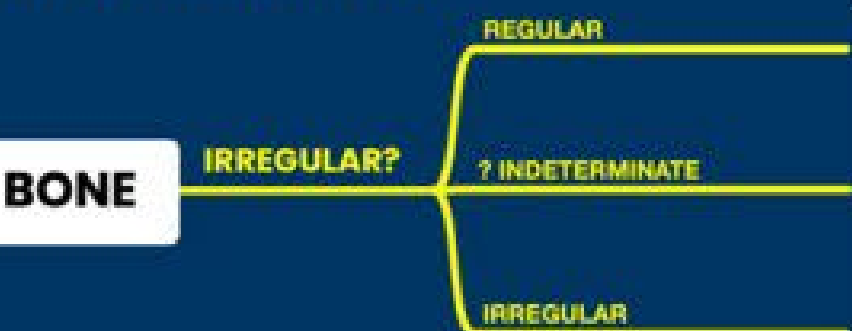
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Plantar Fascia

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MANAGE

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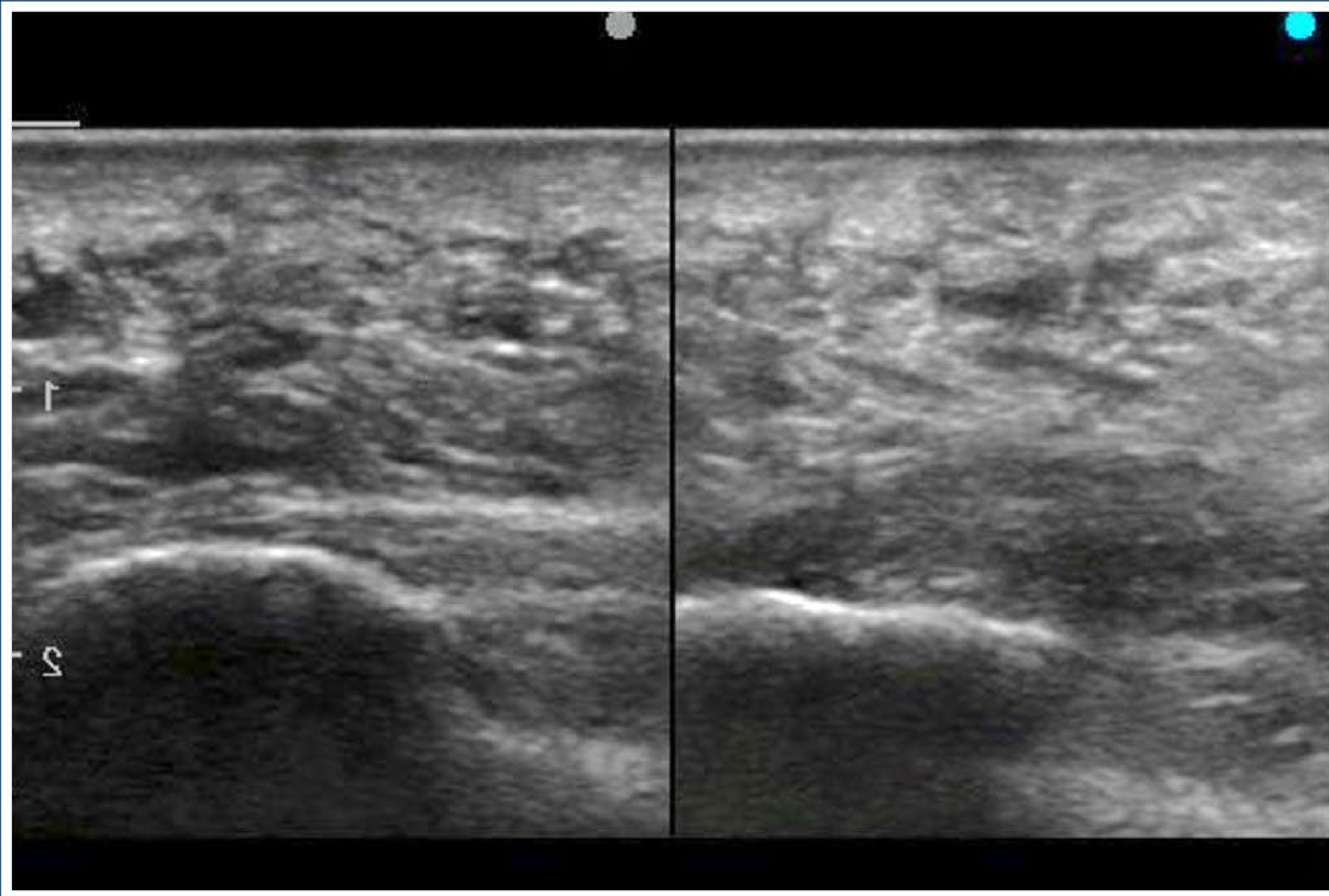
Quiz: Manage

INTERPRET IMAGE 1

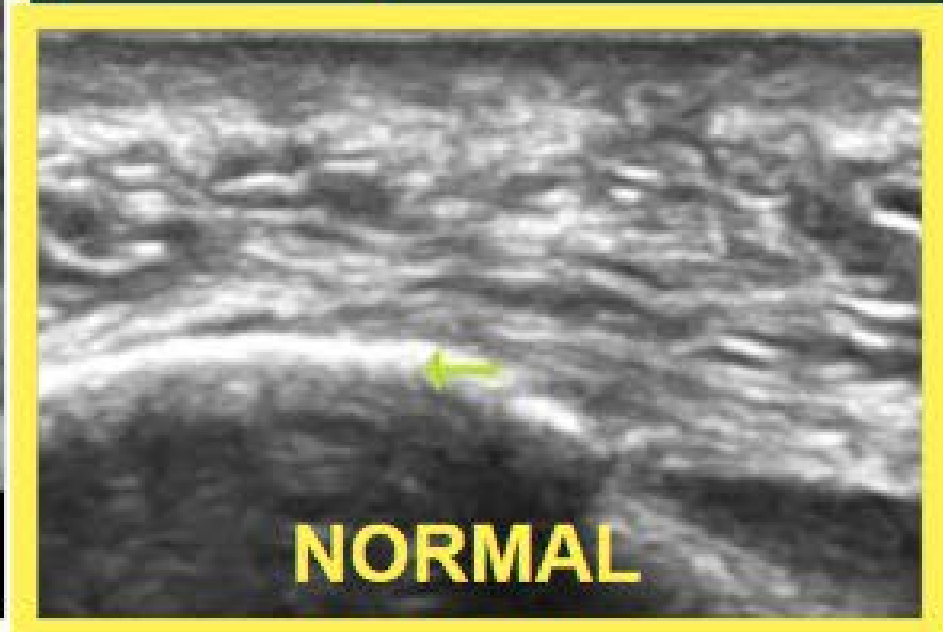
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Plantar Fascia

ACQUIRE THE IMAGE
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- Bone
- Cartilage
- Fluid
Bursa / Joint
- Ligament
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- Muscle



INTERPRET IMAGE 1

Scan, Diagnose
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Plantar Fascia

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REGULAR

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IRREGULAR

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- Is the bone discontinuous?

Osteophyte

- Is there a bony prominence near an articulation?

uNeven cortex/articulation

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Enthesis

- Is there an irregular bony surface where the tendon or ligament attaches?

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Fluid
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Muscle

LSD

Location

- Superficial or Deep
- Anterior or Posterior
- Medial or Lateral

Shape

- Linear
- Curved
- Irregular

Dimensions

- In mm

NORMAL

INTERPRET IMAGE 1

Plantar Fascia

ACQUIRE THE IMAGE

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BONE

IRREGULAR?

REGULAR

? INDETERMINATE

IRREGULAR

FLUID

PRESENT?

NO FLUID

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FLUID

LSD

Location

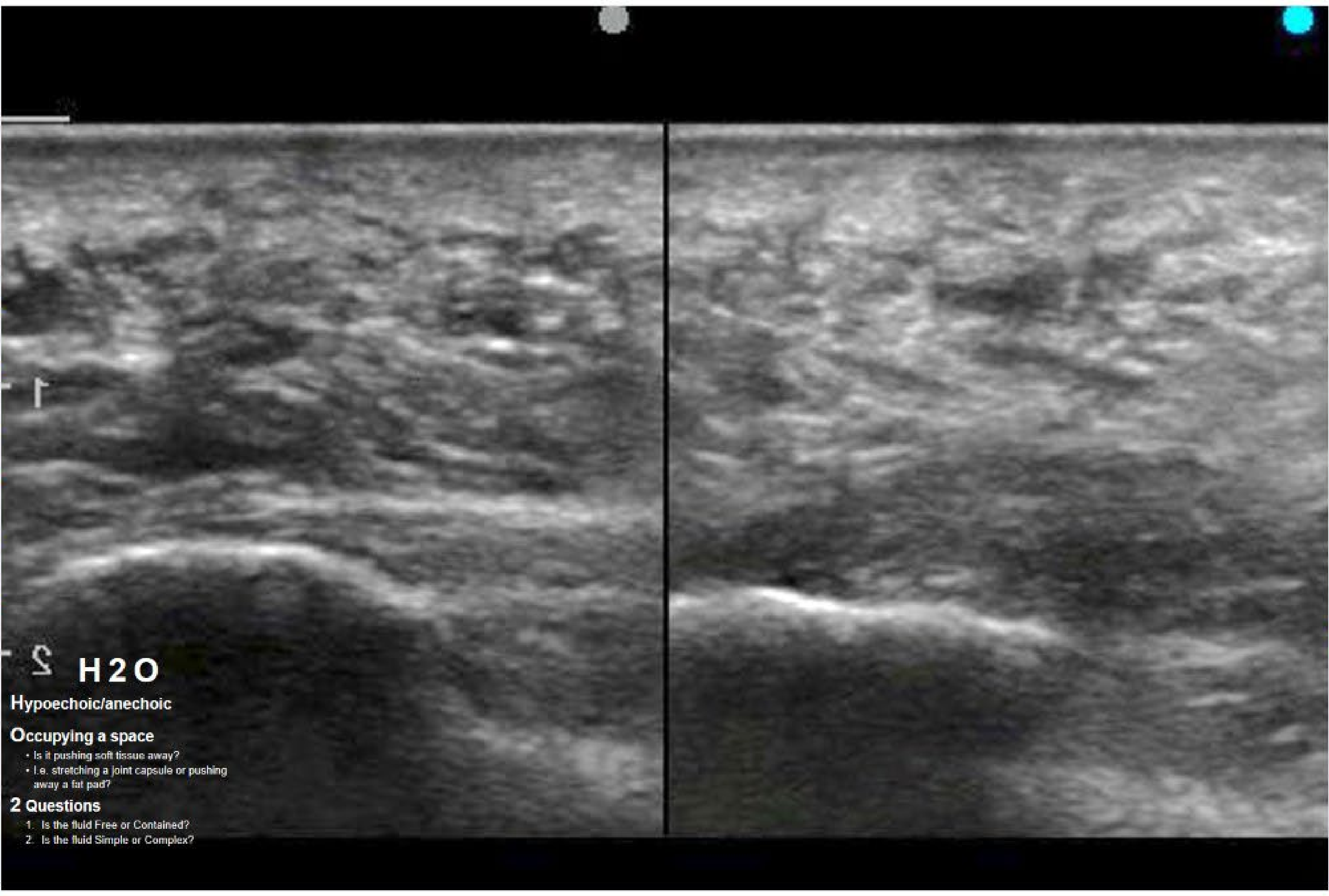
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Shape

- Linear
- Curved
- Irregular

Dimensions

- in mm



Bone

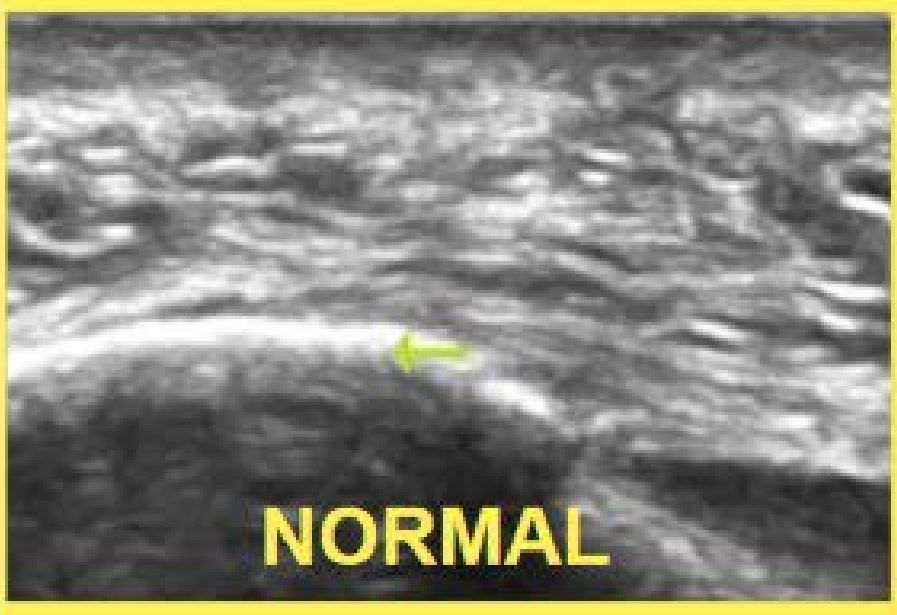
Cartilage

Fluid
Bursa / Joint

Ligament

Tendon

Muscle



INTERPRET IMAGE 1

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FLUID

PRESENT?

