

2025 SDMS Annual Conference

Doppler of the Ductus Venosus

A Small Vessel with a Big Impact

Molly Siemens RDMS (FE, OB), RVT

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Objectives

- Identify the ductus venosus using sonographic techniques.
- Understand the main clinical indications for ductus venosus evaluation.
- Evaluate normal and abnormal Doppler waveforms of the ductus venosus and their clinical significance.

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What is the Ductus Venosus?

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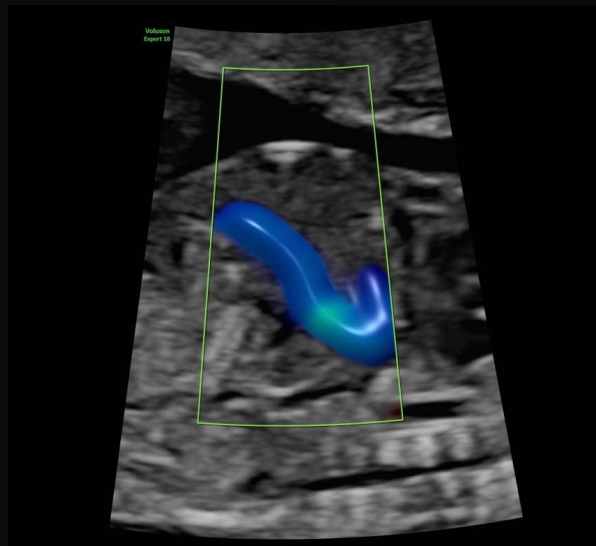
What is the Ductus Venosus?

- One of three shunts in the fetal cardiovascular system
- Connection between umbilical vein and sub-diaphragmatic SVC
- Trumpet shaped
- Shunts highly oxygenated blood directly into the heart
- Approximately 20-30% enters through the DV
- Postnatally becomes ligamentum venosum

1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 8, 10, 11, 14, 17, 19, 20, 21, 22

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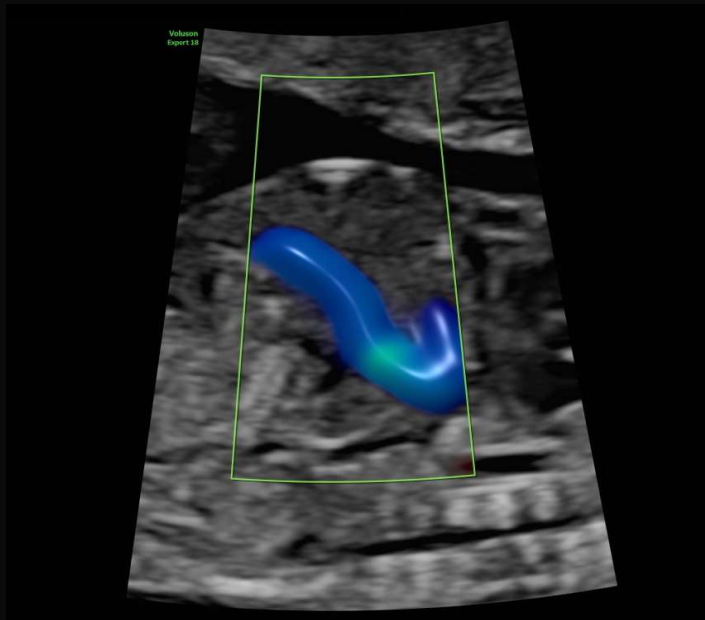
Ductus Venosus



1, 3, 6, 9, 11, 12, 16, 20

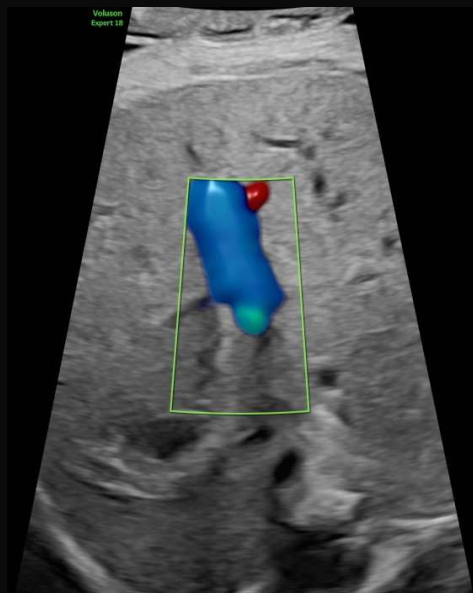
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Mid-Sagittal Plane – 2nd Trimester

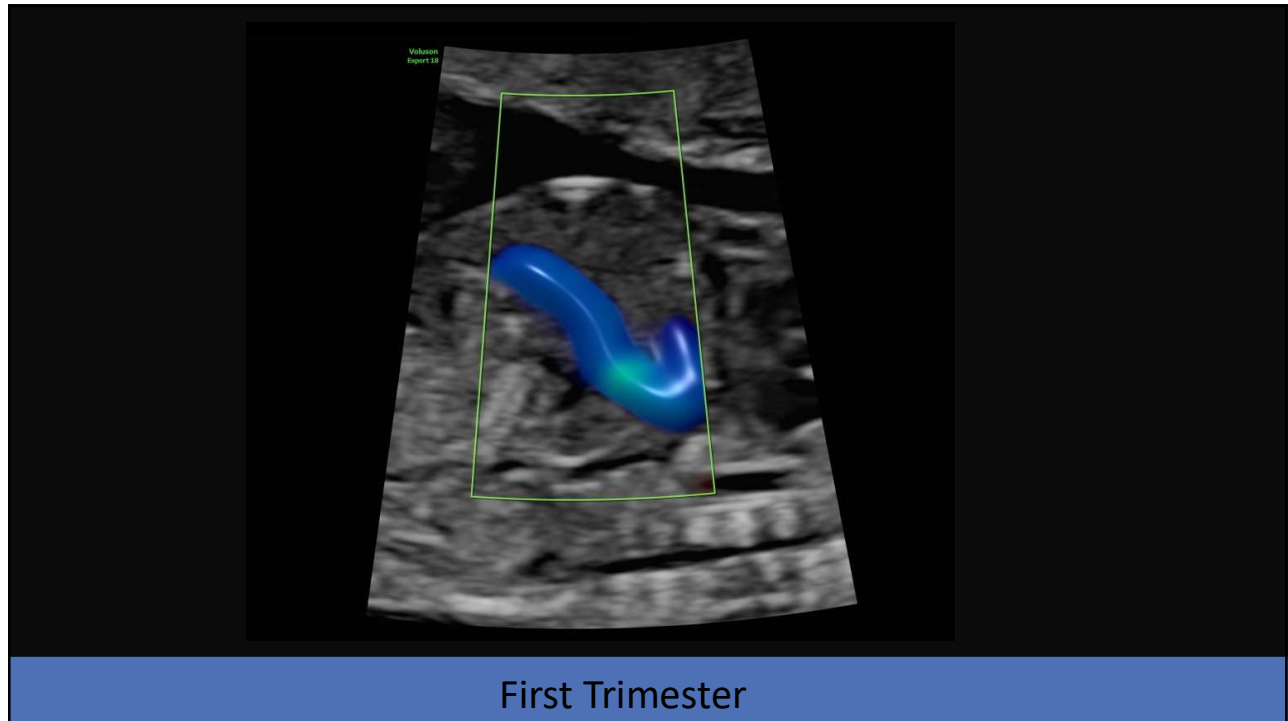
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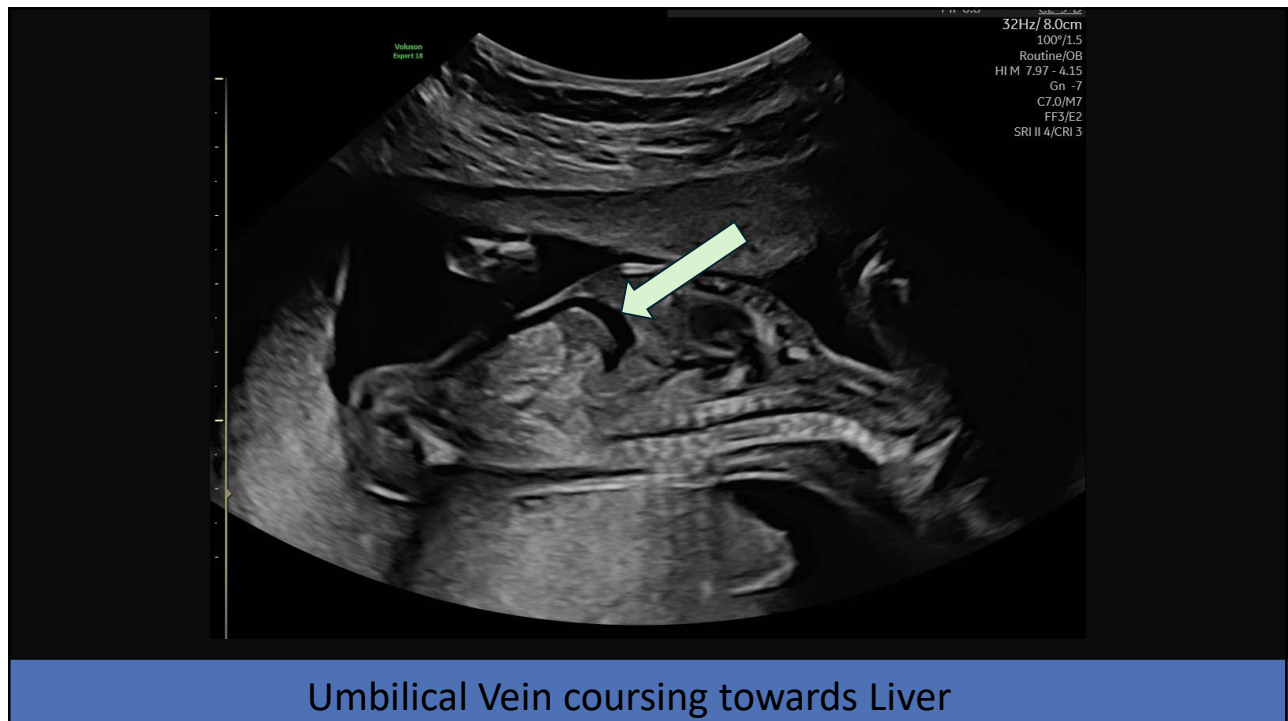
Transverse/Oblique Plane – 2nd Trimester

