

MU Sound Byte

Misericordia University
Diagnostic Medical Sonography



Issue 2

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Special Thank You!

Geisinger Medical Center

The program extends sincere appreciation to Geisinger Medical Center through ISS Solutions for the donations of three patient stretchers, two pulse oximeters and an automated blood pressure unit. These additions to the lab enhance education in patient assessment and most important, proper ergonomics through ability to adjust stretchers to proper height for comfortable scanning.

Wayne Memorial Hospital Radiology

Sincere appreciation is given to Wayne Memorial Hospital Radiology Department for their assistance in transforming 14x17 laser film images into a PAC/CD-ROM format. With availability of computers in the simulated lab, these images can be used for teaching and testing purposes.



Keep the Date on Your Calendar

December 10, 2010—Clinical tuition benefit deadline.

December 15, 2010—Registration for Advanced Fetal and Pediatric Course
Registration after this date will be accepted on a space availability basis.

December 15, 2010—SDMS clinical Instructor CME deadline for year 2010.

January 17, 2011—Course begins

January 27, 2011—NEPASU meeting

March 18, 2011—Completion ceremony for class of 2011 at 6:00 pm at Misericordia University Insalaco Hall.

April 14-17, 2011 AIUM annual conference, NYC

June 30, 2011—Course registration due for Advanced Vascular Course or Breast Sonography course for fall semester.

September 23-26, 2011 SDMS annual conference Atlanta, GA

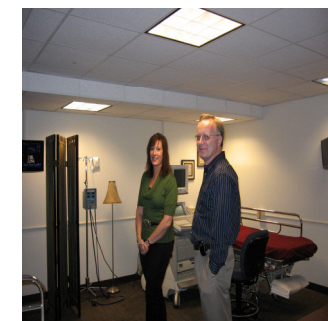


EXCITING HAPPENINGS: New Sonography Lab

The sonography department is elated over its relocation and expanded space. The simulated lab is more than double its size allowing for six scanning stations and four computer workstations in which students can view sonographic images for learning purposes. In addition, two wall monitors were installed to allow larger viewing of the images on the equipment monitors. The new location in McAuley Hall Mezzanine level also provides for three office spaces and storage of equipment.

The program sincerely extends their appreciation to Administration for their support of the program to modernize the program facilities. In addition, the program wishes to thank EVERYONE involved with the program. This includes the dedication of the sonographers at our clinical education

affiliates, students, graduates, and program faculty. Because of the dedication each of these individuals contribute in a professional manner, the program has developed an excellent reputation for providing quality education and competent graduates. The program has reaped the rewards of everyone's hard work.



Happy Holidays

We would like to wish each and everyone of you along with your families a blessed holiday season. Our thoughts and prayers continue to be with those who have experienced the loss of a loved one over the past year. May 2011 bring good health and happiness to each of you.

Life's most beautiful things are not seen with the eyes,

but felt with the heart.

Wishing you a special season of the heart.

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Intersocietal Accreditation Commission ICAEL and ICAVL Updates

Sonographer Certification

The Intersocietal Accreditation Commission (IAC) has released the revised standards for accreditation of echocardiography labs and vascular labs. The respective Board of Directors made the decision to require all sonographers working in these labs to have appropriate credentialing. Beginning in 2014, all echocardiographers working in an ICAEL lab must be credentialed

by either the ARDMS (RDCS) or CCI. For vascular, implantation date is 2017 with allowance for certification by ARDMS (RVT), CCI or ARRT(V).

Misericordia University offers the physics course each fall semester on campus every other Sunday to assist in preparation for the Single Physics and Instrumentation

examination. Also in the fall semester is an Introduction to Vascular Sonography course offered on campus every other Saturday and for those who perform vascular, we offer an Advanced Vascular Course which is offered in the on-line format. Each of these courses are three credits.

Ergonomics

Over the past decade significant attention has been given to the risk sonographers face regarding musculoskeletal repetitive work related injuries. Most prevalent is neck, shoulder and wrist injuries followed by back injury. This is attributed to awkward positions, the daily demands placed on sonographers to increase the number of scans per day, and/or omitting the recommended breaks and rest periods needed to reduce the risk of injury. As reimbursement declines, demands for more scans per day per sonographers increases, but with a cost to the employee and employer. Increase in sick time used, workman's compensation, and potential orienting a new staff sonographer are unrealized costs.