NO FLUID

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FLUID

TISSUE

MUSCLE TENDON
LIGAMENT NERVE

ABNORMAL?

NORMAL

? INDETERMINATE

ABNORMAL

CBD

THC

LSD

Calcium

- Linear or pinpoint
- Oval or round
- Dimensions in mm

Thickness

- Compared to contralateral side
- Dimensions in mm

Location

- Superficial or Deep
- Anterior or Posterior
- Medial or Lateral

Bony irregularity

- Small area
- Large area
- Dimensions in mm

Heterogeneity

- Homogenous
- Heterogenous

Shape

- Linear
- Curved
- Irregular

Doppler

- Low, medium, or high

Colour

- Hypo vs Hyperechoic
- Is there anisotropy?

Dimensions

- in mm

TISSUE

→ if any of those is present

Thickness

- Is the tissue thickened or thinned?

Irregular

- Is there an irregular shape of the tendon/ligament?

Same

- Is the tissue the same as the other side?

Signal of doppler

- Is the doppler signal high?

Unusual fibers

- Are the fibers unusual or discontinuous?

Echogenicity

- Is the tissue hyperechoic, hypoechoic or anechoic?

Bone

Cartilage

Fluid
Bursa / Joint

Ligament

Tendon

Muscle

NORMAL



I'm going to start scanning the foot.

Plantar Fascia

+Full Screen Mode

**Scan, Diagnose
& Inject**

LEVEL 1

**Achilles
Tendon**

STEP 1

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HISTORY & PHYSICAL EXAM

50 year old female presents to the clinic with 6 months of achilles area pain.

No prior memorable injuries to the affected left heel.

She previously had this on the right and it took 2 years for the pain to stop.

Foot and ankle ROM is normal and she is tender over a lumpy area of the achilles tendon.

Orthopedic special tests were not performed.

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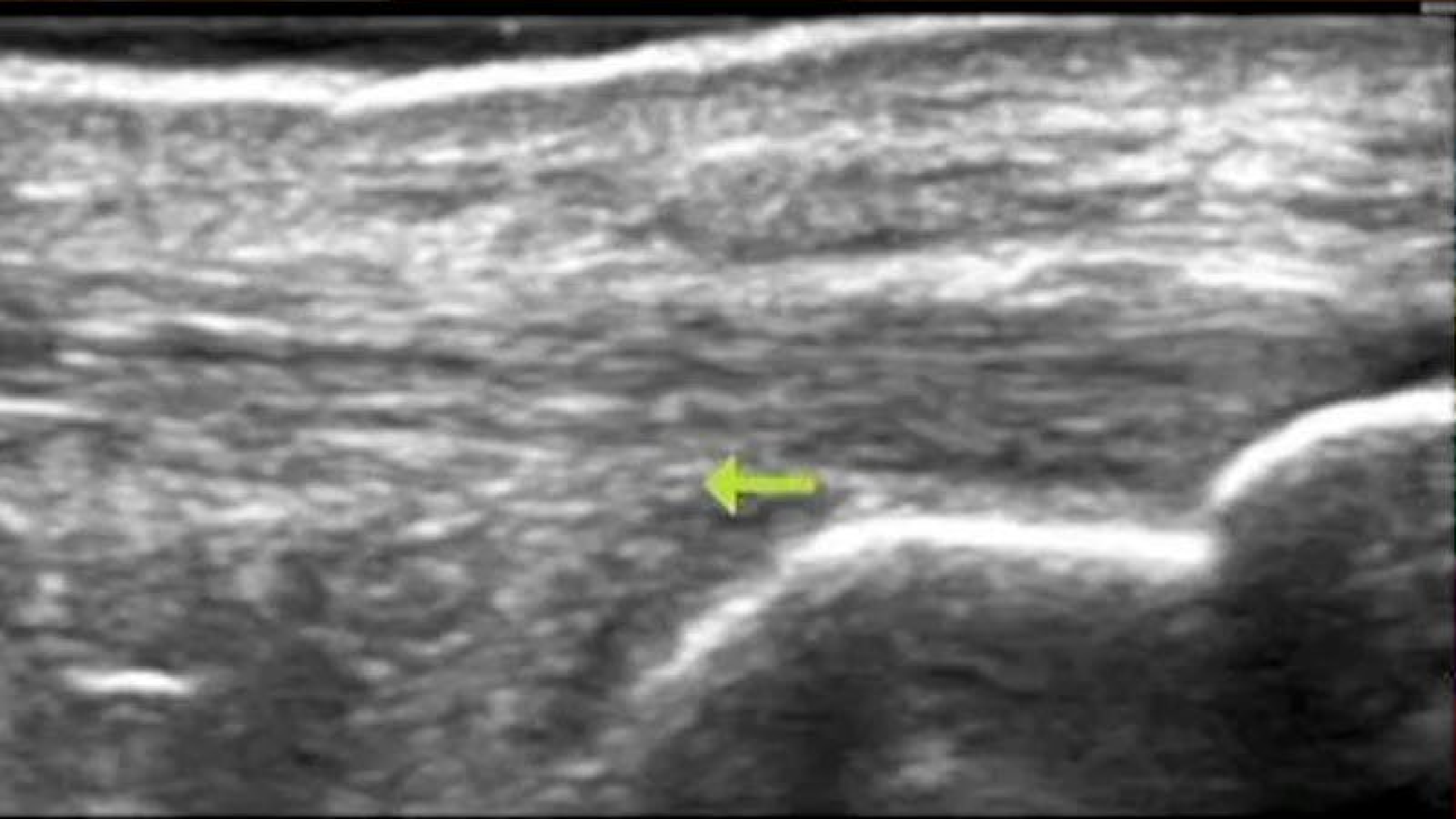
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Quiz: Manage



Bone

Cartilage

Fluid
Bursa / Joint

Ligament

Tendon

Muscle

ACHILLES TENDON

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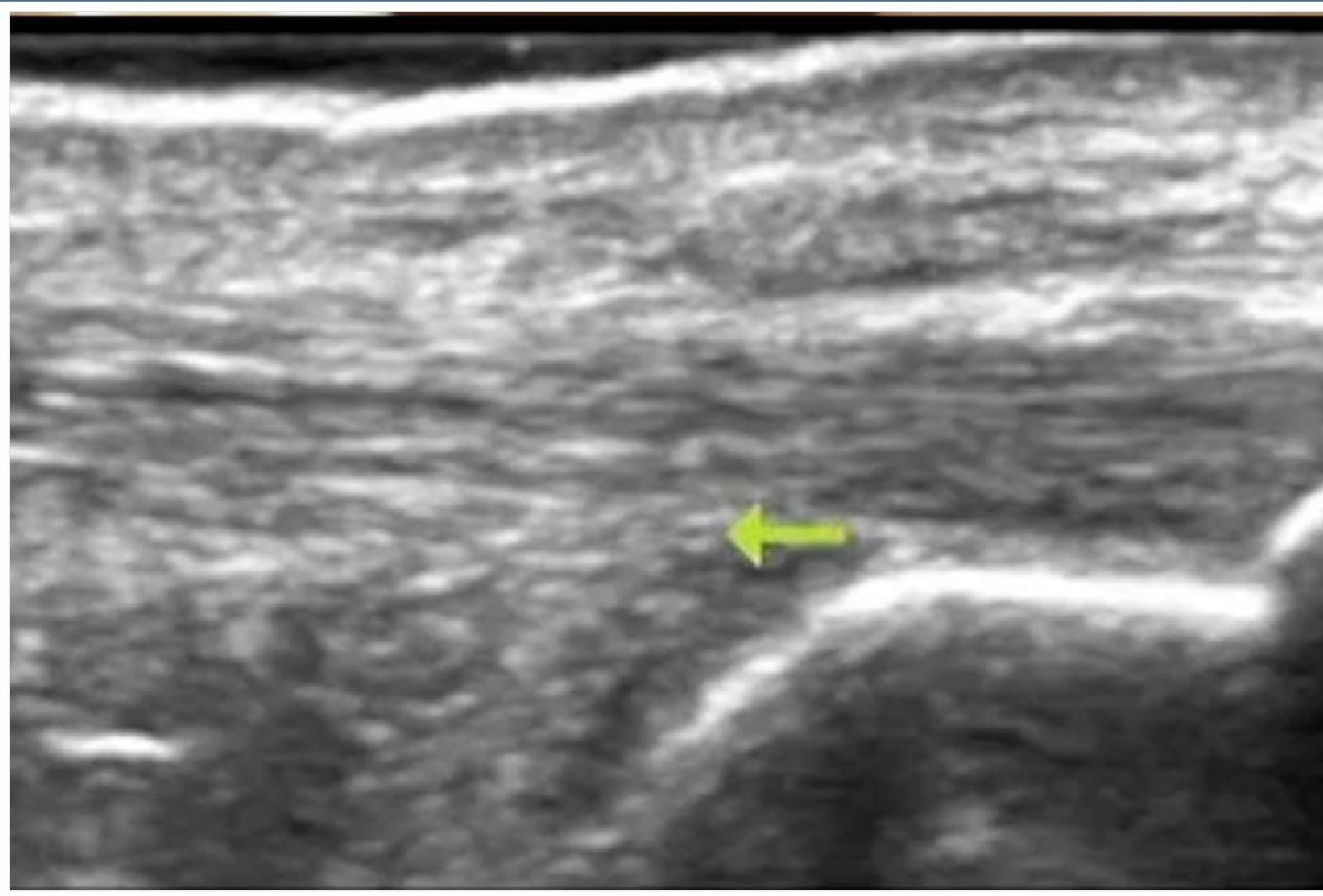
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INTERPRET NORMAL IMAGE

Scan, Diagnose
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Achilles
Tendon

ACQUIRE THE IMAGE
LANDMARK: Calcaneus
NEAR: Skin and Subcut Tissue
FAR: Calcaneus & Käger's
AOI: Achilles Tendon



Bone

Cartilage

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Muscle

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Achilles
Tendon

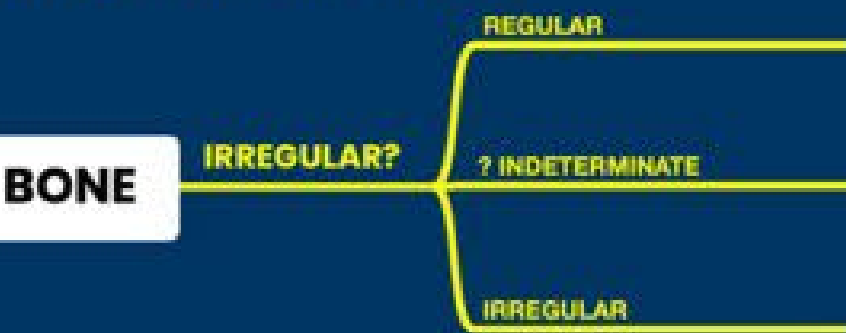
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BONE

Break

- Is the bone angled?
- Is the bone discontinuous?