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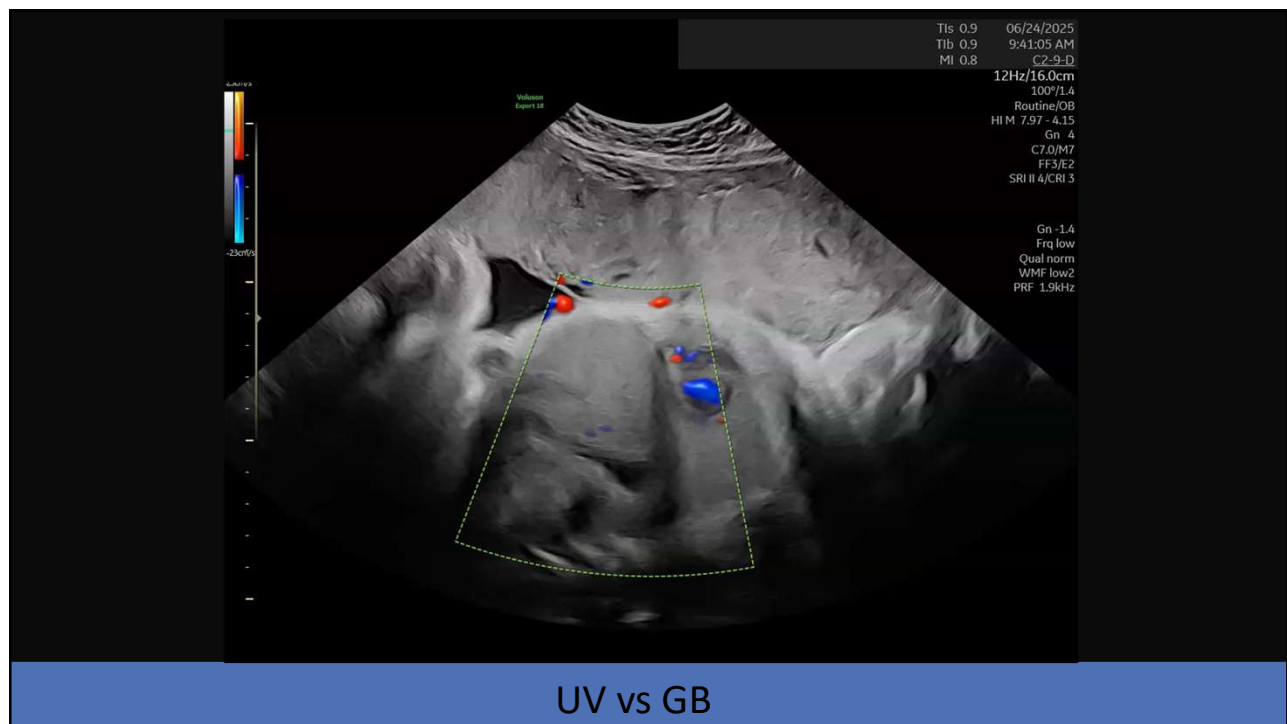


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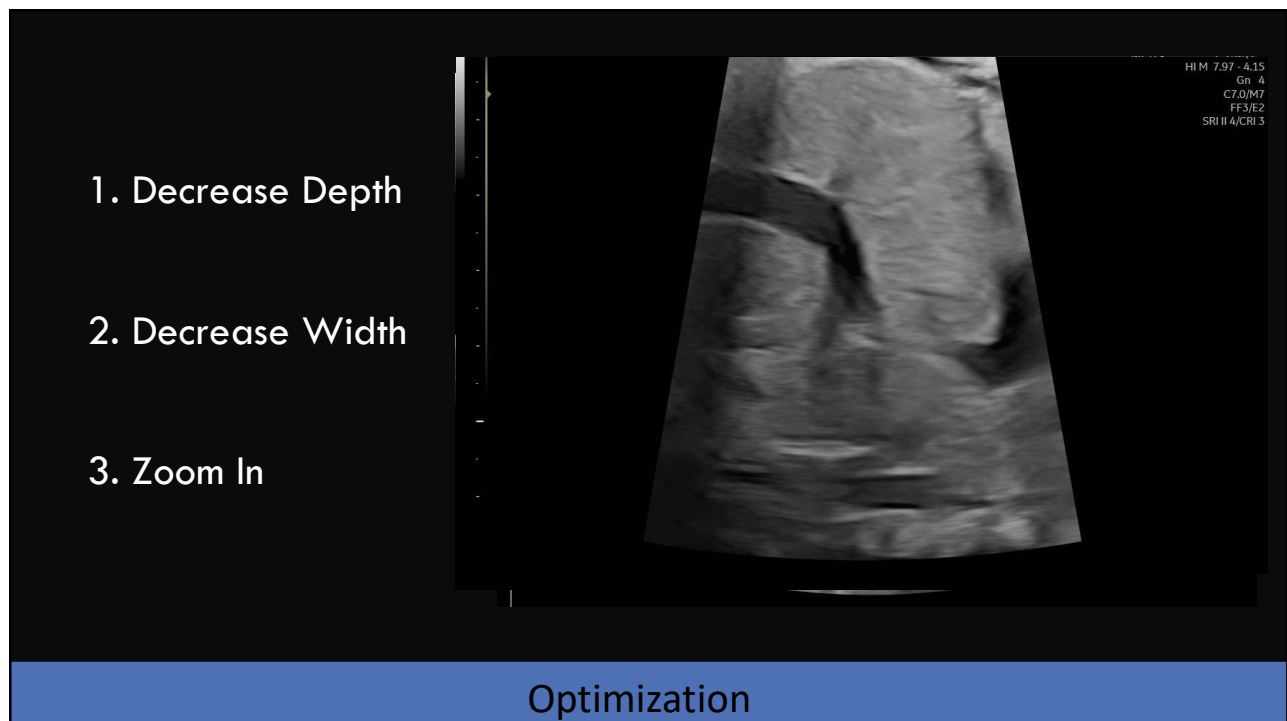


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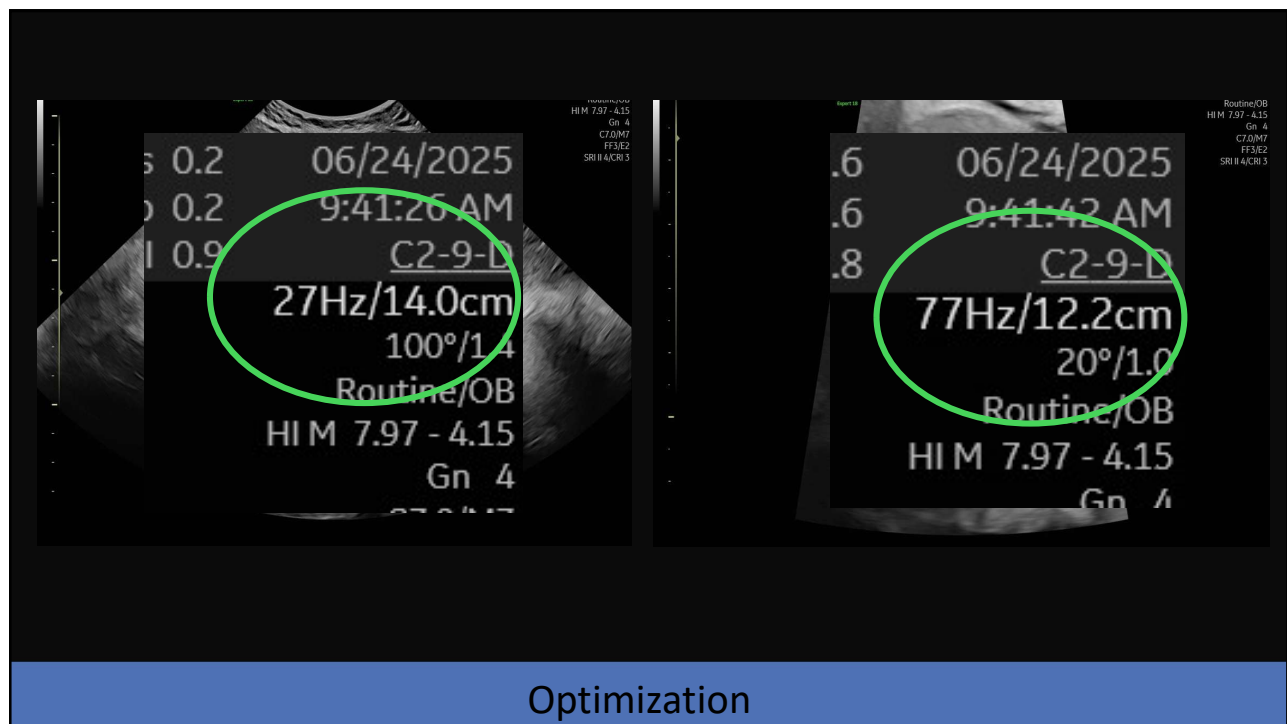


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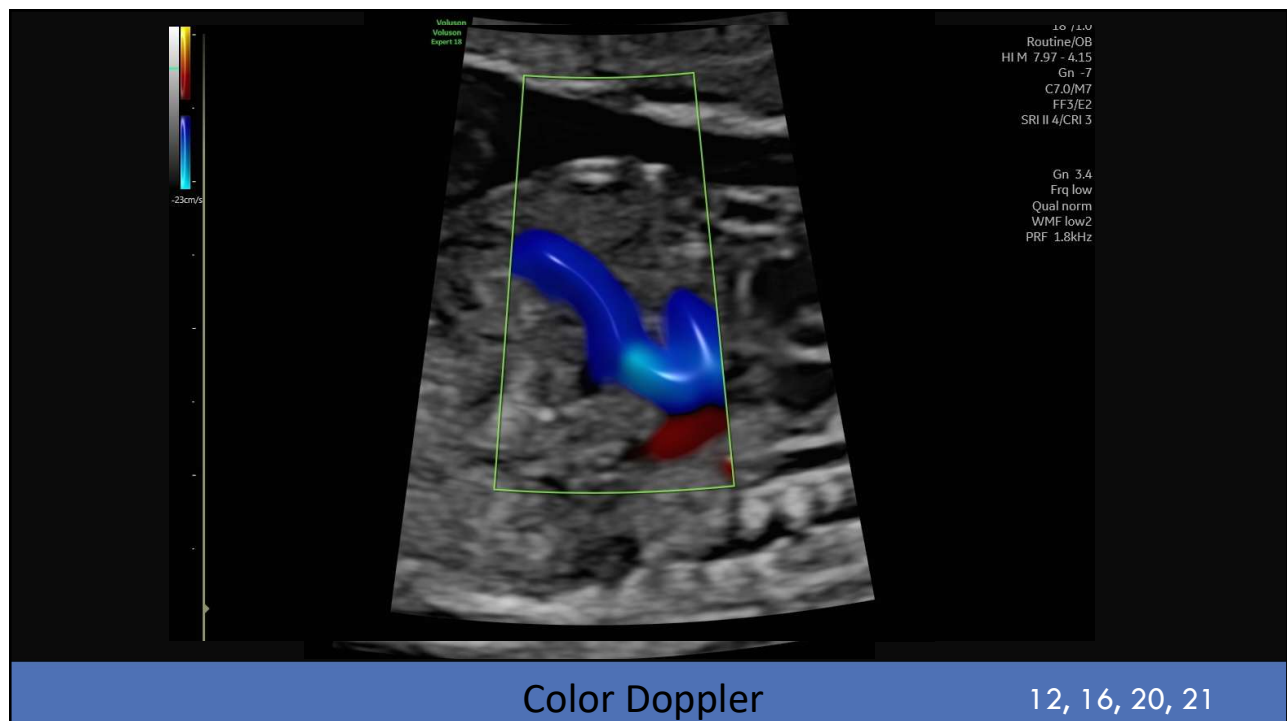


