

Welcome

The association for medical ultrasound
aium

AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ULTRASOUND IN MEDICINE

14750 Sweitzer Ln, Suite 100 • Laurel, MD 20707

Hand-Held, Doppler Ultrasound Prenatal Listening Devices

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**Co-Director, The Hughes Center
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Arnold Palmer Hospital,
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What is the AIUM?

- A multidisciplinary association dedicated to advancing the safe and effective use of ultrasound in medicine through professional and public education, research, development of guidelines, and accreditation.
- 7,500 members including physicians of all specialties, sonographers, engineers, veterinarians, technicians, manufacturers, medical students.
- Established in 1952
- Headquartered in Laurel, MD



Goals and Objectives

- Provide professional education, public education, and research initiatives; promote the importance of and uses of ultrasound.
- Increase quality practice of medical ultrasound by advocating standards and accreditation to promote patient rights and safety.
- Be the source of expertise in ultrasound.
- Be a resource for governmental agencies.
- Represent all forms of medical ultrasound.

Recent Activities

- Hosted forums on 3D ultrasound (2005), thermal and nonthermal bioeffects from sonography (2005), and compact ultrasound systems (2004) to develop consensus on these important issues.
- Established Medical Ultrasound Awareness Month (MUAM) in 2001.
- Ongoing collaboration with related societies in the creation of joint clinical ultrasound practice guidelines.
- Accreditation - Accredited more than 1500 ultrasound practice sites throughout the United States and Canada

In the Beginning...

- 1994 - FDA becomes aware of three companies in Texas providing keepsake ultrasound, and subsequently discovers many more throughout the country.
- FDA finds that ultrasound “was being performed by untrained, unlicensed technicians and often without a doctor’s supervision”.
- FDA then writes to ten health professional organizations and NEMA, stating that “anyone promoting, selling or leasing ultrasound equipment for making keepsake fetal videos could be breaking the law”.

FDA Consumer Magazine
January-February 2004 Issue

U.S. Food & Drug Administration

Center for Devices and Radiological Health

“Laboratory studies have shown that diagnostic levels of ultrasound can produce physical effects in tissue, such as mechanical vibrations and rise in temperature. Although there is no evidence that these physical effects can harm the fetus, public health experts, clinicians and industry agree that casual exposure to ultrasound, especially during pregnancy, should be avoided.”

Prudent Use

Approved May 2, 1999

“The AIUM advocates the responsible use of diagnostic ultrasound. The AIUM strongly discourages the non-medical use of ultrasound for psychosocial or entertainment purposes. The use of either two-dimensional (2D) or three dimensional (3D) ultrasound to only view the fetus, obtain a picture of the fetus or determine the fetal gender without a medical indication is inappropriate and contrary to responsible medical practice. Although there are no confirmed biological effects on patients caused by exposures from present diagnostic ultrasound instruments, the possibility exists that such biological effects may be identified in the future. Thus ultrasound should be used in a prudent manner to provide medical benefit to the patient.”

Industry

- **“We would only support diagnostic ultrasound procedures when they are necessary and clinically indicated. If the examination is not necessary for medical purposes it shouldn’t be done, plain and simple.”**

**Robert Britain, Vice-President of Medical Products
National Electrical Manufacturers Association (NEMA)**

- **“We oppose the use of diagnostic ultrasound for entertainment purposes and do not permit our products to be marketed or sold for such applications.”**

Kevin M. Goodwin, President and CEO, Sonosite

- **GE Healthcare displays AIUM’s *Prudent Use Statement* on their website**

Non-Medical Ultrasound – Is It Acceptable ?

Who says no?

- American Institute of Ultrasound in Medicine
- American College of Radiology
- American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists
- American Medical Association
- Food and Drug Administration
- Society for Diagnostic Medical Sonography
- Society for Vascular Ultrasound
- National Electrical Manufacturer's Association
- Sonosite
- General Electric
- Texas
- California
- New York

Handheld Doppler

Is it safe for my baby?

Jacques S. Abramowicz, MD
Chair, AIUM Bioeffects Committee
Professor of Ob/Gyn
Rush University
Chicago, IL

Fetal Heart Rate & Rhythm and OTC Handheld Doppler Devices

Joshua Copel, MD
President-Elect, American Institute of
Ultrasound in Medicine
Professor of Obstetrics, Gynecology and
Reproductive Sciences, and of Pediatrics at
Yale University School of Medicine
New Haven, CT

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