Osteophyte

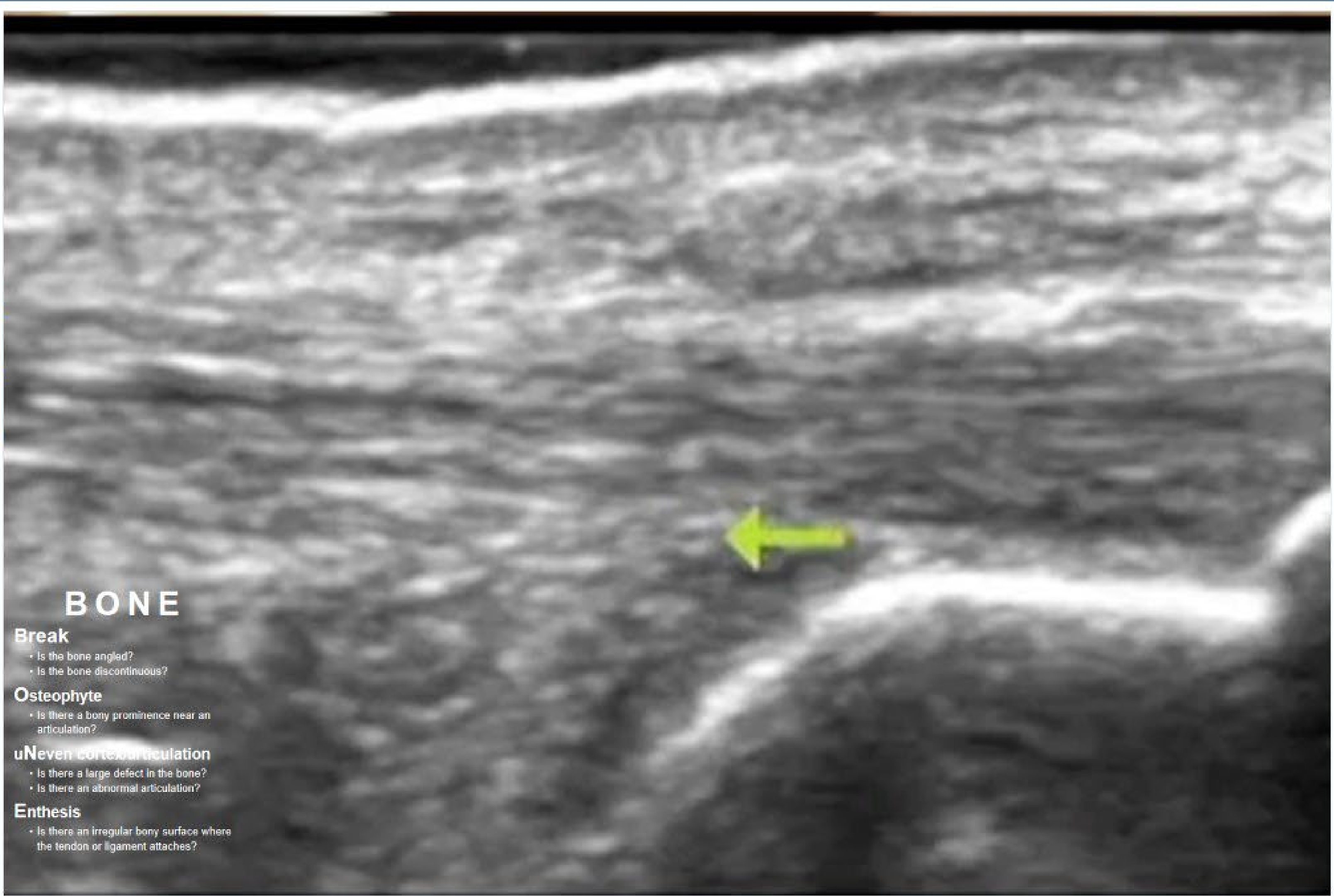
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- Is there an irregular bony surface where the tendon or ligament attaches?



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Fluid
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Muscle

LSD

Location

- Superficial or Deep
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Shape

- Linear
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- Irregular

Dimensions

- in mm

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IRREGULAR?

REGULAR

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IRREGULAR

FLUID

PRESENT?

NO FLUID

? INDETERMINATE

FLUID

H2O

Hypoechoic/anechoic

Occupying a space

- Is it pushing soft tissue away?
- I.e. stretching a joint capsule or pushing away a fat pad?

2 Questions

1. Is the fluid Free or Contained?
2. Is the fluid Simple or Complex?

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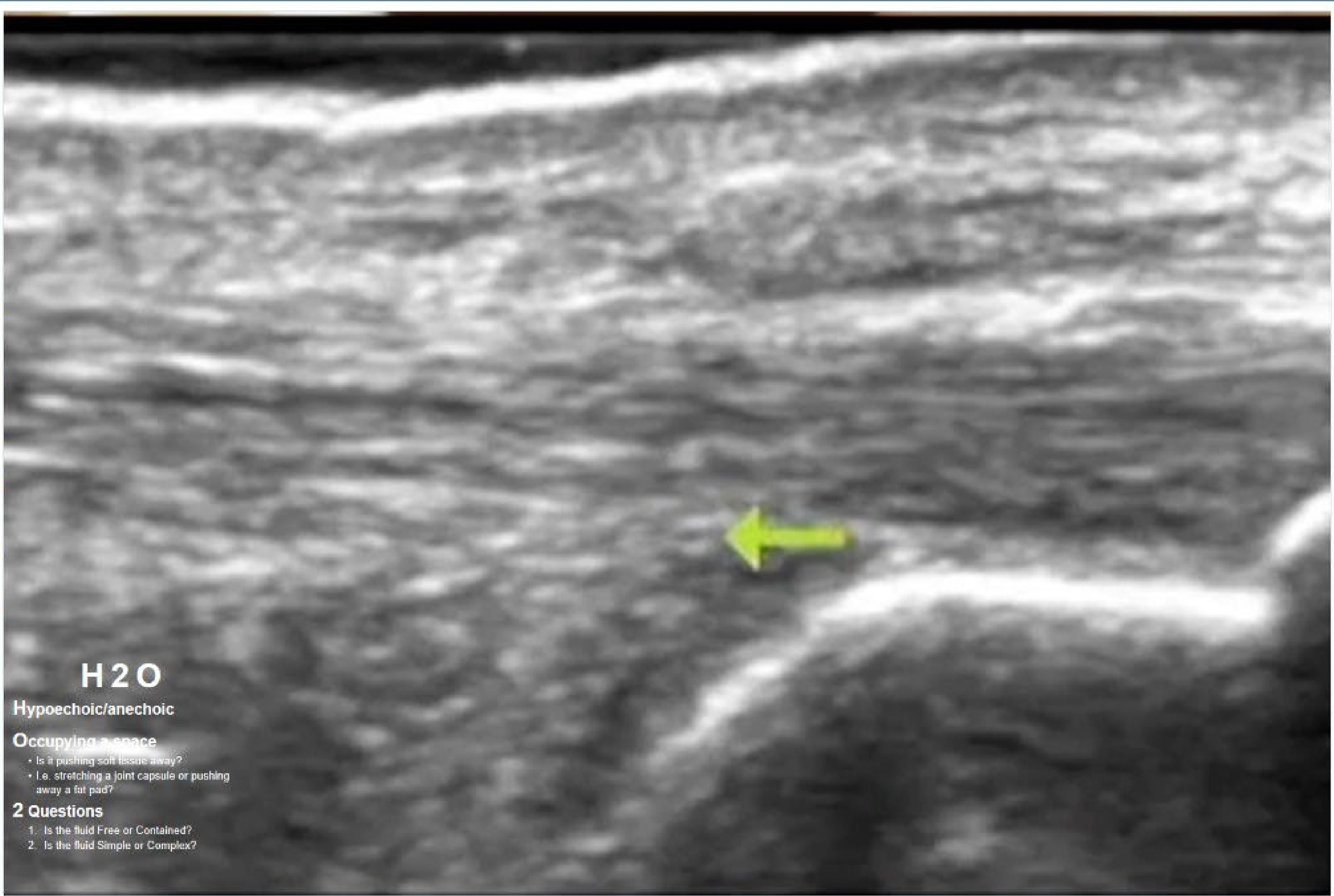
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Achilles
Tendon

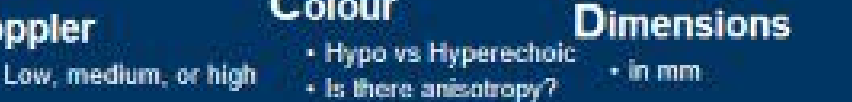
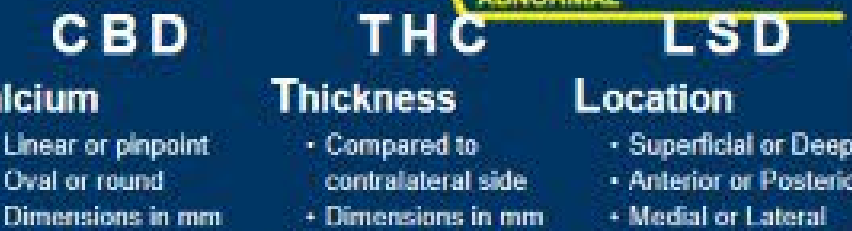
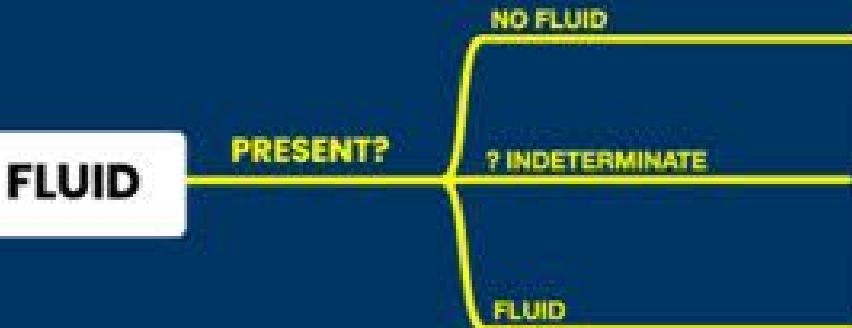
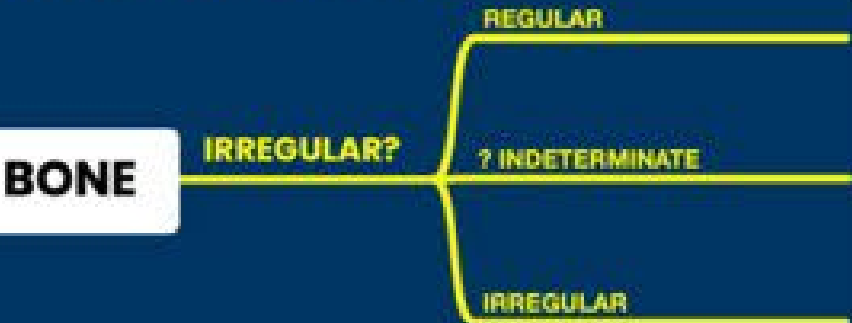
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NEAR: Skin and Subcut Tissue

FAR: Calcaneus & Käger's

AOI: Achilles Tendon



- Bone
- Cartilage
- Fluid
Bursa / Joint
- Ligament
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- Muscle