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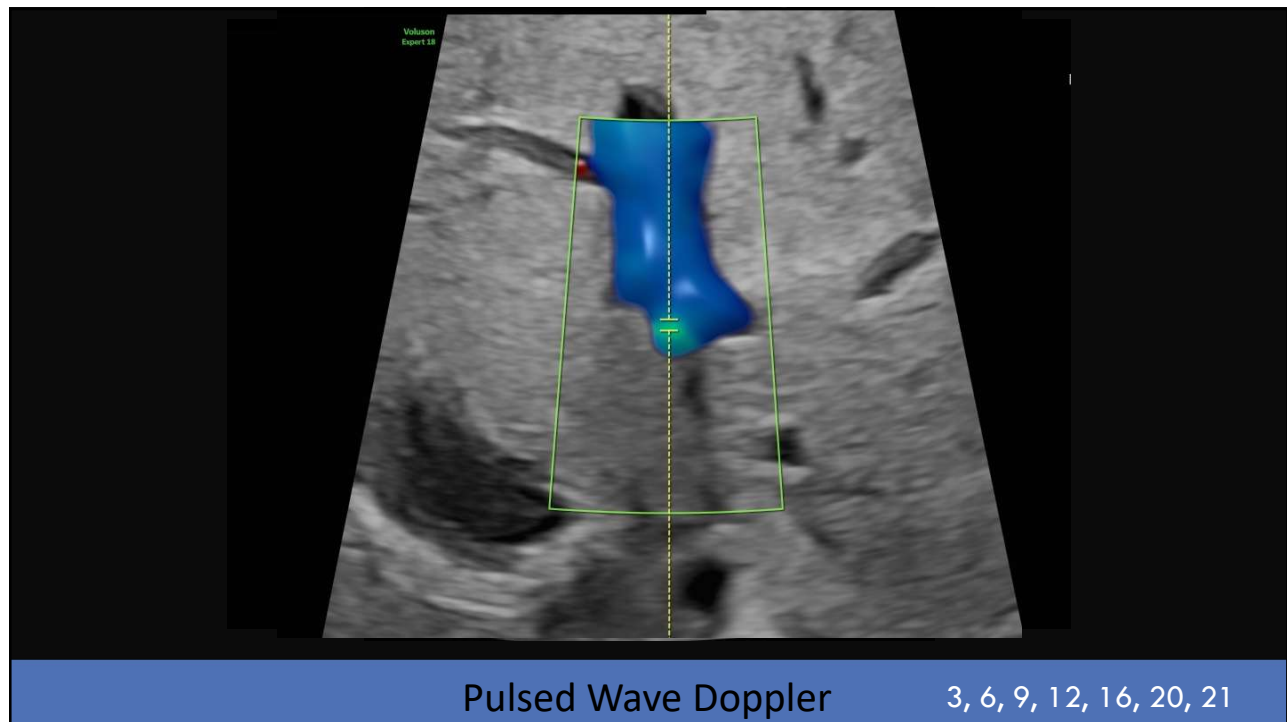


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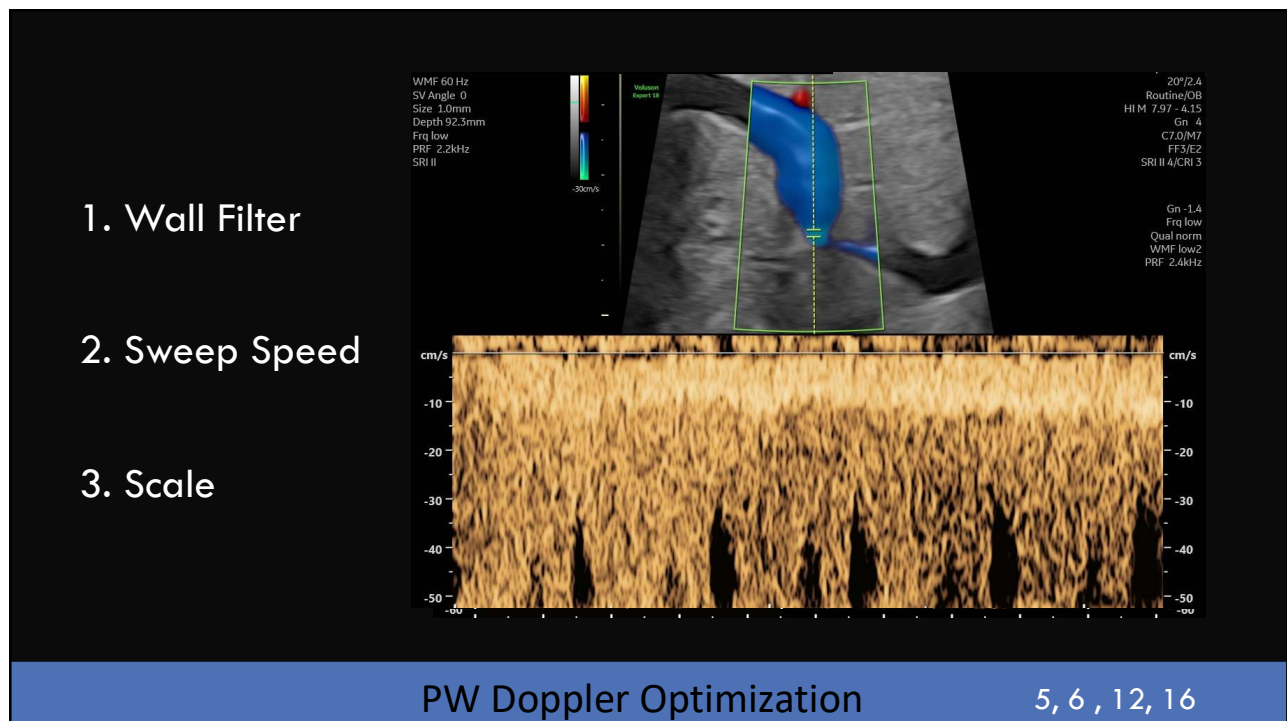


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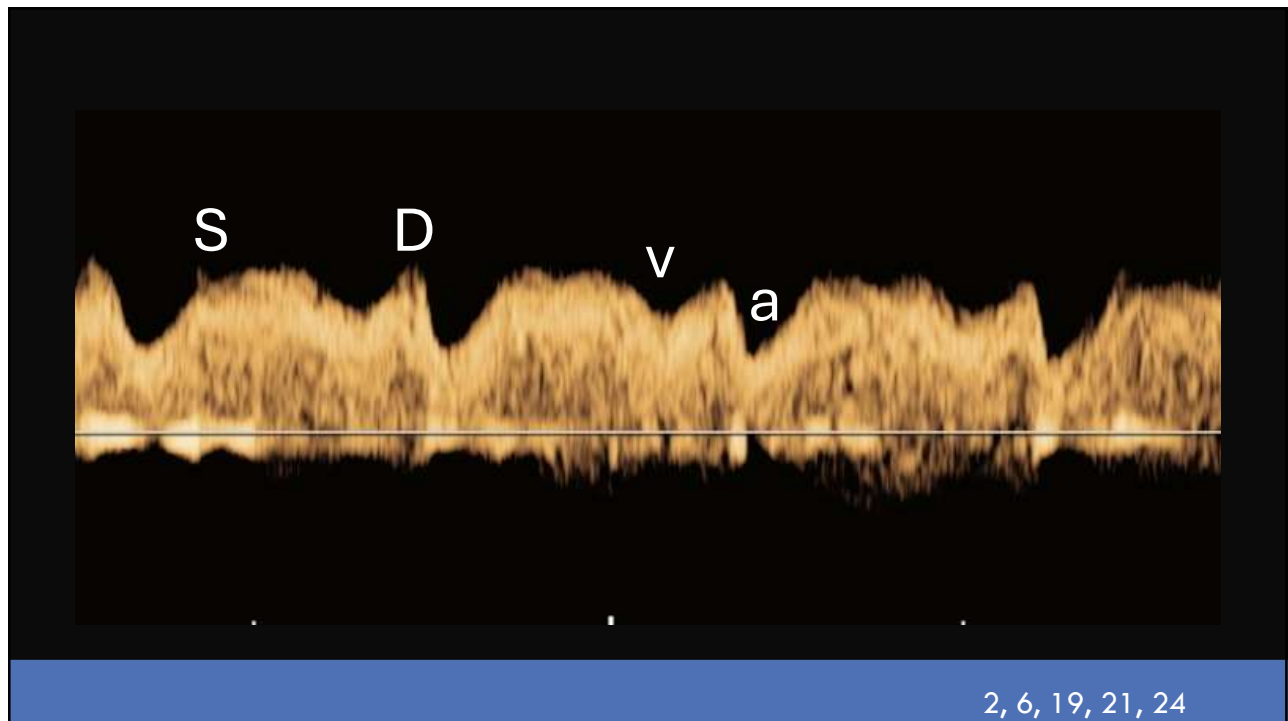


