



Have you 'paused and checked'?

Practitioner Checklist for Ultrasound Examinations

P	Patient	<p>Confirm patient ID. Always use unique identifiers</p> <p>Check that the examination is justified</p> <p>Check examination history for other relevant recent imaging studies</p> <p>Check available notes and referral documentation</p> <p>Discuss clinical history and context with patient as appropriate</p> <p>Confirm the patient expected the examination, understands and has consented</p> <p>Consider chaperone requirements</p>
A	Anatomy	<p>Plan the examination so as to address the clinical question.</p> <p>Be prepared to amend and extend the examination as necessary.</p>
U	User checks	<p>Confirm the correct modality</p> <p>Provide clear information and instructions to all involved</p>
S	Systems & Settings	<p>Select correct patient (unique ID)</p> <p>Confirm correct exam date/time are displayed</p> <p>Select correct pre-set for the examination, adjusting imaging parameters as necessary</p> <p>Select appropriate transducer</p> <p>Prepare equipment as necessary</p> <p>Start with as low a power setting as possible</p>
E	Exposure	<p>Follow British Medical Ultrasound Society safety guidelines¹</p> <p>Monitor displayed thermal and mechanical indices</p>
D	Draw to a close	<p>Add image annotation and comments as appropriate to stored images</p> <p>Report the examination</p> <p>Complete all computer records as per department protocol</p> <p>Confirm PACS images selected and stored</p> <p>Inform patient of results appropriate to findings, situation and local guidelines</p> <p>Inform the patient where to go to obtain results relevant to referral source.</p> <p>Inform referrer of any urgent or significant findings</p>