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LEVEL 1

**Achilles
Tendon**

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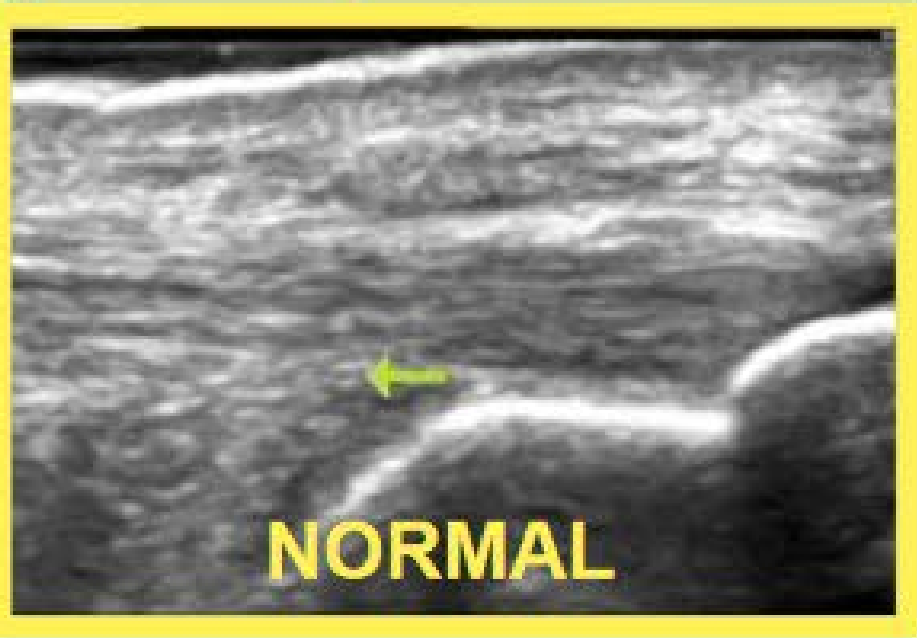
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Tendon

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IRREGULAR

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PRESENT?

NO FLUID

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FLUID

H 2 O

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INTERPRET IMAGE 1

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Achilles
Tendon

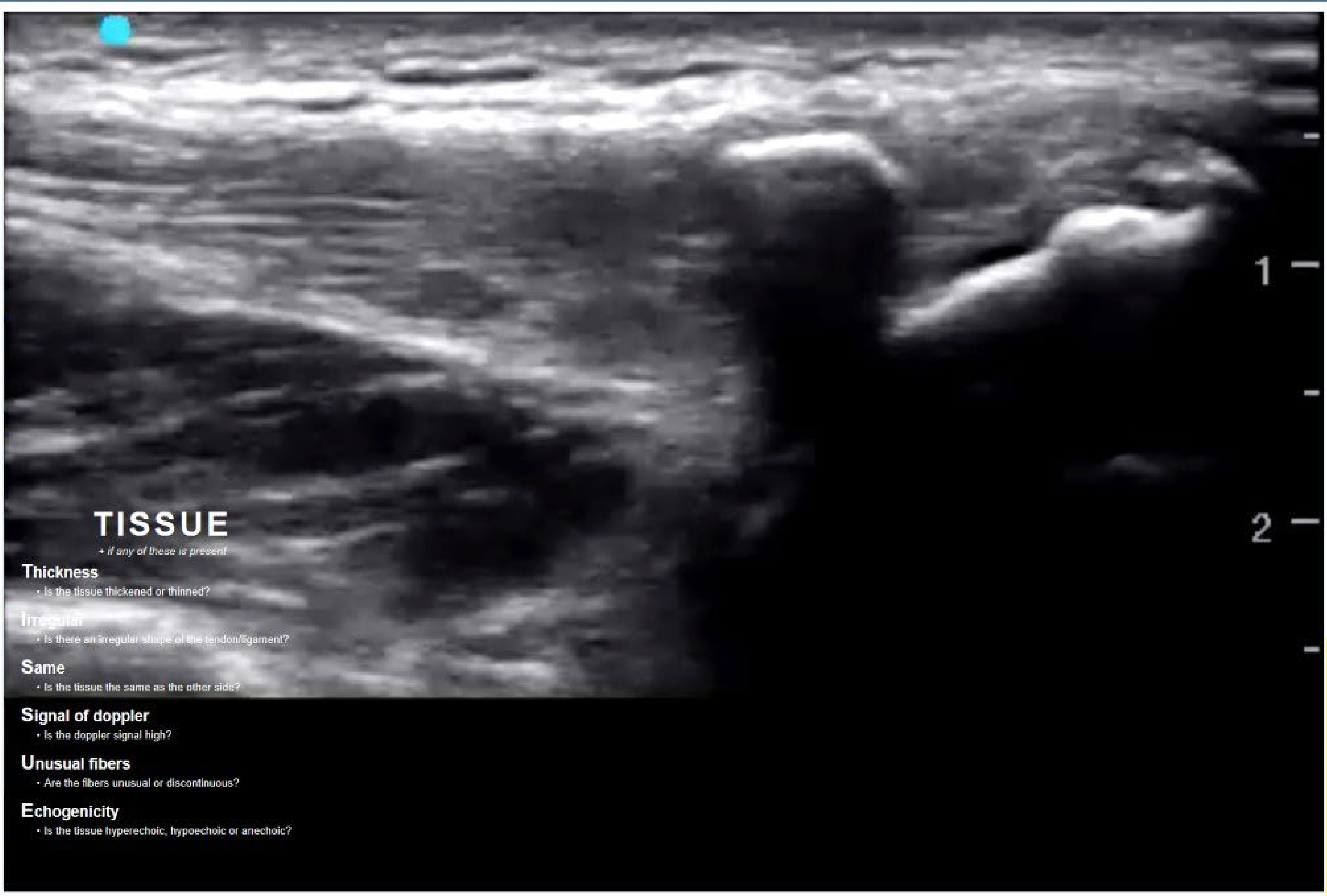
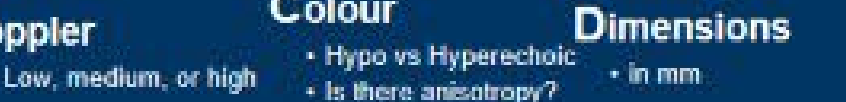
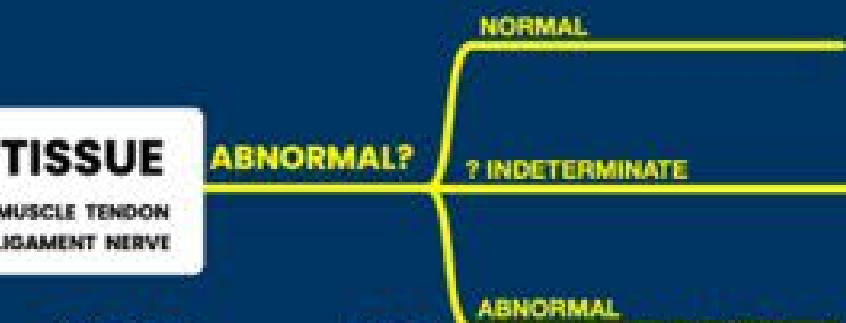
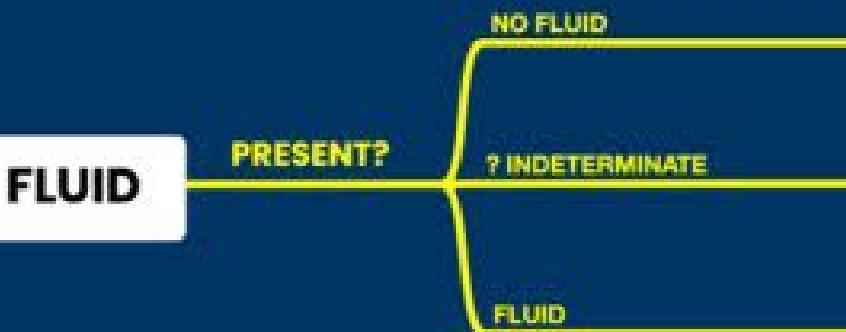
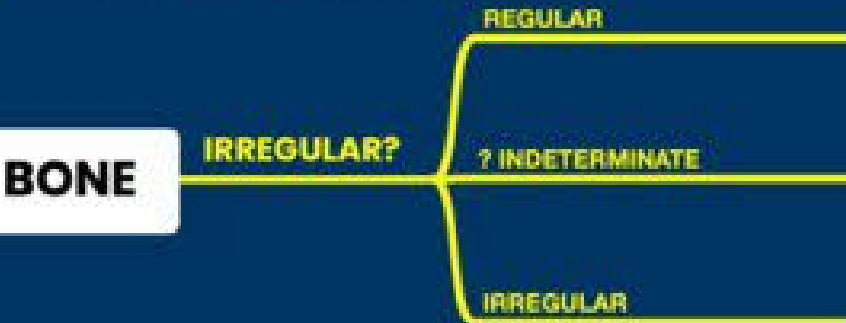
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Bursa / Joint
- Ligament
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- Muscle





Achilles Tendon PRP Injection

HISTORY & PHYSICAL EXAM

40 year old male presents to the clinic with 2 months of ATFL area pain.

He recently sprained the ankle playing soccer.

He has sprained this same ankle 5 x before.

Foot and ankle ROM is normal and he is tender over the ATFL.

Orthopedic special tests were not performed.



ATFL
+ AITFL



**Scan, Diagnose
& Inject**

ATFL

LEVEL 1

STEP 1

EXAMINE

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Ultrasound Scan

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Quiz: Examine

STEP 2

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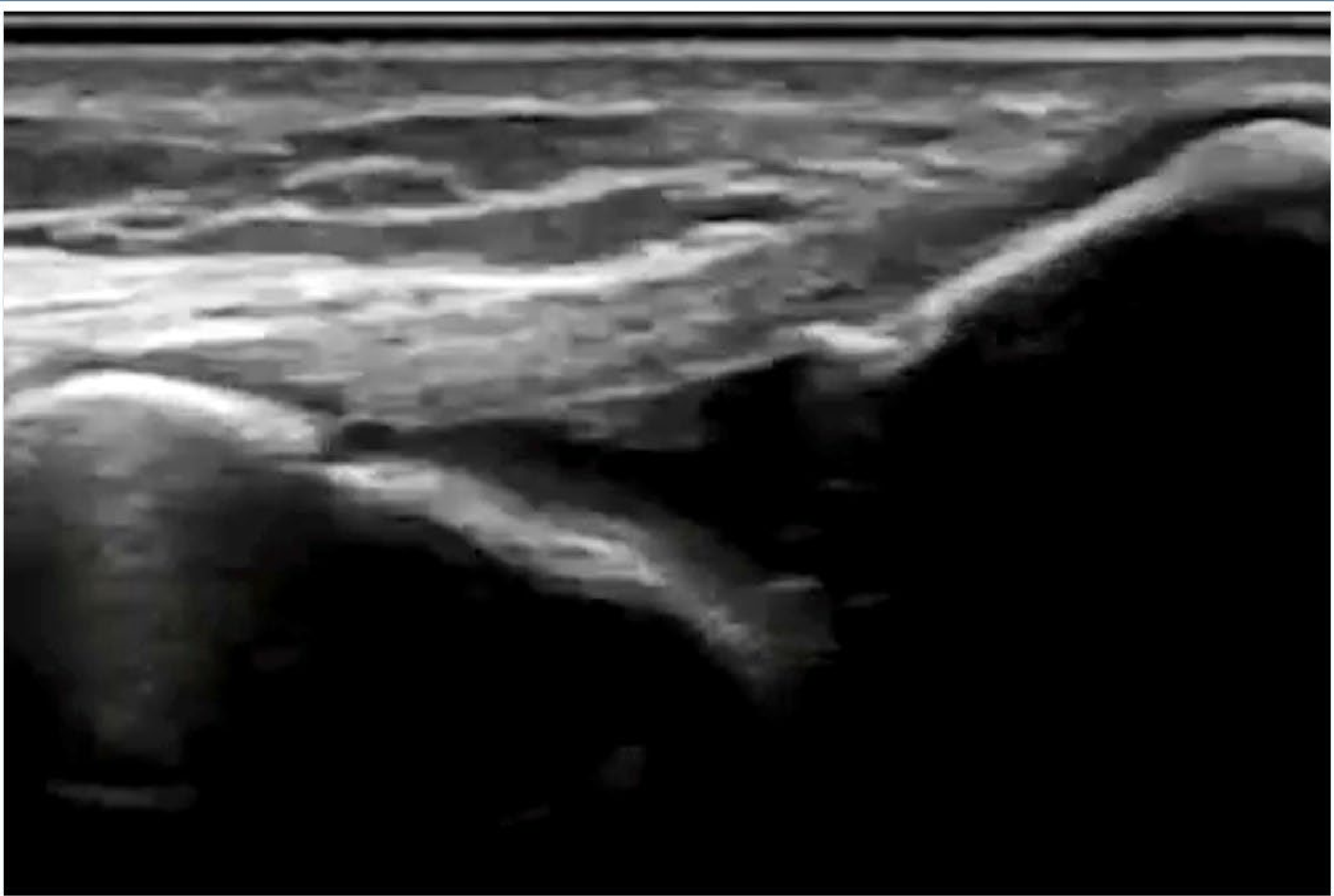
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INTERPRET NORMAL IMAGE