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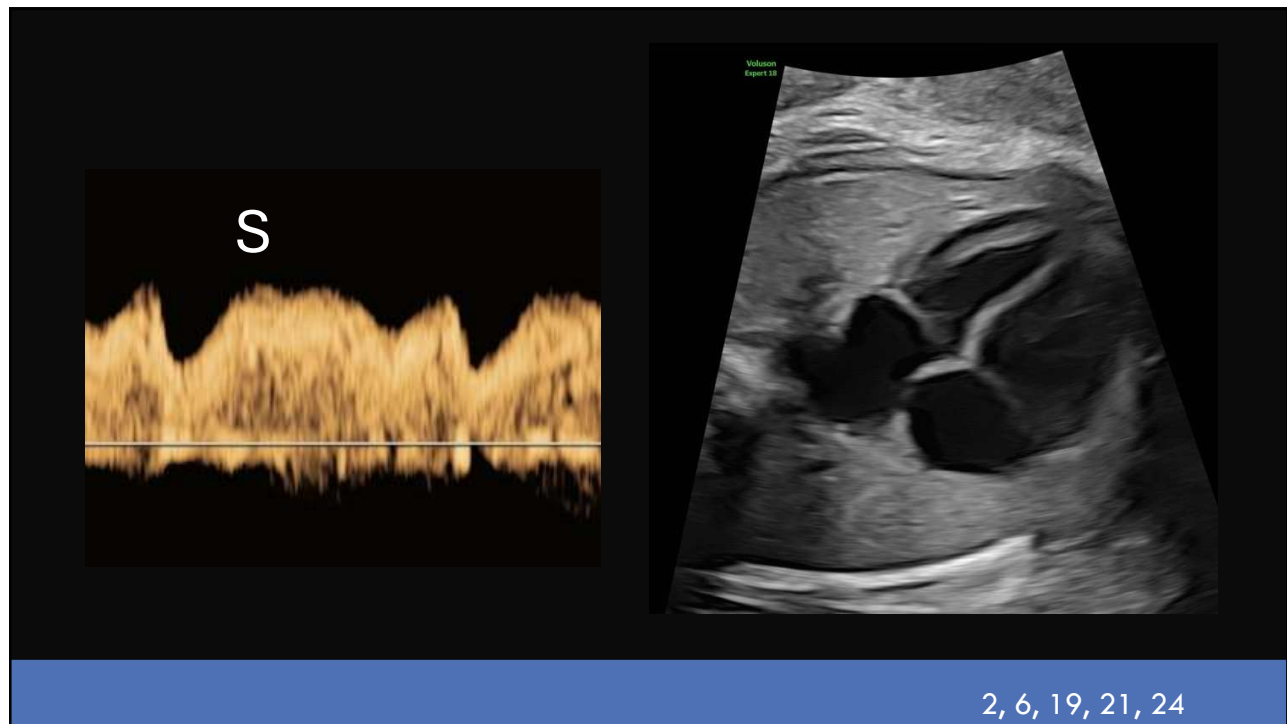


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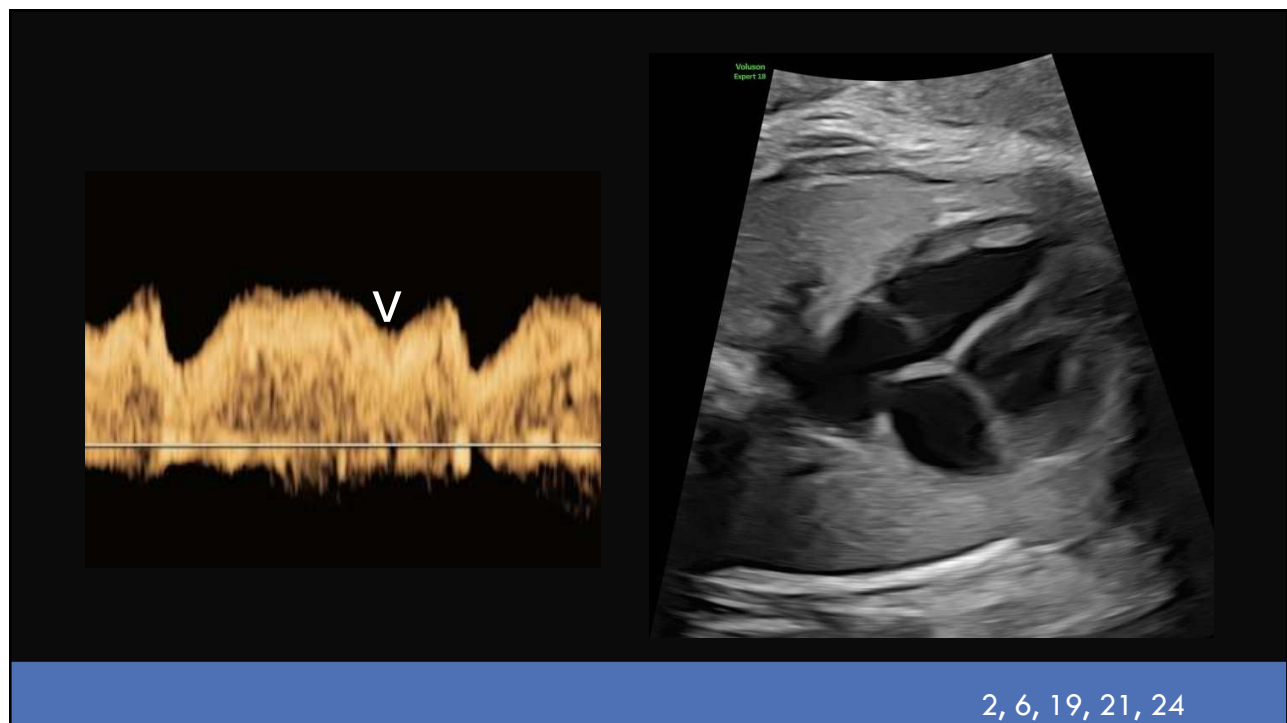


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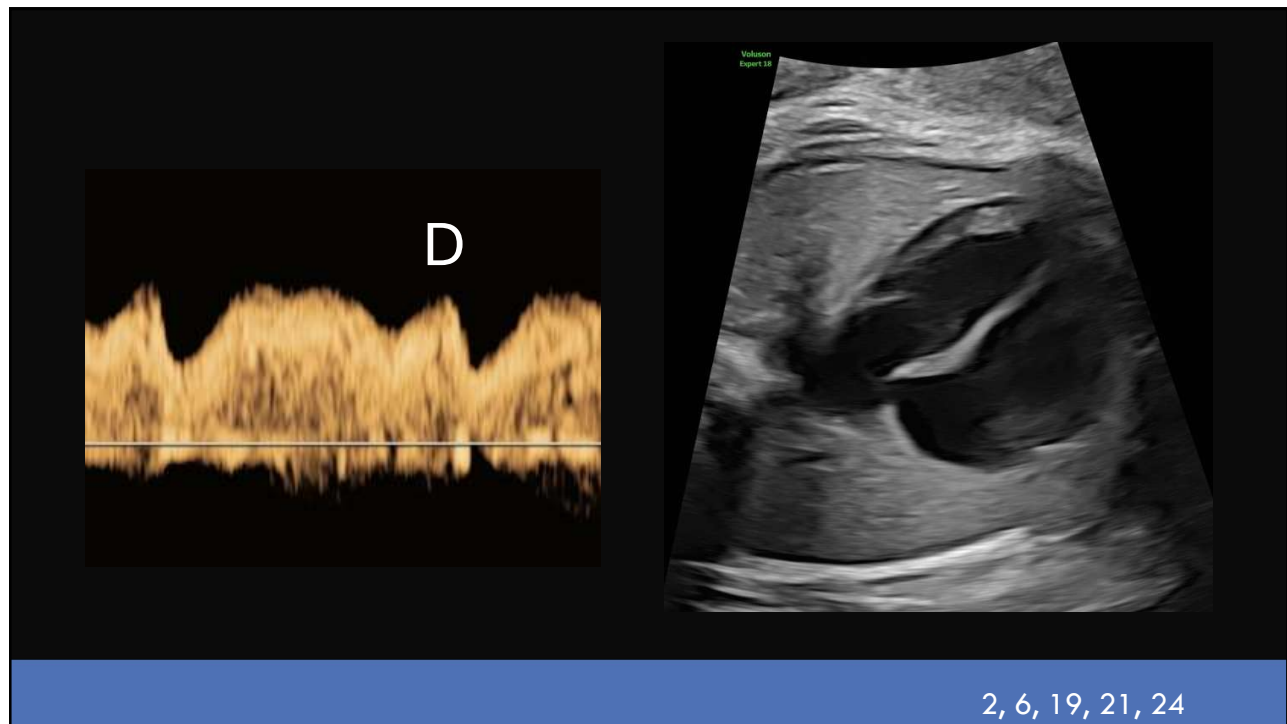


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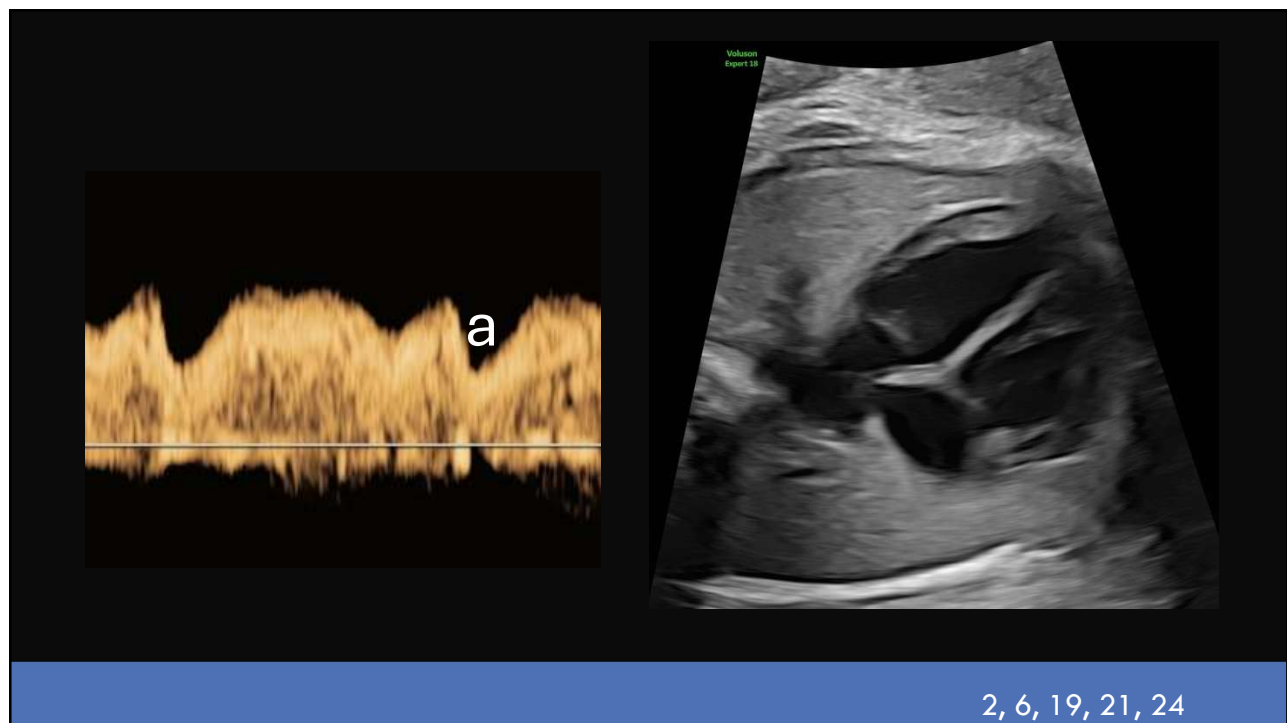