Initial symptoms are often ignored and relieved by rest in the evening; however, as the daily demands continue, the risk for long-term injury increases with a potential loss of career.

Fortunately, equipment manufacturers have modified equipment to be height adjustable, monitors that pivot, and transducer shapes to accommodate a relaxed fit to the hand. However, there are many other facets to sonographer's safety. These include proper room size to allow for proper bed and equipment positioning including scanning from the patient's left side, adjustable scan

tables, examination scheduling to allow for a short breaks between exams and minimally a 10-15 minute break from scanning every two hours and the sonographer being educated and attentive to minimize risk through modification of their scanning habits.

The Intersocietal Accreditation Commission (ICAVL and ICAEL) in their revised standards (www.intersocietal.org) have included the requirement as follows:

Avoidance of Musculoskeletal Disorders (MSD)

Language related to avoidance of work related musculoskeletal disorders (MSD) during ultrasound scanning was added to the Physical Facilities (Laboratory Space) section:

A policy must be in place to address technical staff safety, comfort and avoidance of work related musculoskeletal disorders (MSD).

Comment: For additional information regarding MSD, please visit:

www.cdc.gov/niosh/docs/wp-solutions/2006-148/

www.sdms.org/OSHA/etool.asp

www.sdms.org/pdf/wrmsd2003.pdf

Under 1.2.5.2, Continuing Medical Education, Technical Directors are now encouraged to obtain education related to the avoidance of work related musculoskeletal disorders (MSD) during ultrasound scanning:

1.2.5.2 At least one hour of the 15 CME should be relative to work related musculoskeletal disorders (MSD).

Reference:

http://www.icael.org/icael/standards/2010_Summary%20of%20ICAEL%20Standards%20Revisions.pdf

The above is the revision for ICAEL. ICAVL has similar language in their revised 2010 standards as follows:

STANDARD - Examination Areas

3.1 Examinations must be performed in a setting providing patient safety, comfort and privacy.

3.1.1 A policy must be in place to address technical staff safety, comfort and avoidance of work related musculoskeletal disorders (MSD).

http://www.intersocietal.org/icavl/standards/2010_Summary%20of%20ICAEL%20Standards%20Revisions.pdf

Advanced Fetal and Pediatric Sonography

Beginning the week of January 17, 2011, the Advanced Fetal and Pediatric course will begin. This three credit course introduces embryology of anatomic systems in relationship to fetal and neonatal development.

Emphasis will be placed on neonatal head anatomy and pathology, fetal echocardiography and topics related to pediatric abnormalities diagnosed through use of sonography.

If you or anyone you think may be interested in this course, registration should occur no later than December 15 2010. Registrations after this date will be allotted providing there is availability .

Instructors for the course include Mr. Sal Larusso from Hershey Medical Center lecturing for neonatal head and spine and Mrs. Lisa Allen of SUNY Upstate Medical University for fetal echocardiography.

Orientation to on-line learning tools will be provided on-campus or via telephone the first two weeks in January 2011 to ensure sonographers are prepared to navigate and succeed in the course.

Interested in enhancing your clinical skills in fetal echocardiography or neonatal head/spine?

Guest Lecturer for Interventional Sonography

Our second level sonography students were treated to a lecture given by Dr. David Mariner MD, Director of Vascular Surgery and Vascular Lab at Geisinger Wyoming Valley Medical Center. Dr. Mariner has graciously volunteered his time in previous years to guest lecture for the interventional sonography course. He brings his years of experience as well as a different

perspective regarding sonography education and the importance of being a "good sonographer". The program truly appreciates his continuing support of our program.

As a program, we welcome those interested in volunteering their time to guest lecture or assisting in the laboratory setting. If interested, please contact Sheryl Goss at 570-674-6790.



The inclusion of an introduction of vascular sonography into our curriculum is advantageous to our graduates.

Looking to the Future

The sonography department is always exploring mechanisms to enhance sonographers' goals and dreams. Coming in Spring 2012 is an on-line course introducing the fundamentals of **genetics** and its relationship to various pathologies that sonographers encounter. This course is applicable to

cardiovascular disease, malignancy as well as fetal.

Physics—are you or someone you know in need of taking the ARDMS SPI exam, but doesn't want to repeat or take the full semester course? Would a one or two day review course be of interest?



If interested in attending a 1 or 2 day review course, please contact Sheryl Goss at 674-6790.