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ATFL

ACQUIRE THE IMAGE
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NEAR: Skin & Subcut Fat
FAR: Bones
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FAR: Bones
AOI: ATFL

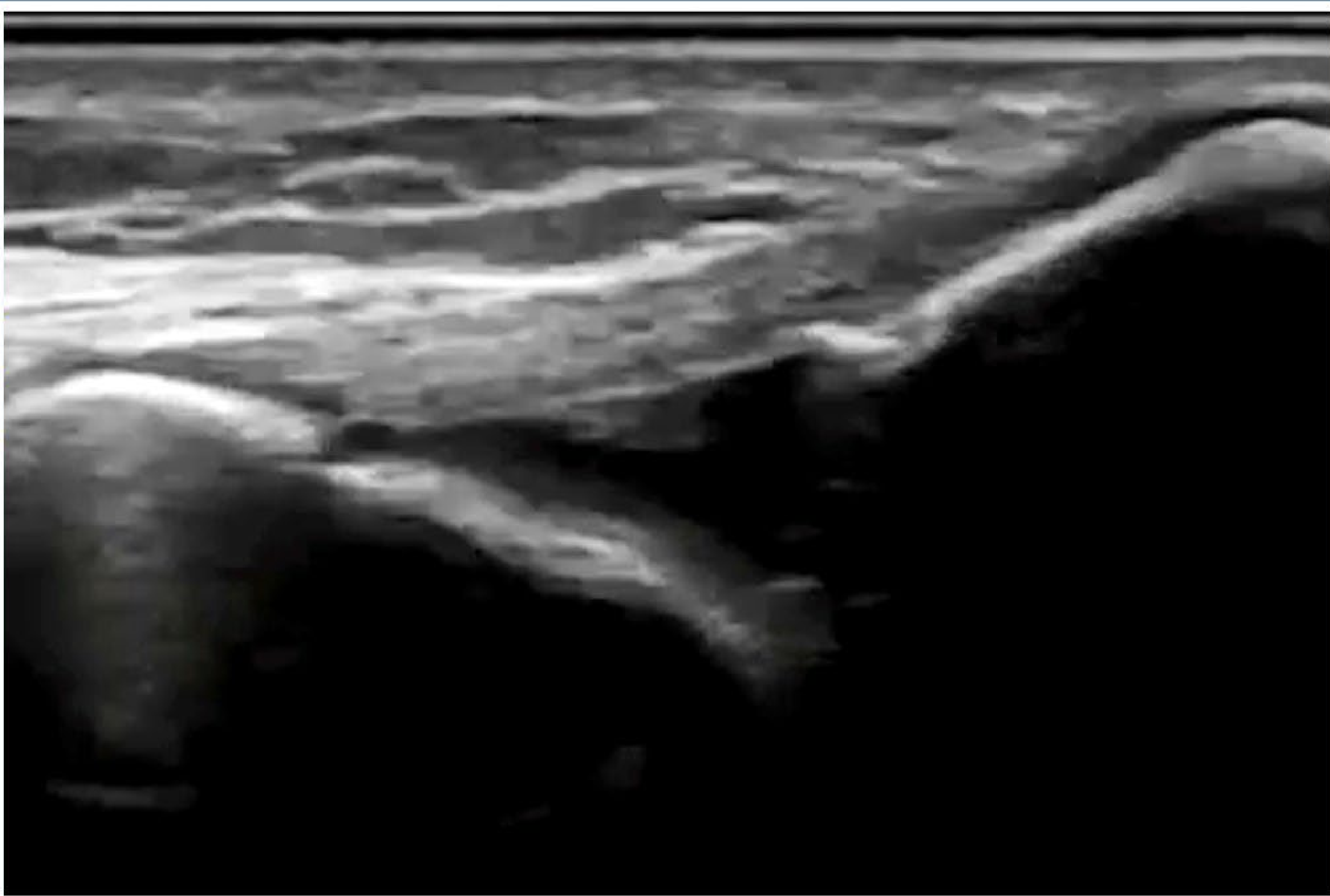
BONE

IRREGULAR?

REGULAR

? INDETERMINATE

IRREGULAR



Bone

Cartilage

Fluid
Bursa / Joint

Ligament

Tendon

Muscle

LSD

Location

- Superficial or Deep
- Anterior or Posterior
- Medial or Lateral

Shape

- Linear
- Curved
- Irregular

Dimensions

- In mm

INTERPRET NORMAL IMAGE

Scan, Diagnose
& Inject

ATFL

ACQUIRE THE IMAGE
LANDMARK: Lateral Malleolus
NEAR: Skin & Subcut Fat
FAR: Bones
AOI: ATFL

BONE

IRREGULAR?

REGULAR

? INDETERMINATE

IRREGULAR

FLUID

PRESENT?

NO FLUID

? INDETERMINATE

FLUID

LSD

Location

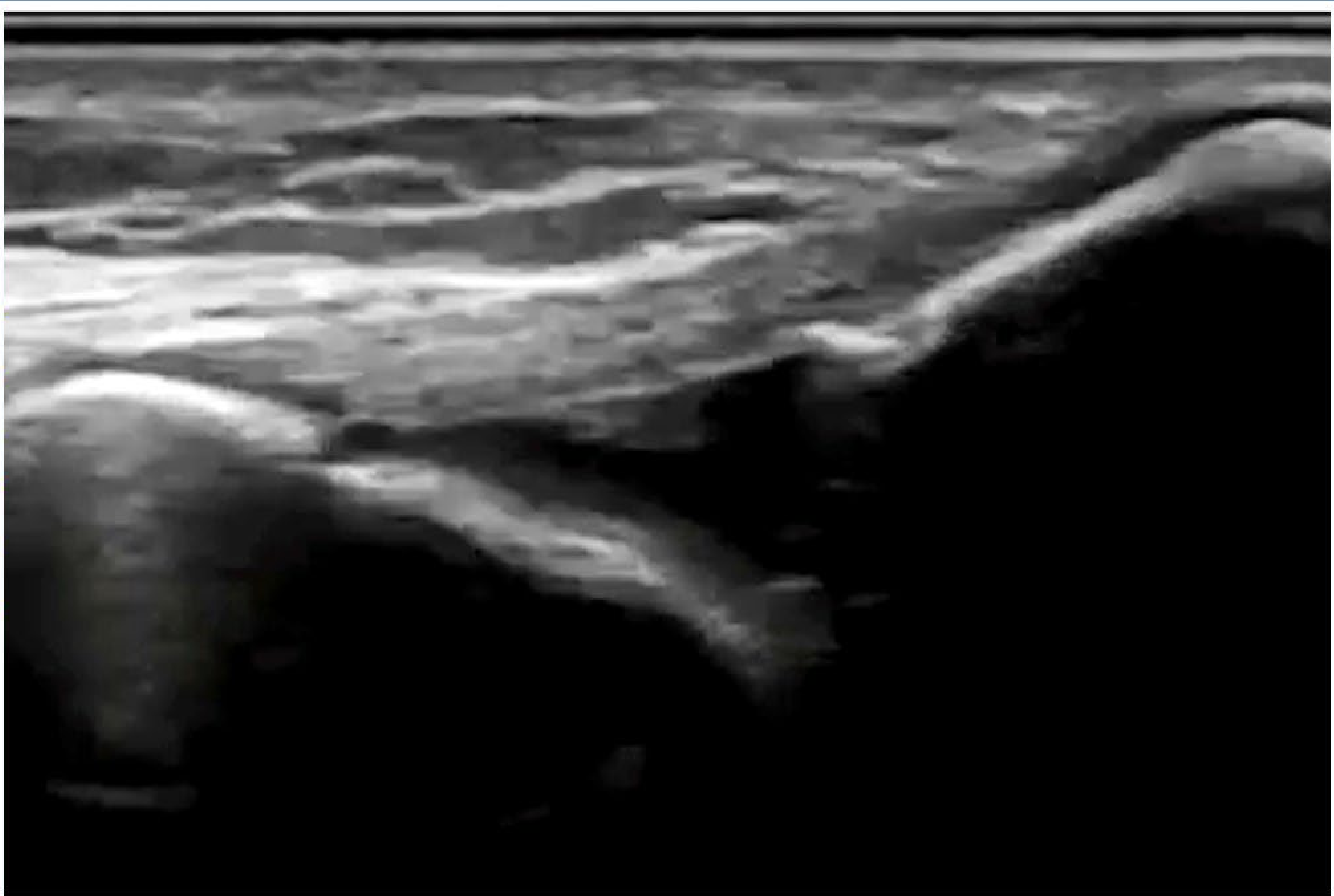
- Superficial or Deep
- Anterior or Posterior
- Medial or Lateral