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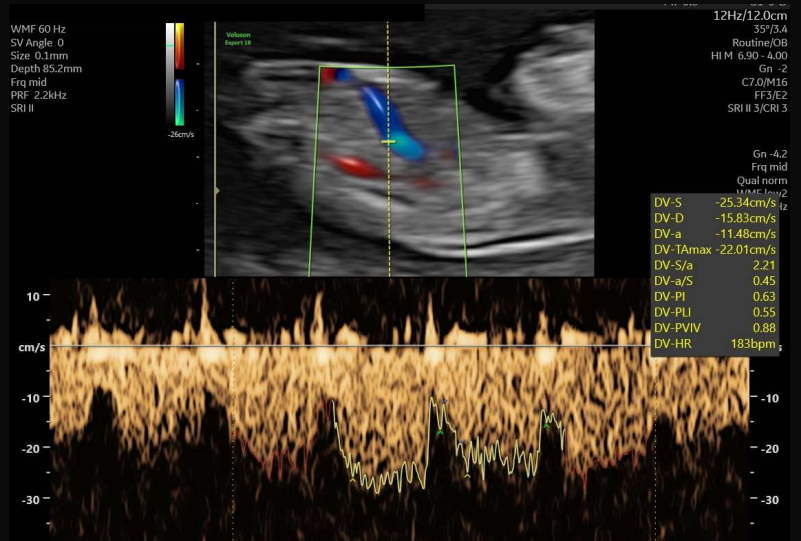
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First Trimester



2, 6, 19, 21, 24

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2nd/3rd Trimester



21

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Why do we look
at this vessel?

27

First Trimester

Increased Risk
for Aneuploidy

20, 23

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First Trimester

Abnormal NIPT



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2nd/3rd
Trimester

CHD/Risk of
CHD



30

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2nd/3rd
Trimester

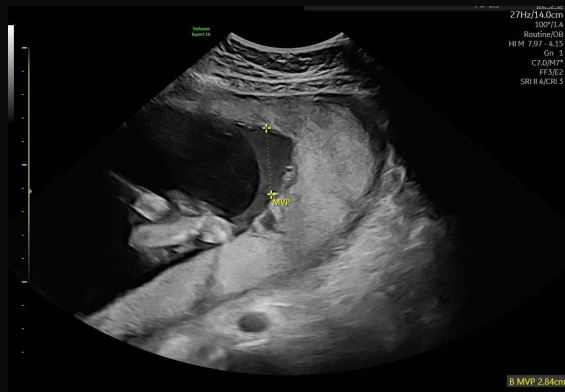
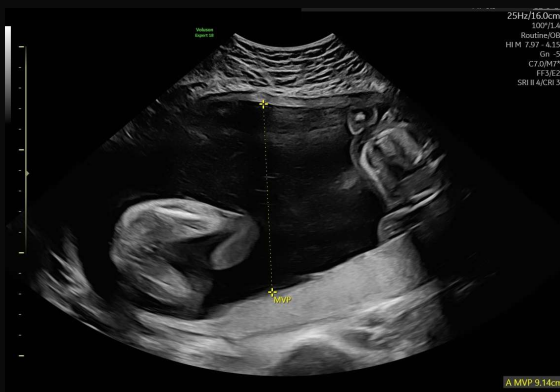
FGR



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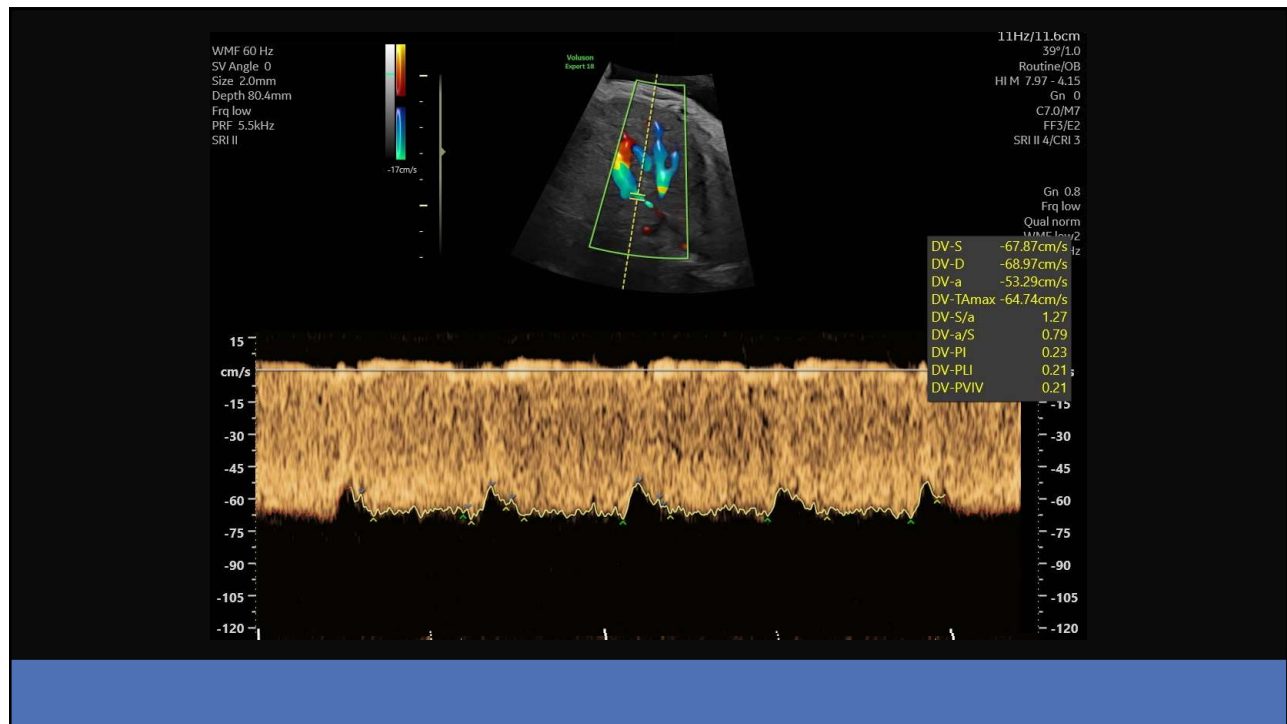
2nd/3rd Trimester

TTTS



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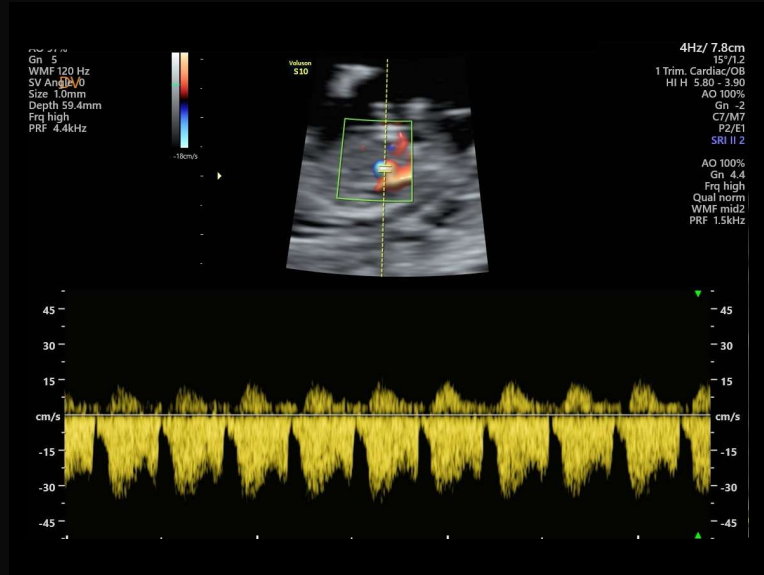
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Abnormal Case Studies

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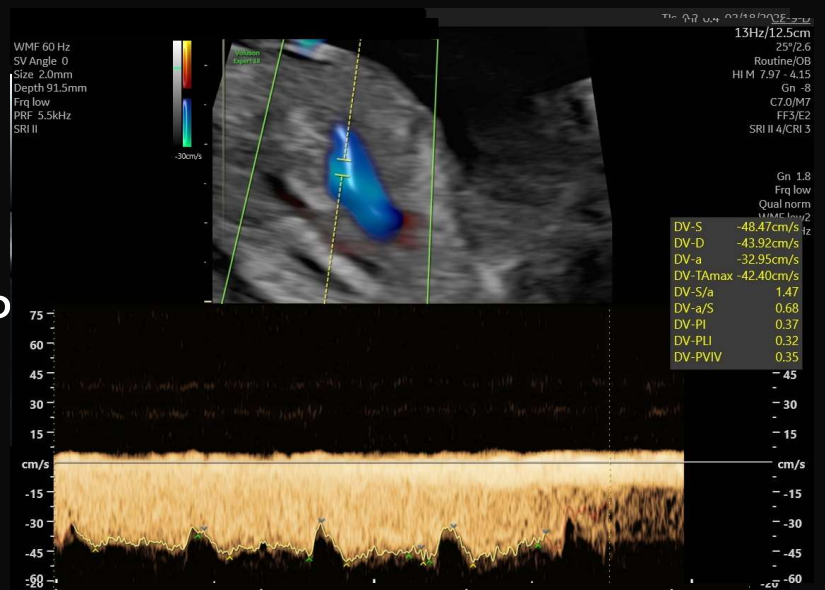
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Increased Risk for Aneuploidy



