

**Objectives:** To compare different forceps and needle-based instruments in hrMSUS-guided synovial biopsy in a cadaver study.

**Methods:** A core needle biopsy (A, Quickcore, Cook Medical, Bloomington, IN, USA), a retrograde forceps (B, Retroforce, Karl-Storz GmbH Tuttlingen, Germany), an anterograde arthroscopy forceps (C, Karl Storz GmbH, Tuttlingen, Germany) and a convexly shaped integrated core needle system (D, Synovex, Hipp Medical, Kolbingen, Germany) were tested for ultrasound-guided synovial biopsy of the suprapatellar recess in cadaver knee joints. Four senior rheumatologists scored each intervention from 0–5 regarding the following characteristics: visualization, handiness, accuracy, synovial tissue yield, invasiveness and overall suitability. Each intervention was recorded as static images and video clips.

**Results:** In all devices, enough representative synovial tissue was obtained and the instruments were all well visualized by hrMSUS. Core needle biopsy and the integrated needle system were best visualized due to their horizontally shaped closing mechanism. The core needle obtained a high yield of superficial synovial tissue and was the least invasive procedure. Despite handiness and accuracy were higher in the forceps instruments, overall suitability for hrMSUS-guided synovial biopsy was rated highest for the core biopsy needle.

**Conclusions:** Technically, all of the tested devices can be used for hrMSUS-guided synovial biopsy. Core needle biopsy seems to be most suitable for this intervention due to a low invasiveness, good visualisation and optimal yield of superficial synovial tissue.

**References:**

- [1] Hügler T et al. Retrograde synovial biopsy of the knee joint using a novel biopsy forceps. *Arthrosc Tech.* 2014;3(3):e317–9.
- [2] Hügler T et al. Development of a New Device for Synovial Biopsies. *Surg Innov.* 2015;22(5):496–9.

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**AB1066 DIAGNOSTIC UTILITY OF THE MEDIAN/ULNAR NERVE CROSS-SECTIONAL AREA RATIO IN CARPAL TUNNEL SYNDROME**

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**Background:** The most commonly used ultrasonographic measurements for the diagnosis of CTS are measurement of the median nerve cross-sectional area (m-CSA) at different levels of the carpal tunnel.<sup>1</sup> The cross-sectional area of a nerve may differ according to biometric characteristics such as age, sex, height, weight and wrist thickness.<sup>2–4</sup>

**Objectives:** The aim of this study was to assess the diagnostic utility of the ultrasonographic ratio of m-CSA to ulnar nerve cross-sectional area (u-CSA), the m-CSA/u-CSA ratio, in carpal tunnel syndrome (CTS).

**Methods:** Patients (n=50) with positive symptoms and electromyography results of CTS and control subjects (n=50) with negative electromyography results of CTS were evaluated. The most symptomatic hand of each participant were included in the assessment. Ultrasonographic m-CSA and u-CSA measurements were made at the level of the pisiform bone, and m-CSA/u-CSA ratio was calculated.

**Results:** Using the m-CSA cut-off value of 9.95 mm<sup>2</sup> showed a sensitivity of 92% and a specificity of 42%. Conversely, the cut-off value 13.90 mm<sup>2</sup> showed a sensitivity of 56% and a specificity of 92%. Using the cut-off value 2.96 for the ratio of m-CSA/u-CSA showed a sensitivity of 86% and a specificity of 38% while using the cut-off value 3.71 showed a sensitivity of 52% and a specificity of 90% in the diagnosis of CTS.

**Conclusions:** The ratio of m-CSA/u-CSA at the level of the pisiform bone did not provide an additional benefit for the diagnosis of CTS. Ultrasonographic m-CSA measured at the same level was found to be more sensitive and specific method.

**References:**

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**AB1067 SUITABILITY OF CADAVER MODELS IN ULTRASOUND DIAGNOSTICS AND INTERVENTIONS IN RHEUMATOLOGY: FOOT AND ANKLE**

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**Background:** Employment of cadaver specimens in ultrasonography provides a useful and safe model for education, enhances the anatomical knowledge of sonographers and may help determine the accuracy of ultrasound-guided interventions.

**Objectives:** In this systemic literature review (SLR) we assessed the role and use of cadaver specimens in sonographic studies of the foot and ankle in the field of rheumatology.

**Methods:** For our literature review we utilized the MEDLINE database, which were supplemented by searches in Google Scholar and Science Direct when the articles were not available through PubMed. Original studies in English language were included in the full paper review with an exception of three German language studies with English abstracts were also included. In the full paper review studies were selected for inclusion featured the sonographic study of cadaver specimens of the foot and ankle. Data were extracted on study characteristics and interventions.

**Results:** The search yielded 1241 articles, of which 130 were selected for detailed review. In the end, 23 full papers met inclusion criteria. The studies could be grouped as follows: description of detailed ultrasound anatomy (9), testing of accuracy of ultrasound guided interventional procedures (8), examination of artificial tears and lesions (4), foreign bodies (1) and joint effusions (1). The results that were obtained in the studies of the fully reviewed papers utilized a total of 294 cadaveric specimens, with an average of 12.78 (range: 1–48) cadaveric specimens included in each study.

**Conclusions:** The use of cadaver specimens of the foot and ankle may facilitate the validation of new sonographic methods which assess these joint regions, however the major disadvantage of these studies was the low number of cadaveric specimens.

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**AB1068 ULTRASOUND OF SALIVARY GLANDS IN SJOGREN'S SYNDROME- WHICH SEMI-QUANTITATIVE SCORING SYSTEM IS THE BEST?**

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**Background:** Sjogren Syndrome (SS) affects mainly exocrine glands. The latest diagnostic criteria designed for clinical studies are also used as guidance in clinical practice [1].

Ultrasonography (US) demonstrates specificity and sensibility in parotid and submandibular gland evaluation (SG). Parameters considered are echogenicity, homogeneity and margins regularity [1,2,3]. To standardize the assessment of B mode US of SG, different semi-quantitative scores were proposed.

**Objectives:** To apply and compare 9 US semi-quantitative scoring systems in B mode scanning of salivary glands in Sjogren Syndrome.

**Methods:** A research using keywords “salivary glands”, “ultrasonography”, “Sjogren Syndrome”, “semi-quantitative score” in Medline/Pubmed was performed. There was a selection of most relevant articles. There were not considered relevant publications with impact factor <1. We performed the examination on SG in B mode US and applied these scores (De Vita, Niemela, Hocoever, Salaffi, Yukinori, Cornec, Theander) to our patients (primary and secondary SS).

**Results:** Eighty four SG in patients diagnosed with primary and secondary (57.15%) SS were assessed. In the group of patients with SSA/SSB presence (85.7%), mean score was De Vita 1.78+/-1.21, Niemela 2.56+/-2.17, Hocoever and Wernicke 2.39+/-2.14, Salaffi 2.83+/-2.52, Yukinori 2.39+/-2.14, Milic 3.39+/-2.14, Cornec 1.78+/-1.215, Theander 1.28+/-0.752. Schirmer test and the need for using the artificial tears was correlated to SG alterations in scoring systems proposed by Niemela (r 0.465, p<0.05) and Salaffi (r 0.496, p<0.02). All scoring systems were strongly correlated between them (r>0.8, p<0.01).

**Conclusions:** Inhomogeneity of parenchyma was considered in all scoring systems. Others considered relevant glandular dimension and margins regularity [2,3,4]. There was no difference between the scoring systems. Xerofthalmia validated through Schirmer test is correlated to SG parenchymal alterations. Our data is an update about semi-quantitative scoring systems in US of SG in SS.

**References:**

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