Shape

- Linear
- Curved
- Irregular

Dimensions

- in mm



Bone

Cartilage

Fluid
Bursa / Joint

Ligament

Tendon

Muscle

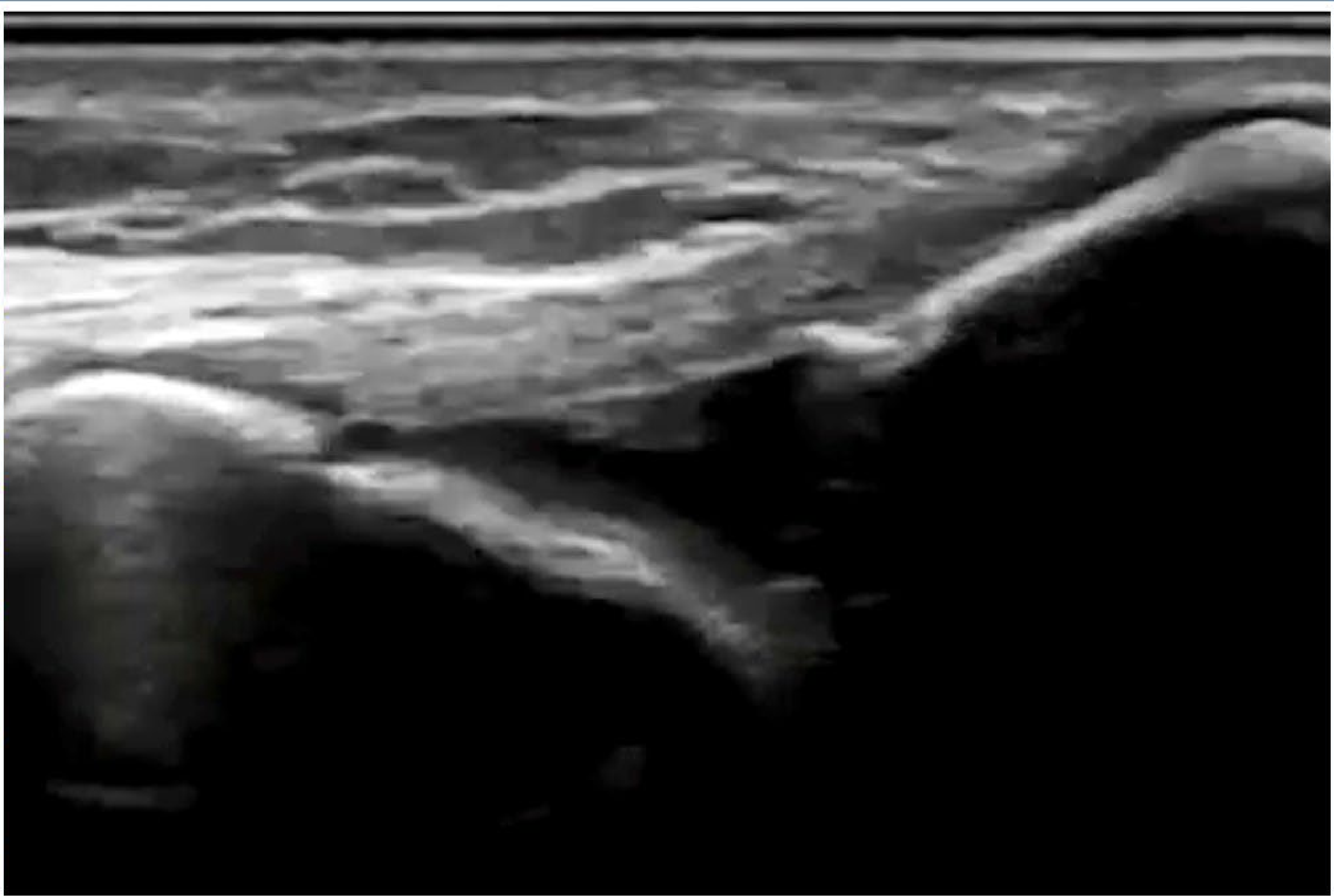
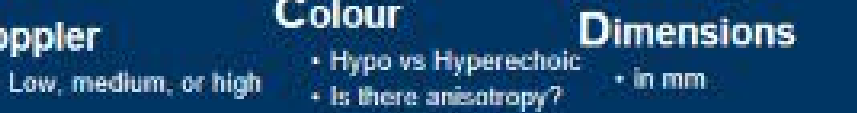
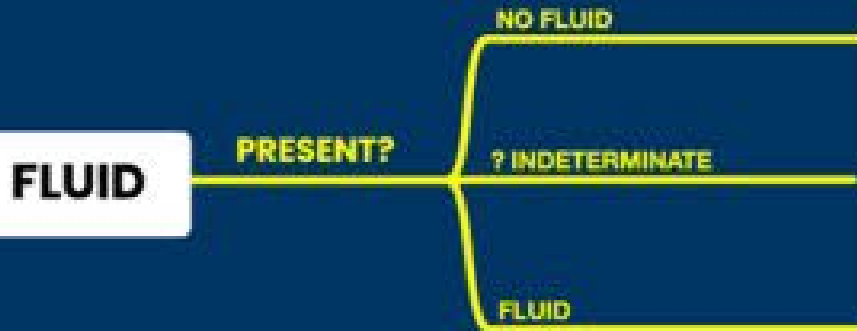
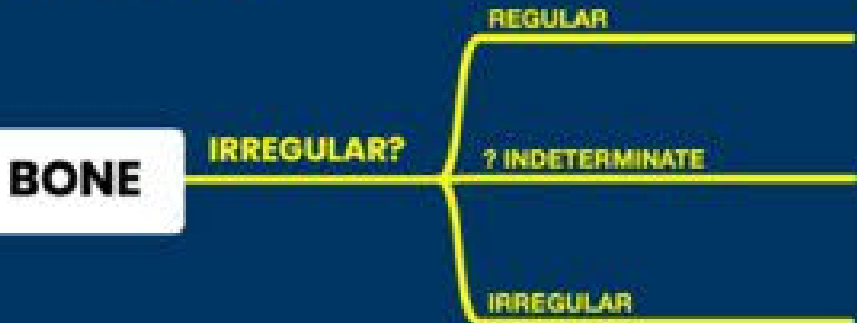
INTERPRET NORMAL IMAGE

Scan, Diagnose
& Inject

ATFL

ACQUIRE THE IMAGE

LANDMARK: Lateral Malleolus
NEAR: Skin & Subcut Fat
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Bone

Cartilage

Fluid
Bursa / Joint

Ligament

Tendon

Muscle

**Scan, Diagnose
& Inject**

ATFL

LEVEL 1

STEP 1

EXAMINE

History & Physical Exam

Ultrasound Scan

Interpret Normal Image

Quiz: Examine

STEP 2

DIAGNOSE

Interpret Image 1

Interpret Image 2

Interpret Image 3

Quiz: Diagnose

STEP 3

MANAGE

Manage Patient 1

Manage Patient 2

Manage Patient 3

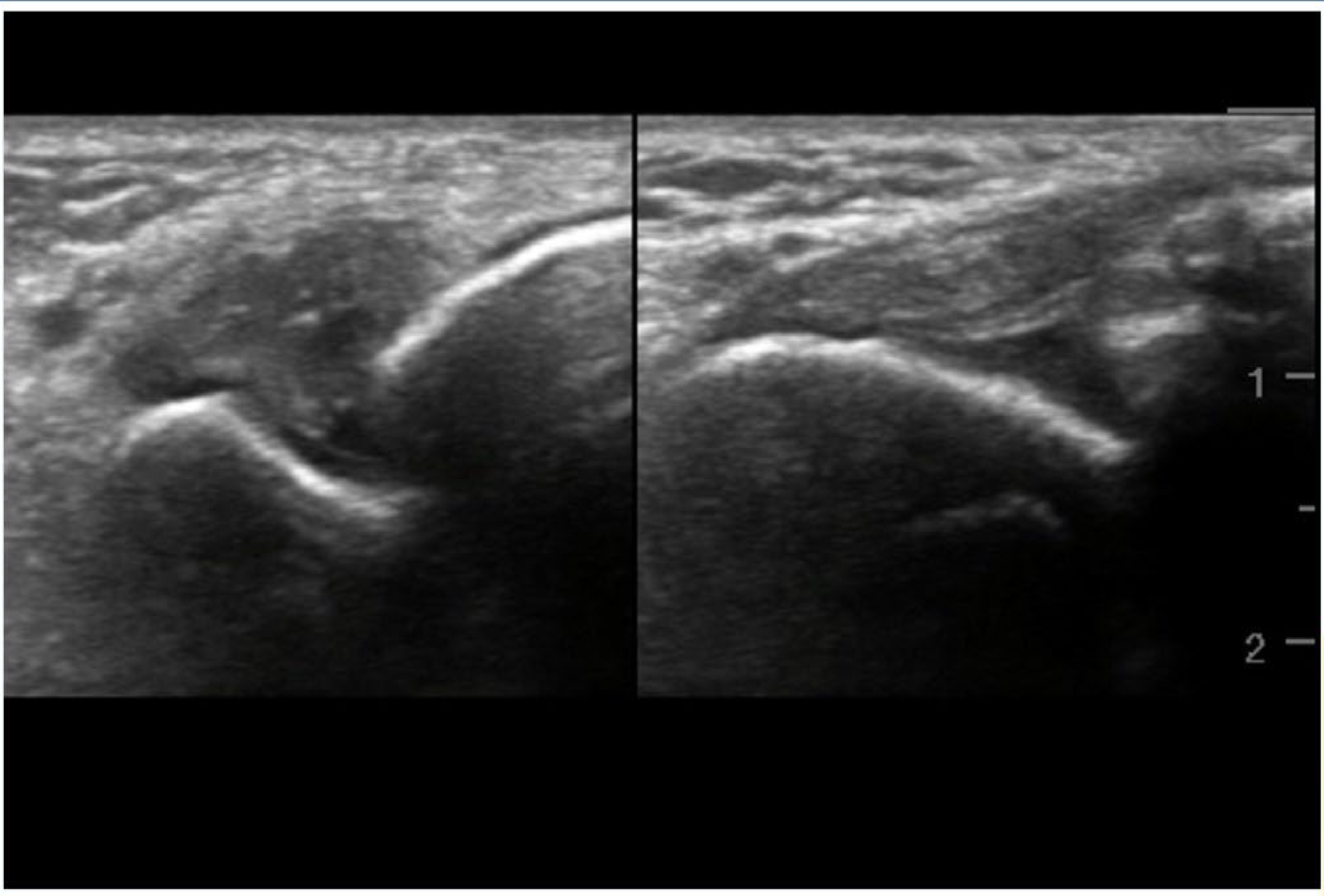
Quiz: Manage

INTERPRET IMAGE 1

Scan, Diagnose
& Inject

ATFL

ACQUIRE THE IMAGE
LANDMARK: Lateral Malleolus
NEAR: Skin & Subcut Fat
FAR: Bones
AOI: ATFL



- Bone
- Cartilage
- Fluid
Bursa / Joint
- Ligament
- Tendon
- Muscle



INTERPRET IMAGE 1

Scan, Diagnose
& Inject

ATFL

ACQUIRE THE IMAGE
LANDMARK: Lateral Malleolus
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BONE

IRREGULAR?

REGULAR

? INDETERMINATE

IRREGULAR

BONE

Break

- Is the bone angled?
- Is the bone discontinuous?

Osteophyte

- Is there a bony prominence near an articulation?

uNeven cortex/articulation

- Is there a large defect in the bone?
- Is there an abnormal articulation?

Enthesis

- Is there an irregular bony surface where the tendon or ligament attaches?

Bone

Cartilage

Fluid
Bursa / Joint

Ligament

Tendon

Muscle

NORMAL

LSD

Location

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Shape

- Linear
- Curved
- Irregular

Dimensions

- in mm

INTERPRET IMAGE 1

Scan, Diagnose
& Inject

ATFL

ACQUIRE THE IMAGE
LANDMARK: Lateral Malleolus
NEAR: Skin & Subcut Fat
FAR: Bones
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BONE

IRREGULAR?

REGULAR

? INDETERMINATE

IRREGULAR

FLUID

PRESENT?

NO FLUID

? INDETERMINATE

FLUID

H 2 O

Hypoechoic/anechoic

Occupying a space

- Is it pushing soft tissue away?
- I.e. stretching a joint capsule or pushing away a fat pad?

