Procedure Name: Abdomen Complete
Updated 04/10/14

Indications:
May include but not limited to abdomen pain, nausea and/or vomiting, gallbladder disease, palpable or suspected masses, pancreatitis, follow up to prior exam, abnormal liver function test values, or any other valid medical reason. There are no absolute contraindications.

General Description:
This is a survey of the upper abdomen. A complete examination of the abdomen for adults and children includes assessment and imaging of the liver, gallbladder and biliary tract, pancreas, spleen, aorta and IVC, and kidney(s) to include adrenal glands when possible. An assessment for intraperitoneal fluid and pleural effusion(s) should also be part of the examination.

Patient Preparation:
NPO after midnight for morning exam. For afternoon exam, the patient may have a low fat breakfast with no dairy products, prior to 7:30a.m.

Equipment Selection and Settings:
Select ABD from preset menu. A curvilinear 4.0MHz probe will be used for most patients. The Sonographer should use the preprogrammed setting for the appropriate body part and adjust gain, depth and transmit zone settings to optimize images. Fill out any applicable impression or worksheet upon completion of exam.

Imaging Sequence:
The following imaging sequence is for a normal exam. Include additional images of pathology to demonstrate dimensions in three planes, texture, size, shape, and relationship to adjacent anatomy. Utilize color Doppler as needed to aid in the determination of any abnormality and to demonstrate blood flow.

1. Image patient data (demographics page)

Spleen
2. LONG Spleen with and without measurement
3. LONG Spleen/Lt kidney/adrenal
4. TRANS Spleen

Left Kidney
6. LONG LT kidney medial, mid, lateral
7. LONG LT kidney with length measurement
8. TRANS LT kidney mid with width and AP measurement
9. TRANS LT kidney upper, mid, lower
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AORTA
10. LONG Aorta prox/mid (widest AP measurement).
10. LONG Aorta mid/dist
11. LONG or TRANS Aorta bifurcation

IVC
12. LONG IVC (annotation required)

PANCREAS
13. Pancreas head/body
14. Pancreas body/tail

LIVER
15. LONG LT lobe
16. LONG LT lobe liver to include IVC and Caudate Lobe
17. LONG RT lobe with portal vein
18. LONG RT Lobe liver/diaphragm
19. LONG RT Lobe liver/GB
20. LONG RT Lobe liver/RT kidney/adrenal
21. TRANS LT lobe liver
22. TRANS RT lobe liver w/hepatic vein & IVC confluence
23. TRANS RT lobe liver w/bifurcation of RT/LT portal veins/biliary tract
24. TRANS RT lobe liver/MPV with color Doppler as needed to show direction of flow
25. TRANS RT lobe liver/GB
26. TRANS RT lobe liver/RT kidney

RIGHT KIDNEY
27. LONG RT kidney medial, mid, lateral
28. LONG RT kidney with length measurement
29. TRANS RT kidney mid with width and AP measurement
30. TRANS RT kidney upper, mid, lower

GALLBLADDER
31. LONG GB
32. TRANS GB
33. TRANS GB with anterior wall measurement
34. LLD GB LONG and TRANS
35. CBD with and without measurement

Pediatrics: For all pediatric abdomen patients you are to image the pelvis with a few documented images to rule out any cause for pain. No additional prep required.

For patients with a diagnosis of elevated LFTs, hepatitis, chronic liver disease or cirrhosis, the following images must be taken.

a. Color Doppler of MPV to verify direction of flow. This should be taken at level of portahepatis and the color should never be inverted.
b. Multiple images of the anterior surface of the liver using a high frequency linear transducer to show any nodularity of the liver surface.