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Abnormal NIP Testing



7, 23

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Congenital Heart Defect



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Congenital Heart Defect



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Congenital Heart Defect



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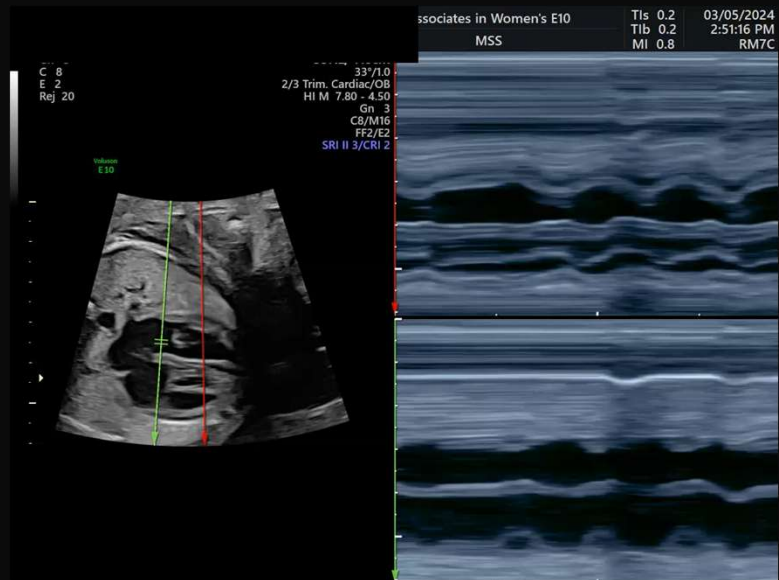
Cardiac Arrhythmias



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Cardiac Arrhythmias



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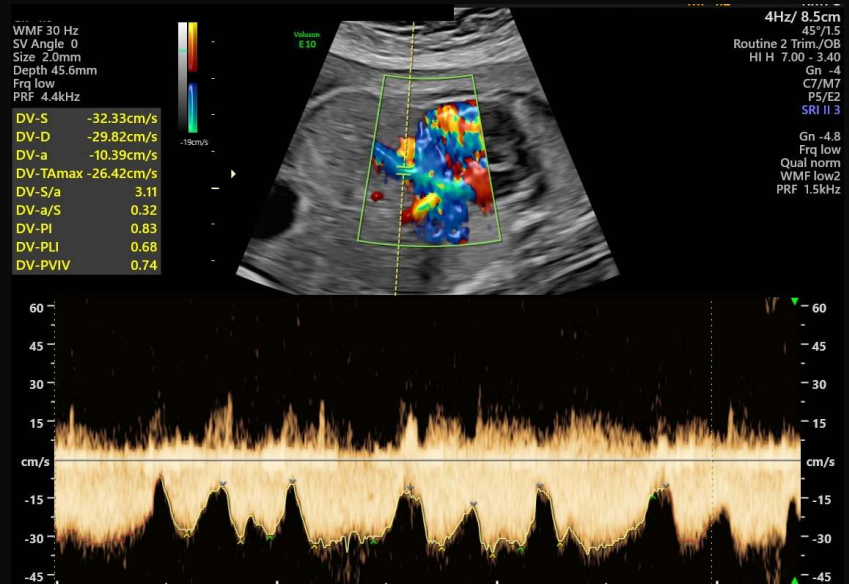
Cardiac Arrhythmias



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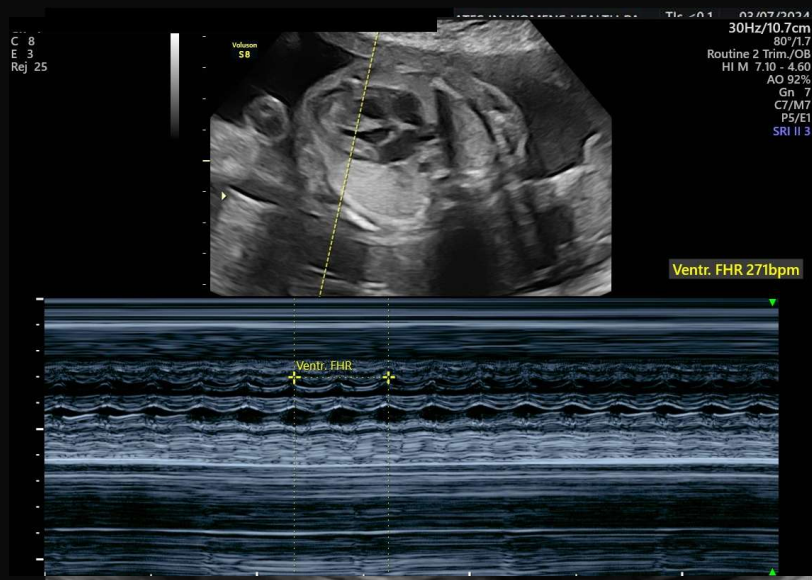
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Cardiac Arrhythmias



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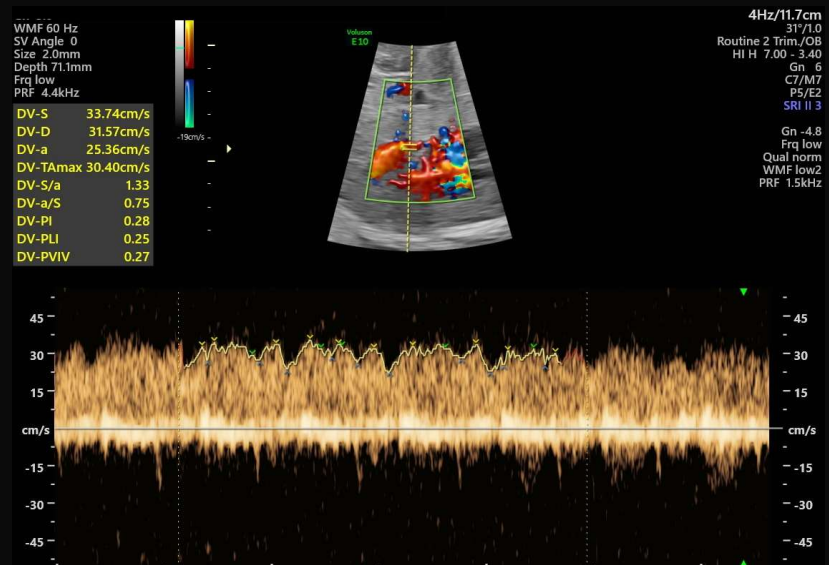
Cardiac Arrhythmias



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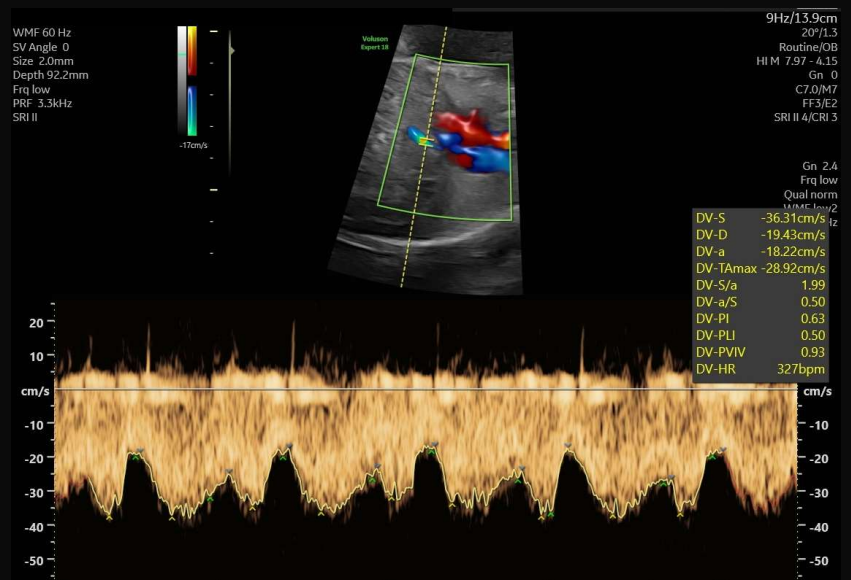
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Cardiac Arrhythmias



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Growth Restriction

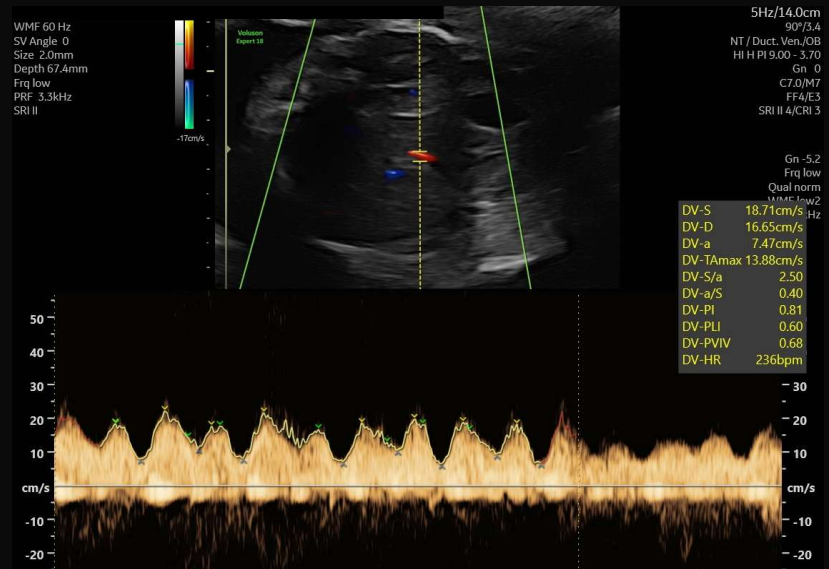


13, 15, 20, 21

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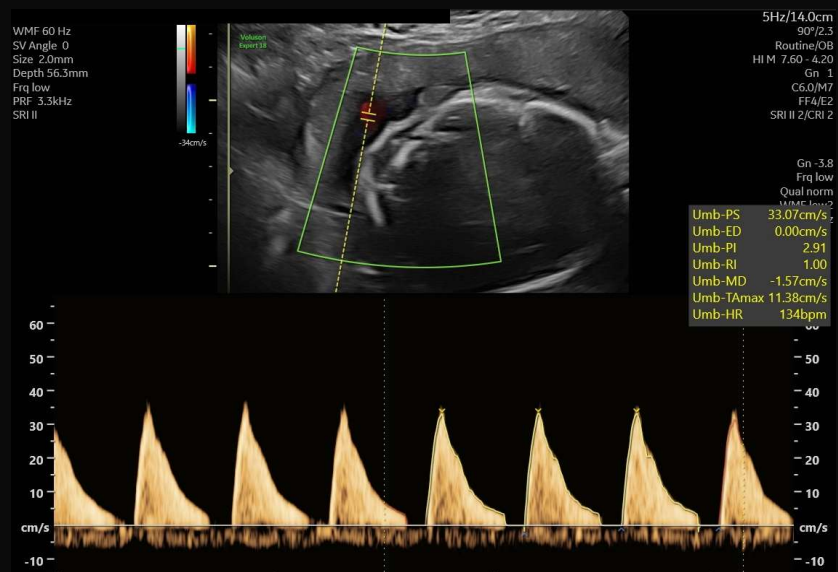
Growth Restriction



