The Role of Protocols and Standardization in Obstetric Ultrasound

In today’s competitive and dynamic healthcare climate, it is critical to use your medical imaging systems to their fullest potential. Our goal at Philips Healthcare is to provide the clinical education you need to make the most of your equipment investment.

**Philips Ultrasound Women’s Healthcare 312**

This one day, physician-led course will inspire the learner to consider implementation of obstetric ultrasound protocols within their own practice. We will review evidence-based data supporting protocols and standardization and will provide a comprehensive overview of the utilization of SmartExam Protocols to aid in the standardization of obstetrical ultrasound exams. The course will also cover research supporting universal cervical length screening and how the learner may introduce this evaluation within their own practice. We will conclude with an update on ultrasound evaluation of the placenta and other common conditions encountered during obstetric ultrasound.

The course will be presented by Michael S. Ruma, MD, MPH, who is a maternal-fetal medicine specialist and physician partner at Perinatal Associates of New Mexico in Albuquerque, NM. His clinical interests include research in the standardization of patient care, checklist utilization in obstetric ultrasound and efficiency in the perinatal practice.

**Audience Statement**

This course is for physicians and sonographers interested in learning how to use and implement protocols for obstetric ultrasound, reviewing the use of universal transvaginal cervical length screening and expanding their knowledge about common fetal and placental conditions diagnosed during obstetric ultrasound.
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"Obstetric ultrasound evaluation requires the acquisition of a standard set of maternal and fetal images recommended by such organizations as the International Society of Ultrasound in Obstetrics and Gynecology. Although commonplace, the effect of these guidelines on the productivity and accuracy of obstetric ultrasound examinations is not well described. Recent research on the implementation of a software protocol–based ultrasound examination demonstrated significant time-savings and improvements in ultrasound report documentation. Protocol-based ultrasound examinations may be an important quality improvement tool for obstetric ultrasound practice now and in the future."

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**Course Objectives**

Upon completion of this course, the learner should be able to:

- Understand the importance of protocols and standardization in other industry
- Acknowledge the call to action from obstetric professional agencies to implement protocols
- Review evidence-based data on standardized imaging for obstetrical ultrasound
- Learn how to design and implement SmartExam Protocols for obstetric ultrasound exams
- Gain hands-on experience using SmartExam Protocols during obstetric ultrasound exams
- Review evidence-based data on the use of universal transvaginal cervical length screening
- Learn how to perform transvaginal cervical length screening and discuss the experience of implementing it in practice
- Discuss common fetal and placental conditions encountered in ultrasound assessment of the OB patient

**Prerequisite**

A thorough knowledge and understanding of 2D ultrasound imaging fundamentals and system instrumentation is required for this program.

**Locations**

Course may be held in Philips central locations in Alpharetta, Georgia; Bothell, Washington; and Cleveland, Ohio. Other locations may be offered.

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**For more information**

Contact Philips Ultrasound Clinical Education at 800.522.7022 and visit our education catalog at www.learningconnection.philips.com/ultrasound

Michael S. Ruma, MD, MPH