2 Questions

1. Is the fluid Free or Contained?
2. Is the fluid Simple or Complex?

Bone

Cartilage

Fluid
Bursa / Joint

Ligament

Tendon

Muscle



NORMAL

LSD

Location

- Superficial or Deep
- Anterior or Posterior
- Medial or Lateral

Shape

- Linear
- Curved
- Irregular

Dimensions

- in mm

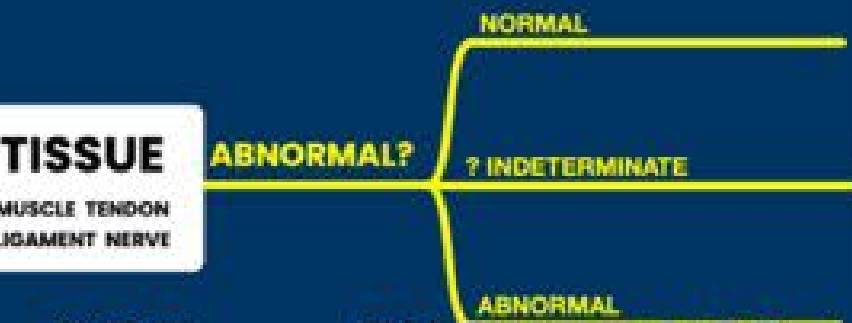
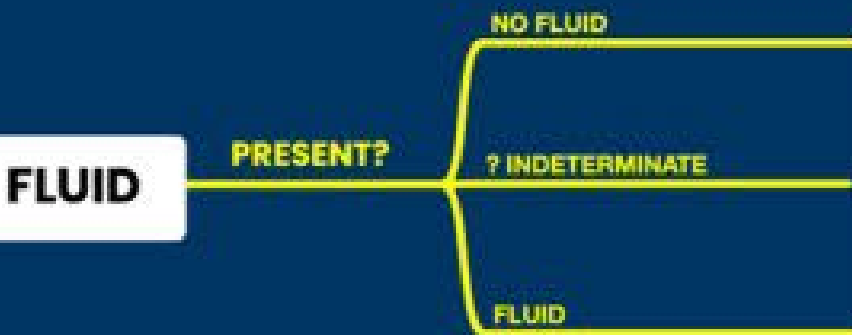
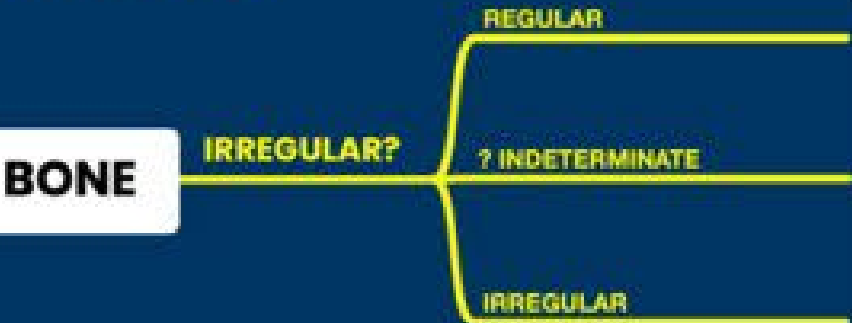
INTERPRET IMAGE 1

Scan, Diagnose
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ATFL

ACQUIRE THE IMAGE

LANDMARK: Lateral Malleolus
NEAR: Skin & Subcut Fat
FAR: Bones
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- CBD**

Calcium

 - Linear or pinpoint
 - Oval or round
 - Dimensions in mm

Bony irregularity

 - Small area
 - Large area
 - Dimensions in mm

Doppler

 - Low, medium, or high
- THC**

Thickness

 - Compared to contralateral side
 - Dimensions in mm

Heterogeneity

 - Homogenous
 - Heterogenous

Colour

 - Hypo vs Hyperechoic
 - Is there anisotropy?
- LSD**

Location

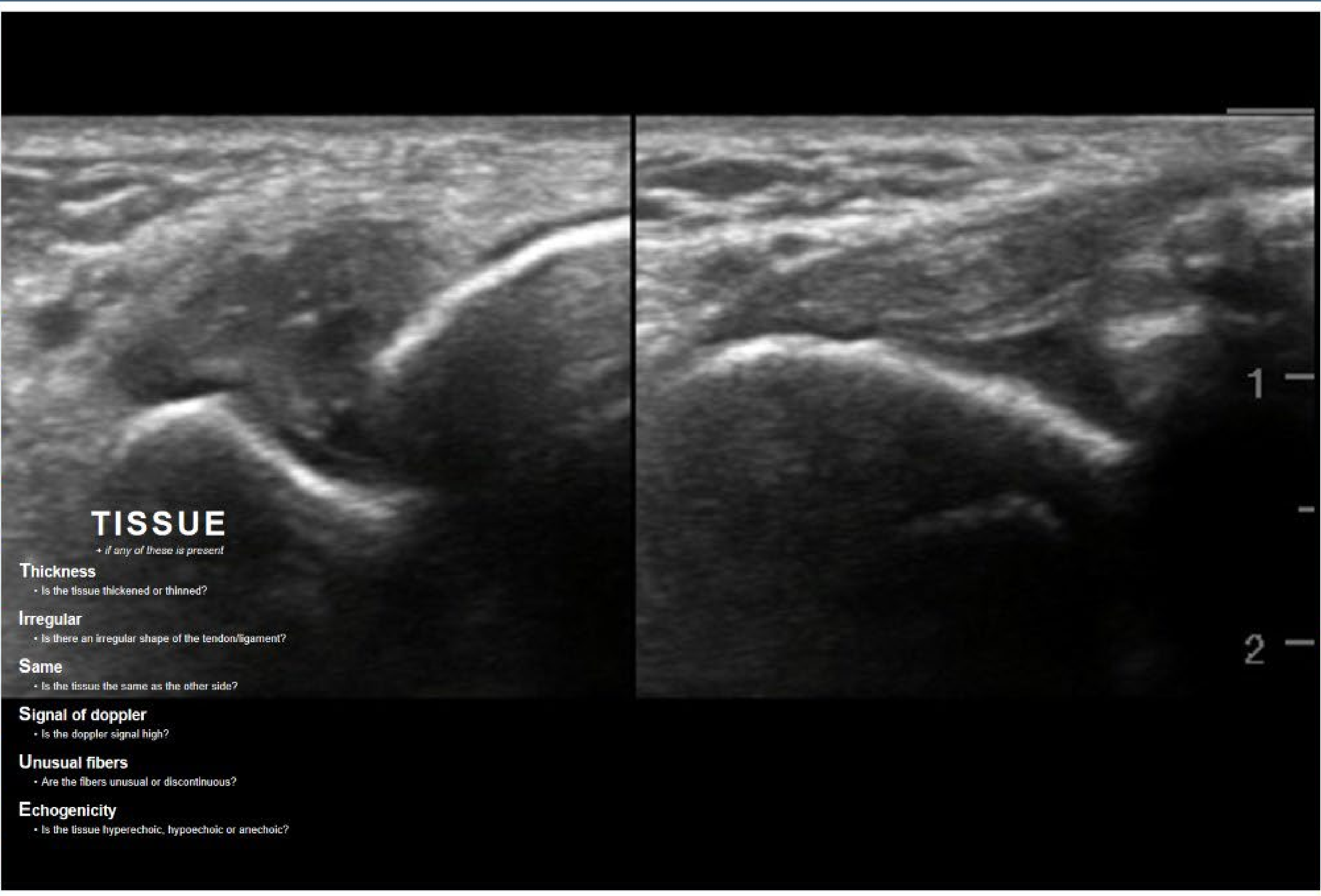
 - Superficial or Deep
 - Anterior or Posterior
 - Medial or Lateral

Shape

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 - Curved
 - Irregular

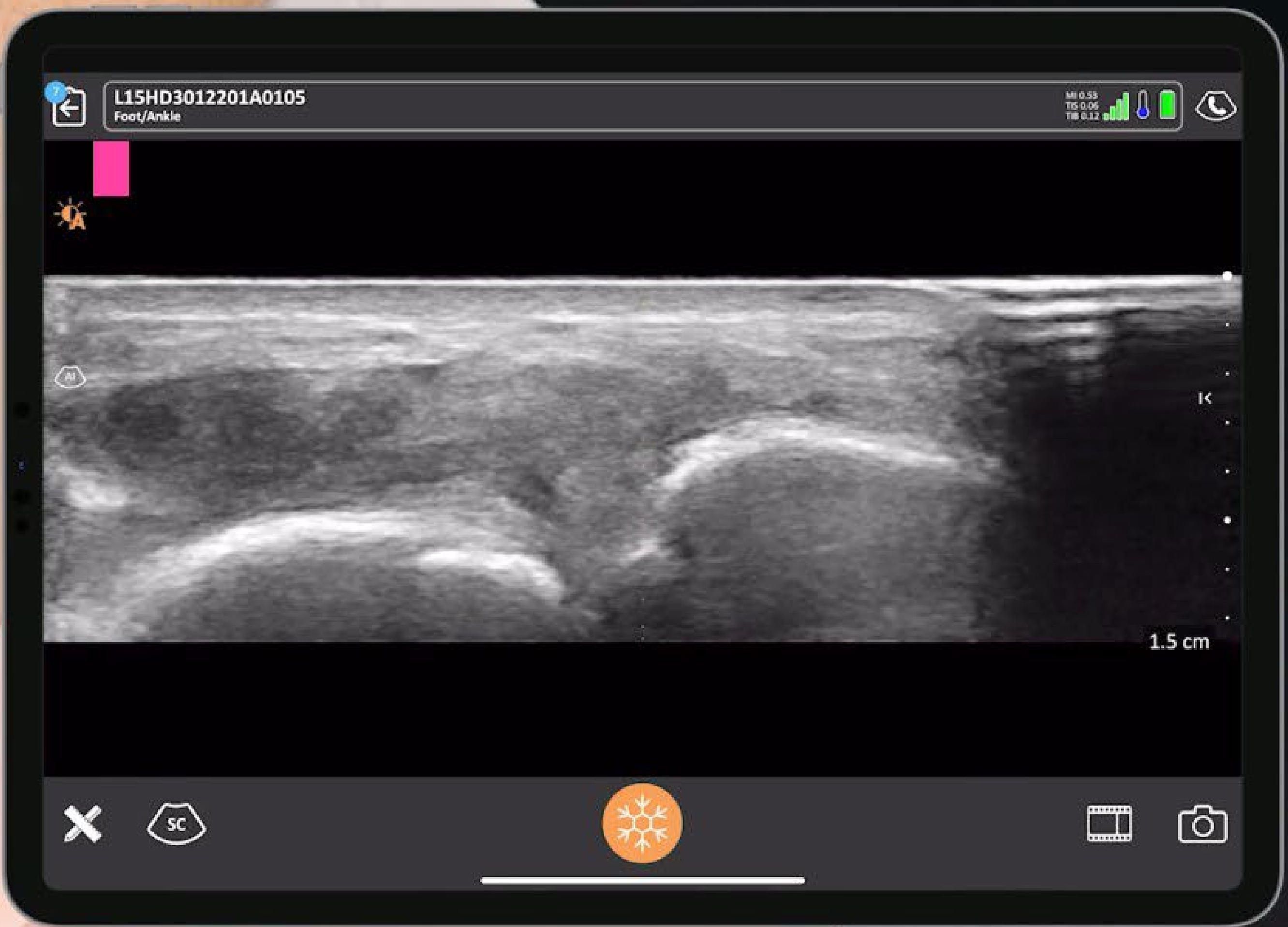
Dimensions

 - in mm



- Bone
- Cartilage
- Fluid
Bursa / Joint
- Ligament
- Tendon
- Muscle





FOOT & ANKLE: PLANTAR FASCIA

	CORTISONE
TIMING	Not usually in first 6 weeks of pain
OPTIMAL CANDIDATE	Any tear / thickening
SUBOPTIMAL CANDIDATE	Pt with prior cortisone injection to same area with pain relief < 4 weeks
ANESTHETIC	Lidocaine 1%
• SYRINGE	3mL
• NEEDLE	25g x 1.5"
• TARGET	Into the skin and superficial fat, right down to the calcaneus until certain lidocaine is flowing adjacent fascia
CORTISONE	Triamcinolone 20mg or Methylprednisolone 20mg
• SYRINGE	3mL filled with 1mL Lidocaine 1%
• NEEDLE	22g x 1.5"
• TARGET	Medial calcaneal tubercle (medial and deep to plantar fascia on the screen)
• TOP TIPS	Use Dexamethasone 5mg to reduce fat atrophy risk
POST PROCEDURE	Follow up FOAS at 12 weeks
• ORAL PAIN MEDS	Acetaminophen is likely adequate
• IMMOBILIZE	No
• RETURN TO ADLs	Immediately
• RETURN TO THERAPY	1 week
• RETURN TO SPORT	2 weeks
REPEAT TREATMENT	Minimum 12 weeks interval