13, 15, 20, 21

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Growth Restriction

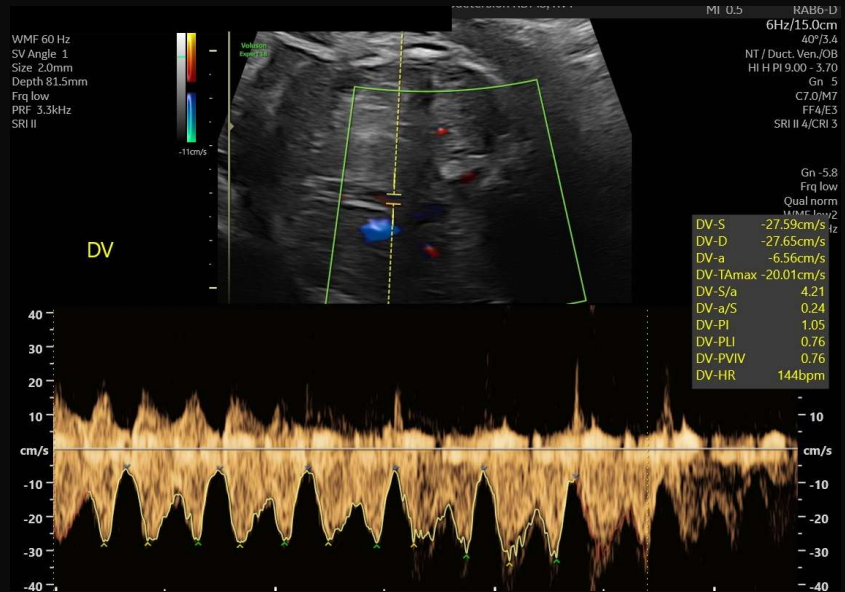


13, 15, 20, 21

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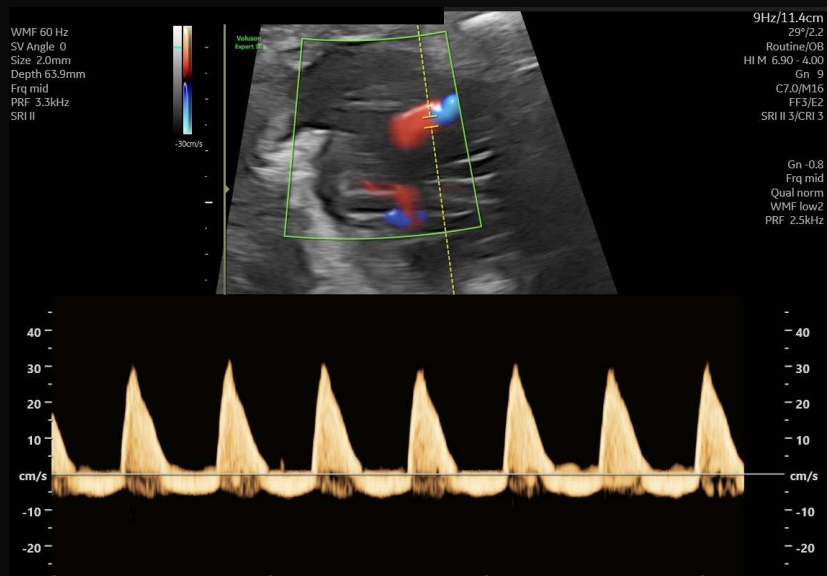
Growth Restriction



13, 15, 20, 21

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Growth Restriction

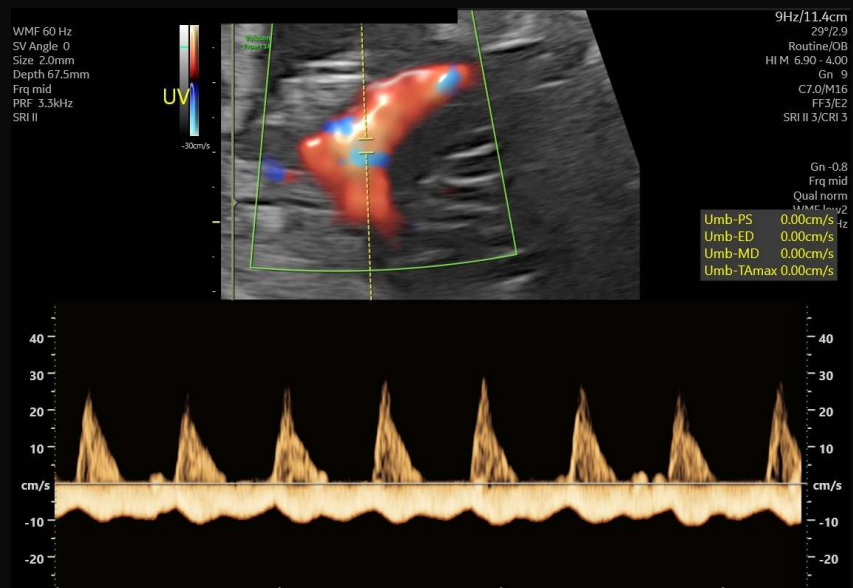


13, 15, 20, 21

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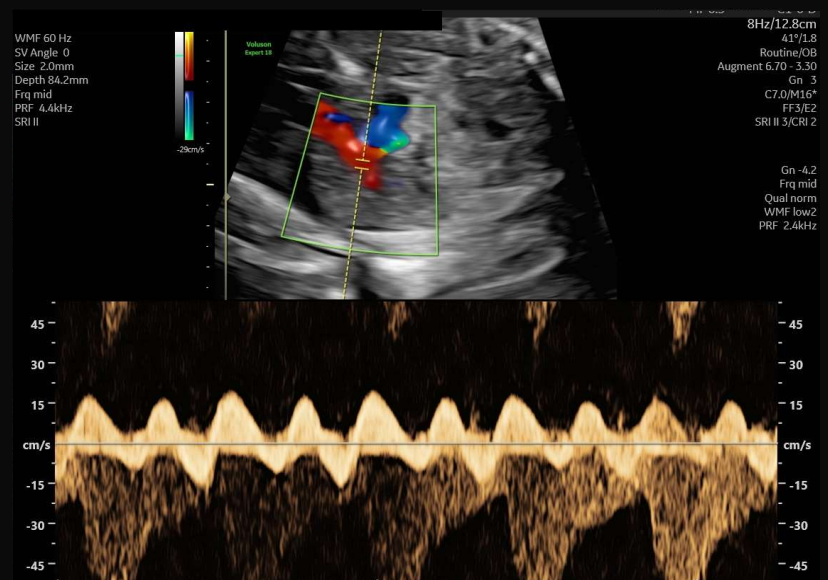
Growth
Restriction



13, 15, 20, 21

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Growth
Restriction



13, 15, 20, 21

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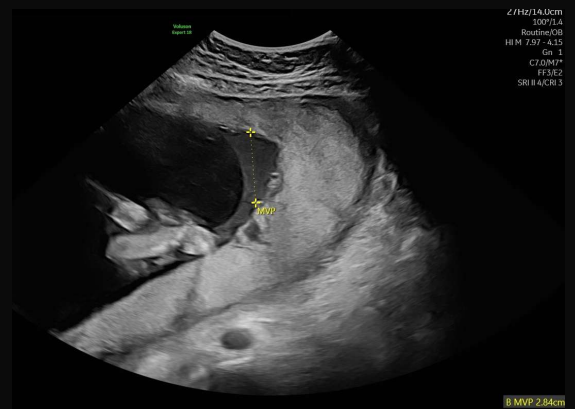
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DV Doppler Timing with FGR

- At the time of diagnosis (regardless of UA/MCA findings)
- Only when UA is absent/reversed
- Every patient regardless of indication

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Twin-to-twin Transfusion Syndrome

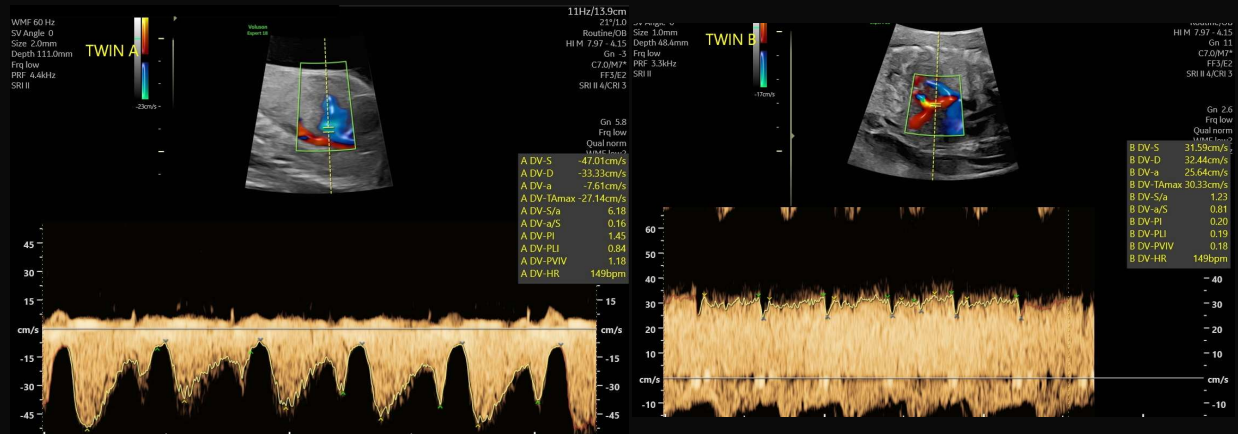


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Twin-to-twin Transfusion Syndrome



