

GUNDERSEN HEALTH SYSTEM ULTRASOUND DEPARTMENT POLICY AND PROCEDURE MANUAL

SUBJECT: Limited “Gallbladder Only” Sonogram
SECTION: Radiology Ultrasound
ORIGINATOR: Deborah L. Richert, BSVT, RDMS, RVT
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APPROVED BY:

Jody Riherd MD

Dave Clayton RDMS RVT

Purpose: There are many instances in which a RUQ sonogram is ordered to evaluate the gallbladder based on recent CT findings. With the approval of the ordering provider, and if the CT scan has been performed within the 24 hours prior to the RUQ sonogram being ordered, a limited gallbladder sonogram will be performed. In these instances, the gallbladder, CHD, CBD, and liver (to look for biliary dilatation) will be evaluated. **This may also apply to a RUQ sonogram being ordered to evaluate the gallbladder when a RUQ sonogram has been performed within the previous 24 hours, if the previous RUQ sonogram was of good quality (check the previous report).**

Imaging Protocol: The following images will make up the limited “gallbladder only” sonogram.

- Transverse liver with all hepatic veins: take more than one image if necessary to be sure all three hepatic veins are imaged.
- Transverse image of the liver with the portal vein.
- Longitudinal liver with images to include:
 - left lobe of liver with prox. aorta.
 - left lobe of liver with left portal vein.
 - liver with IVC labeled.
 - right lobe of liver with right portal vein.
 - right lobe of liver / right kidney interface.
- Main portal vein with color Doppler as it enters the liver demonstrating the direction of blood flow (into or out of the liver).
- Gallbladder: at least three images to include long and transverse supine and long LLD.
- Color Doppler image of the gallbladder wall if the wall is thickened.
- Long CHD – one image with internal diameter measurement.
- Long CBD – one image with internal diameter measurement.