	HYALURONIC ACID
TIMING	Anytime
OPTIMAL CANDIDATE	No tears and normal thickness
SUBOPTIMAL CANDIDATE	- VAS > 7 / 10 with ADLs - Any Tear - Thickening > 8mm
ANESTHETIC	Lidocaine 1%
• SYRINGE	3mL
• NEEDLE	27g x 1.25"
• TARGET	Into the skin and superficial fat, right down to the calcaneus until certain lidocaine is flowing adjacent fascia
HYALURONIC ACID	1-2mL of soft-tissue adapted HA
• SYRINGE	1.2mL pre-filled syringe
• NEEDLE	25g x 1.5"
• TARGET	Adjacent area of abnormality or pain
• TOP TIPS	This might mean spreading the HA around a few different areas
POST PROCEDURE	Follow up FOAS at 12 weeks
• ORAL PAIN MEDS	Acetaminophen is likely adequate
• IMMOBILIZE	No
• RETURN TO ADLs	Immediately
• RETURN TO THERAPY	1 week
• RETURN TO SPORT	2 weeks
REPEAT TREATMENT	Treatment is 2 injections, 7 days apart

	PROLOTHERAPY
TIMING	Not usually in first 6 weeks of pain
OPTIMAL CANDIDATE	No tears and normal thickness
SUBOPTIMAL CANDIDATE	- VAS > 7 / 10 with ADLs - Any Tear - Thickening > 8mm
ANESTHETIC	Lidocaine 1%
• SYRINGE	3mL
• NEEDLE	27g x 1.25"
• TARGET	Into the skin, superficial to tendon, and consider a small amount into the fascia itself
PROLOTHERAPY	1mL Dextrose 50% + 3mL Lidocaine 1% = 12.5% Dextrose
• SYRINGE	5mL with 4mL of 12.5% Dextrose
• NEEDLE	25g x 1.5"
• TARGET	Into fascia and around fascia
• TOP TIPS	Inject maximum 4mL, 2mL is a common amount
POST PROCEDURE	Follow up FOAS q 4 weeks x 6
• ORAL PAIN MEDS	Acetaminophen+Tramadol/Codeine
• IMMOBILIZE	Only if worried about high pain, then boot for 2-3 days
• RETURN TO ADLs	Next day
• RETURN TO THERAPY	1 week
• RETURN TO SPORT	Must discuss progress with therapist
REPEAT TREATMENT	Repeat prolo q 4 weeks x 3 - 6 total

	PRP
TIMING	Not usually in first 6 weeks of pain
OPTIMAL CANDIDATE	No tears and normal thickness
SUBOPTIMAL CANDIDATE	- VAS > 7 / 10 with ADLs - Any Tear - Thickening > 8mm
ANESTHETIC	1 part Lidocaine 1% + 9 parts Normal saline or simply use Ropivacaine 0.2%
• SYRINGE	3mL
• NEEDLE	27g x 1.25"
• TARGET	Into the skin, superficial to tendon, and consider a small amount into the fascia itself
PRP	Leukocyte-Rich PRP (Red PRP) or Leukocyte-Poor PRP (Yellow PRP)
• SYRINGE	3mL
• NEEDLE	25g x 1.5"
• TARGET	Into fascia and around fascia
• TOP TIPS	Very Painful! Inject maximum 3mL, 1.5mL is a common amount
POST PROCEDURE	Follow up FOAS q 4 weeks x 6
• ORAL PAIN MEDS	Acetaminophen+Tramadol/Codeine
• IMMOBILIZE	Only if worried about high pain, then boot for 2-3 days
• RETURN TO ADLs	Next day
• RETURN TO THERAPY	1 week
• RETURN TO SPORT	Must discuss progress with therapist
REPEAT TREATMENT	Repeat PRP if needed after 8 weeks

FOOT & ANKLE: ACHILLES TENDON

	CORTISONE		HYALURONIC ACID		PROLOTHERAPY		PRP
TIMING		TIMING	Anytime	TIMING	Not usually in first 6 weeks of pain	TIMING	Not usually in first 6 weeks of pain
OPTIMAL CANDIDATE	Rarely used for this body part	OPTIMAL CANDIDATE	No tears (just tendinosis)	OPTIMAL CANDIDATE	No tears (just tendinosis)	OPTIMAL CANDIDATE	No tears (just tendinosis)
SUBOPTIMAL CANDIDATE		SUBOPTIMAL CANDIDATE	- VAS > 7 / 10 with ADLs - Tear > 10 % of tendon - Very poor strength	SUBOPTIMAL CANDIDATE	- VAS > 7 / 10 with ADLs - Tear > 10 % of tendon - Very poor strength	SUBOPTIMAL CANDIDATE	- VAS > 7 / 10 with ADLs - Tear > 25 % of tendon - Very poor strength
ANESTHETIC		ANESTHETIC	Lidocaine 1%	ANESTHETIC	Lidocaine 1%	ANESTHETIC	1 part Lidocaine 1% + 9 parts Normal saline or simply use Ropivacaine 0.2%
• SYRINGE		• SYRINGE	3mL	• SYRINGE	3mL	• SYRINGE	3mL
• NEEDLE		• NEEDLE	30g x 1"	• NEEDLE	30g x 1"	• NEEDLE	30g x 1"
• TARGET		• TARGET	Into the skin and superficial to tendon, until certain lidocaine is flowing adjacent tendon	• TARGET	Into the skin, superficial to tendon, and consider a small amount into the tendon itself	• TARGET	Into the skin, superficial to tendon, and consider a small amount into the tendon itself
CORTISONE		HYALURONIC ACID	1-2mL of soft-tissue adapted HA	PROLOTHERAPY	1mL Dextrose 50% + 3mL Lidocaine 1% = 12.5% Dextrose	PRP	Leukocyte-Rich PRP (Red PRP) or Leukocyte-Poor PRP (Yellow PRP)
• SYRINGE		• SYRINGE	1.2mL pre-filled syringe	• SYRINGE	5mL with 4mL of 12.5% Dextrose	• SYRINGE	3mL
• NEEDLE		• NEEDLE	25g x 1.5"	• NEEDLE	25g x 1.5"	• NEEDLE	25g x 1.5"
• TARGET		• TARGET	Adjacent area of abnormality or pain	• TARGET	Into tendinosis + tear and around tear	• TARGET	Into tendinosis + tear and around tear
• TOP TIPS		• TOP TIPS	This might mean spreading the HA around a few different areas	• TOP TIPS	Very Painfull Inject maximum 4mL, 2mL is a common amount	• TOP TIPS	Inject maximum 4mL, 2mL is a common amount
POST PROCEDURE		POST PROCEDURE	Follow up VISA-A at 12 weeks	POST PROCEDURE	Follow up VISA-A q 4 weeks x 6	POST PROCEDURE	Follow up v q 4 weeks x 6
• ORAL PAIN MEDS		• ORAL PAIN MEDS	Acetaminophen is likely adequate	• ORAL PAIN MEDS	Acetaminophen+Tramadol/Codeine	• ORAL PAIN MEDS	Acetaminophen+Tramadol/Codeine
• IMMOBILIZE		• IMMOBILIZE	No	• IMMOBILIZE	Only if worried about high pain, then boot for 2-3 days	• IMMOBILIZE	Only if worried about high pain, then boot for 2-3 days
• RETURN TO ADLs		• RETURN TO ADLs	Immediately	• RETURN TO ADLs	Next day	• RETURN TO ADLs	Next day
• RETURN TO THERAPY		• RETURN TO THERAPY	1 week	• RETURN TO THERAPY	1 week	• RETURN TO THERAPY	1 week
• RETURN TO SPORT		• RETURN TO SPORT	2 weeks	• RETURN TO SPORT	Must discuss progress with therapist	• RETURN TO SPORT	Must discuss progress with therapist
REPEAT TREATMENT		REPEAT TREATMENT	Treatment is 2 injections, 7 days apart	REPEAT TREATMENT	Repeat prolo q 4 weeks x 3 - 6 total	REPEAT TREATMENT	Repeat PRP if needed after 8 weeks

ANKLE: ANKLE LIGAMENTS (ATFL, AITFL)

	CORTISONE		HYALURONIC ACID		PROLOTHERAPY		PRP
TIMING		TIMING	Anytime	TIMING	Not usually in first 6 weeks of pain	TIMING	Not usually in first 6 weeks of pain
OPTIMAL CANDIDATE	Rarely used for this body part	OPTIMAL CANDIDATE	No tears and only mild thickening	OPTIMAL CANDIDATE	No tears and only mild thickening	OPTIMAL CANDIDATE	No tears and only mild thickening
SUBOPTIMAL CANDIDATE		SUBOPTIMAL CANDIDATE	- VAS > 7 / 10 with ADLs - ATFL Complete Tear - AITFL Thickening > 3mm	SUBOPTIMAL CANDIDATE	- VAS > 7 / 10 with ADLs - ATFL Complete Tear - AITFL Thickening > 3mm	SUBOPTIMAL CANDIDATE	- VAS > 7 / 10 with ADLs - ATFL Complete Tear - AITFL Thickening > 3mm
ANESTHETIC		ANESTHETIC	Lidocaine 1%	ANESTHETIC	Lidocaine 1%	ANESTHETIC	1 part Lidocaine 1% + 9 parts Normal saline or simply use Ropivacaine 0.2%
• SYRINGE		• SYRINGE	3mL	• SYRINGE	3mL	• SYRINGE	3mL
• NEEDLE		• NEEDLE	27g x 1.25"	• NEEDLE	27g x 1.25"	• NEEDLE	27g x 1.25"
• TARGET		• TARGET	Into the skin and superficial fat, right down to the ligaments until certain lidocaine is flowing adjacent ligament	• TARGET	Into the skin and superficial fat, right down to the ligaments until certain lidocaine is flowing into ligament	• TARGET	Into the skin and superficial fat, right down to the ligaments until certain lidocaine is flowing into ligament
CORTISONE		HYALURONIC ACID	1-2mL of soft-tissue adapted HA	PROLOTHERAPY	1mL Dextrose 50% + 3mL Lidocaine 1% = 12.5% Dextrose	PRP	Leukocyte-Poor PRP (Yellow PRP)
• SYRINGE		• SYRINGE	1.2mL pre-filled syringe	• SYRINGE	5mL with 4mL of 12.5% Dextrose	• SYRINGE	5mL
• NEEDLE		• NEEDLE	25g x 1.5"	• NEEDLE	25g x 1.5"	• NEEDLE	25g x 1.5"
• TARGET		• TARGET	Adjacent area of abnormality or pain	• TARGET	Into ligaments and around ligaments	• TARGET	Into ligaments and around ligaments
• TOP TIPS		• TOP TIPS	This might mean spreading the HA around a few different areas	• TOP TIPS	Inject maximum 2mL each ligament, 1.5mL is a common amount	• TOP TIPS	Inject maximum 2mL each ligament, 1.5mL is a common amount
POST PROCEDURE		POST PROCEDURE	Follow up FOAS at 12 weeks	POST PROCEDURE	Follow up FOAS q 4 weeks x 6	POST PROCEDURE	Follow up FOAS q 4 weeks x 6
• ORAL PAIN MEDS		• ORAL PAIN MEDS	Acetaminophen is likely adequate	• ORAL PAIN MEDS	Acetaminophen is likely adequate	• ORAL PAIN MEDS	Acetaminophen is likely adequate
• IMMOBILIZE		• IMMOBILIZE	No	• IMMOBILIZE	No	• IMMOBILIZE	No
• RETURN TO ADLs		• RETURN TO ADLs	Immediately	• RETURN TO ADLs	Next day	• RETURN TO ADLs	Next day
• RETURN TO THERAPY		• RETURN TO THERAPY	1 week	• RETURN TO THERAPY	1 week	• RETURN TO THERAPY	1 week
• RETURN TO SPORT		• RETURN TO SPORT	2 weeks	• RETURN TO SPORT	Must discuss progress with therapist	• RETURN TO SPORT	Must discuss progress with therapist
REPEAT TREATMENT		REPEAT TREATMENT	Treatment is 2 injections, 7 days apart	REPEAT TREATMENT	Repeat prolo q 4 weeks x 3 - 6 total	REPEAT TREATMENT	Repeat PRP if needed after 8 weeks