18

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Twin-to-twin Transfusion Syndrome

+ Fetal Doppler (1)					
Umbilical Artery: normal, EDF: positive					
PI	1.31		38%	Schaffer	
RI	0.71		34%	Schaffer	
PS	22.85 cm/s		<1%	Ebbing	
ED	6.74 cm/s				
Tamax	12.30 cm/s		<1%	Ebbing	
MD	6.50 cm/s				
S / D	3.39				
HR	149 bpm		26%	Acharya	
Mid Cerebral Artery: normal, EDF: positive					
PI	1.13				
RI	0.68				
PS	23.24 cm/s		19%	Mari	
PS	0.86 MoM				
ED	6.68 cm/s				
CPR PI	0.86		3%	Ebbing	
Right Mid Cerebral Artery:					
PI	1.13				
RI	0.68				
PS	23.24 cm/s		19%	Mari	
ED	6.68 cm/s		73%	Ebbing	
Tamax	14.16 cm/s				
MD	6.62 cm/s				
S / D	3.19				
HR	161 bpm				
Ductus Venosus: abnormal					
S-wave	-47.01 cm/s				
D-wave	-33.33 cm/s				
A-wave	-7.61 cm/s				
Tamax	-27.14 cm/s				
PIV	1.45		>99%	Hecher	
PVIV	1.18				
PIV	0.84				
S/a	6.18		>99%	Baschat	
a/S	0.16		<1%	JSUM	
D/a	4.38				
HR	149 bpm				
Umbilical Vein:					
Tamean	9.86 cm/s				

x Fetal Doppler (2)					
Umbilical Artery: normal, EDF: positive					
PI	1.47		66%	Schaffer	
RI	0.78		67%	Schaffer	
PS	33.87 cm/s		27%	Ebbing	
ED	7.39 cm/s				
Tamax	18.01 cm/s		10%	Ebbing	
MD	7.30 cm/s				
S / D	4.58				
HR	145 bpm		75%	Acharya	
Mid Cerebral Artery: abnormal, EDF: positive					
PI	1.24				
RI	0.68				
PS	28.53 cm/s		62%	Mari	
PS	1.06 MoM				
ED	9.00 cm/s				
CPR PI	0.84		3%	Ebbing	
Right Mid Cerebral Artery:					
PI	1.24				
RI	0.68				
PS	28.53 cm/s		62%	Mari	
ED	9.00 cm/s				
Tamax	15.71 cm/s		88%	Ebbing	
MD	8.90 cm/s				
S / D	3.14				
HR	152 bpm				
Ductus Venosus: normal					
S-wave	31.59 cm/s		<1%	Hecher	
D-wave	32.44 cm/s		<1%	Hecher	
A-wave	25.64 cm/s				
Tamax	30.33 cm/s				
PIV	0.20		<1%	Hecher	
PVIV	0.18		<1%	Hecher	
PIV	0.19		<1%	Baschat	
S/a	1.23		3%	Baschat	
a/S	0.81		97%	JSUM	
D/a	1.27				
HR	149 bpm				
Umbilical Vein: normal					
Tamean	-12.65 cm/s				

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Agensis of the Ductus Venosus

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Agensis of the Ductus Venosus

- Absence of the Ductus Venosus between the umbilical vein and IVC
- Suspected when course of the umbilical vein is abnormal
- Absence confirmed with color Doppler
- Rare; 0.04 to 0.6% of pregnancies

8, 14, 19

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Agensis of the Ductus Venosus

- Absence creates need for alternative routes of venous flow
- 2 alternative routes: Intrahepatic and Extrahepatic
- Intrahepatic:
 - More common
 - Umbilical vein connected directly to portal sinus
- Extrahepatic:
 - Less common
 - Umbilical vein connected directly to systemic veins

14, 17, 19

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Agensis of the Ductus Venosus

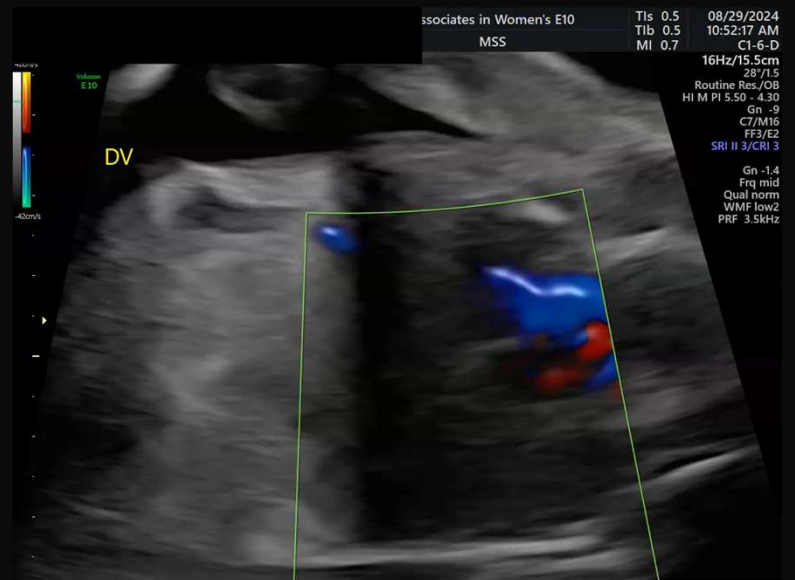
- Isolated
- Associated Anomalies:
 - Cardiac:
 - ASD, VSD, DORV, TGA
 - Multisystem:
 - Urogenital, alimentary, skeletal
 - Agensis of the portal system:
 - Associated with extrahepatic route
 - Cardiomegaly, chromosomal anomalies, genetic disorders
- Limitations
 - Contamination of waveform by the umbilical vein

17, 19

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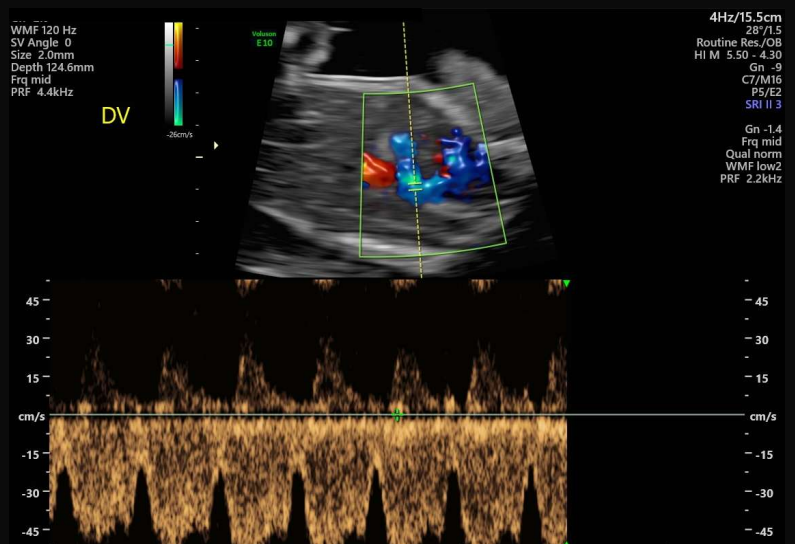
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Agenesis of the Ductus Venosus



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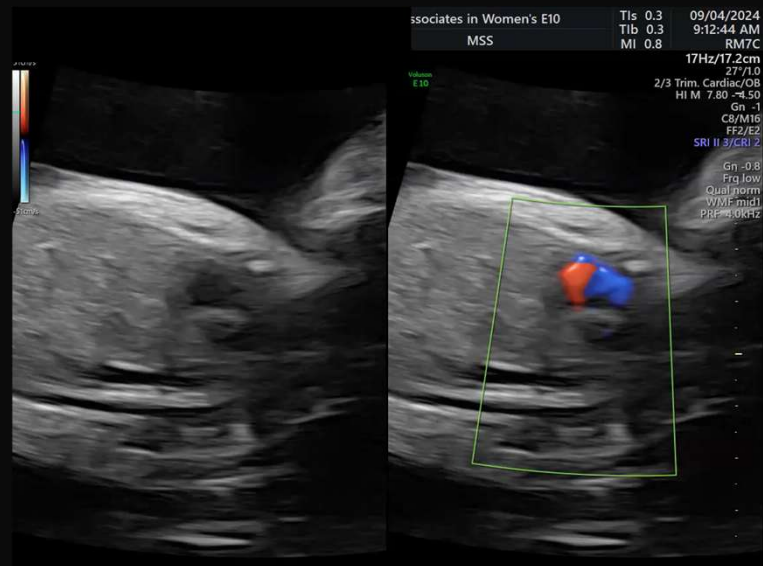
Agenesis of the Ductus Venosus



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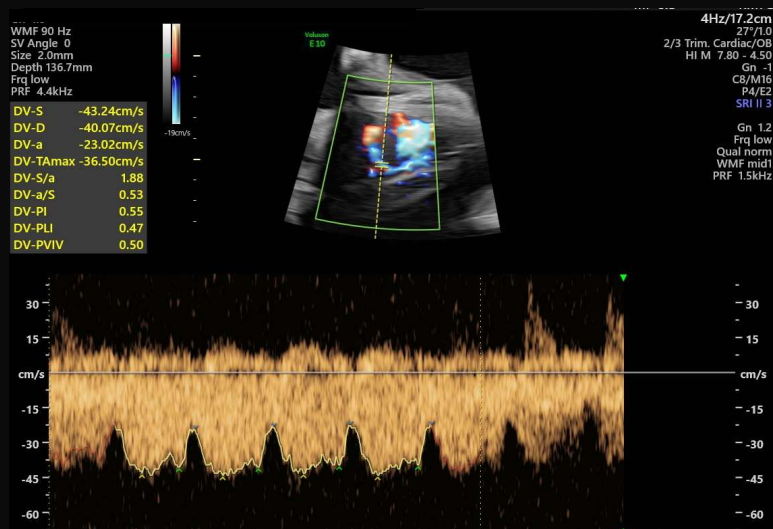
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Agensis of the Ductus Venosus



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Agensis of the Ductus Venosus



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In Conclusion

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Thank you!

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