



Philippine Society of Ultrasound in Obstetrics and Gynecology

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Philippine Society of Ultrasound in Obstetrics and Gynecology (PSUOG) Safety Statements and Recommendations

This advisory follows the Presidential Proclamation No. 929 on Enhanced Community Quarantine and the PSUOG Recommendation on Limiting Scans, to guide obstetrician-gynecologists and sonologists.

The following are PSUOG safety statements and recommendations on WHO and HOW ultrasound of OB-GYN patients during this COVID-19 pandemic should be performed.

PSUOG affirms the urgent fact that both PATIENTS and OB-GYN sonologists must be protected from getting sick with COVID-19.

I. WHO are the high risk/emergency OB-GYN cases who may need to be scanned?

1. OBSTETRIC Emergencies

A. 1st Trimester of Pregnancy presenting with vaginal bleeding and/or pain (abortion with profuse vaginal bleeding, ectopic pregnancy, molar pregnancy), 2nd and 3rd Trimesters of Pregnancy presenting with vaginal bleeding and/or pain such as placenta previa, abruptio placenta or preterm labor.

B. Antenatal fetal surveillance for High risk Pregnancies, especially if with co-morbidities - BPS/Doppler Velocimetry — that is essential in the decision making and management of the case.

C. Growth monitoring or Fetal aging that is essential in the decision making and management of the case.

2. GYNECOLOGIC Emergencies

- A. Abdominal pain/surgical abdomen
- B. Profuse vaginal bleeding.

3. Other cases not mentioned above, but need an ultrasound procedure for case diagnosis and management, will require the approval and consent of the sonologist/scanner.



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II. HOW should the ultrasound procedure be performed?

1. All patients should be triaged and classified prior to entering the ultrasound unit.
2. All patients for ultrasound must wear protective masks.
3. The scanner must wear a mask, face shield, gloves and protective gown while doing the scan.
4. Reduce exposure to the patient by practicing social distancing and decreased time for scanning.
5. A separate room and dedicated ultrasound machine must be used for confirmed COVID-19 cases, PUIs and PUMs.

III. For confirmed COVID-19 cases, PUIs and PUMs, HOW should the ultrasound procedure be performed?

A. Care for the scanner

1. The scanner must be in complete PPEs while doing the scan, which must be replaced after each scan.
2. The scanner must be wearing goggles, N95 / FFP 2 / FFP 3 / hand gloves at all times, which must be replaced after each scan.
3. There must be a plastic barrier separating the patient from the scanner which must be disinfected after each scan.
4. Hand washing after each procedure must be practiced at all times.

B. Care for the machine

1. The keyboard must be covered with plastic or cling-wrap, which must be replaced after each scan.
2. The probes must be covered with gloves (transabdominal probe) and double condoms (transvaginal probe), which must be replaced after each scan.
3. Clean the probes and wirings with compatible disinfectant recommended by the company of your ultrasound machine after each use.

C. Care for the patient

1. The patient must wear a mask at all times.
2. Let the patient cross her arms over her chest to avoid touching the bed.

D. Care for the room and bed

1. The bed must be covered with a disposable mat or paper towel which must be replaced after each patient.
2. The room must be cleaned and disinfected after each procedure.



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This advisory is not intended to replace established guidelines of institutions. It is suggested that other relevant advice from other organizations be considered, such as:

ISUOG interim Guidance on 2019 novel coronavirus infection during pregnancy and puerperium: information for healthcare professionals:

Take away messages - <https://www.isuog.org/clinical-resources/coronavirus-covid-19-resources/webinar-series-on-covid-19/first-webinar-prepare-your-unit-for-coronavirus.html>

Full webinar - <https://www.isuog.org/clinical-resources/coronavirus-covid-19-resources/webinar-series-on-covid-19/first-webinar-prepare-your-unit-for-coronavirus/webinar-how-to-prepare-your-unit-for-coronavirus.html>

WHO: <https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019>

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC): <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/specific-groups/pregnancy-faq.html>

ISUOG webinar: Coronavirus: Crisis management, equipment and rationalising services

<https://www.isuog.org/clinical-resources/coronavirus-covid-19-resources/webinar-series-on-covid-19/webinar-on-coronavirus-crisis-management-equipment.html>

PSMID webpage - <https://www.psmid.org/cpg-for-covid-19/http://bit.ly./DOHPHCOVID19>

www.covid19.gov.ph

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