

Clinical Image

Title: A Real-Time, Moving Sonographic Image of Esophagus During Swallowing

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A linear high frequency transducer (10–18MHz, Esaote, Florence, Italy) placed on the suprasternal notch, with the patient lying supine and in the sniffing position. The thyroid gland lies in front of the trachea (right side) and Esophagus (right side). The esophageal wall can be seen expand and compress with swallowing in this moving image. The concentric layers of esophagus results in a characteristic “bull’s eye” appearance on the ultrasound [1]. Dynamic imaging is better to accurate identification of Esophagus [2].

References

1. Gourin CG, Orloff LA (2008) Normal head and neck ultrasound anatomy. Orloff LA,ed. San Diego: Plural Publishing.
2. Kristensen MS (2011) Ultrasonography in the management of the airway. Acta Anaesthesiol Scand 55: 1155-1173.