Introduction to Thyroid Ultrasound

November 13, 2026

Friday, November 13, 2026		
7:30	**Welcome and Continental Breakfast**	
7:45	**Interactive Pre-Polling Session**	
8:00	**Cervical Ultrasound Imaging Fundamentals**	**Jennifer Sipos, MD**
8:30	**Thyroid Anatomy, Scan Techniques & Imaging Protocols and Normal Ultrasound Characteristics**	
9:00	**Break**	
9:15	**Ultrasound Evaluation of Thyroid Nodules**	**Jennifer Sipos, MD**
10:00	**Ultrasound Evaluation of Diffuse Thyroid Disorders** • **Hashimoto's** • **Graves Disease** • **Thyroiditis**	
10:30	**Break**	
10:45	**Ultrasound Evaluation of Lymph Nodes, Vocal Cords, and Non-Thyroid Neck Anatomy**	**Jennifer Sipos, MD**
11:30	**Ultrasound-Guided Interventional Techniques**	
12:00	**Case Studies**	**Jennifer Sipos, MD**
12:20	**Interactive Post-Polling Session**	
12:30	**Adjourn for Lunch**	
1:30	**Hands-On Scanning Session with Standardized Patient Models & Inanimate Phantoms**	
4:30	**Adjourn**	

** This is a tentative course itinerary. Lecture faculty, times and dates may be subject to change.

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The Gulfcoast Ultrasound Institute is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

The Gulfcoast Ultrasound Institute designates this live educational activity for a maximum of 8.0 *AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™.* Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the educational activity.

This course also meets CME / CEU requirements for ARDMS. Note: While offering the CME credit hours noted above, activities are not intended to provide extensive training or certification for exam performance or interpretation.

NEEDS STATEMENT:
The planning committee has determined a need for the following educational activity based on request from the medical community, expanded utilization of ultrasound, and lab accreditation requirements.

Course Objectives: At the completion of this program the participant should be able to:

1. Increase the participant's knowledge to better perform and/or interpret thyroid ultrasound examinations.
2. State the basic fundamentals of ultrasound physics and adjustment of system settings for image optimization.
3. Perform routine protocols associated with evaluation of the thyroid.
4. Recognize normal thyroid characteristics on ultrasound.
5. Identify ultrasound characteristics of benign and suspicious thyroid nodules.
6. Recognize ultrasound characteristics of diffuse thyroid disorders (Hashimoto's, Graves, thyroiditis).
7. Outline the ultrasound examination protocols of the neck in patients with thyroid cancer for identification of recurrent/residual disease.
8. Perform ultrasound evaluation of lymph nodes, vocal cords, and non-thyroid neck anatomy.
9. List available interventions for ultrasound of the neck including the various ultrasound-guided fine needle aspiration techniques.

While offering CME credits this activity is not intended to provide extensive training or certification for the performance or interpretation of thyroid ultrasound examinations. We recommend working under supervision until an accepted level of proficiency has been achieved.

A special thanks to the following commercial companies who provide various (in kind) support to help make our programs possible (companies listed are as of the time of printing):

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Disclosure of Presence/Absence of Relevant Financial Relationships with Ineligible Companies for Individuals in Control of Content

Gulfcoast Ultrasound Institute, Inc. endorses the Standards for Integrity and Independence in Accredited Continuing Education of the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) for all activities. All individuals in control of content are required to disclose any financial relationships with ACCME defined ineligible companies, regardless of the amount. Full disclosure of the presence or absence of relevant financial relationships with ineligible companies is outlined in the course materials and will be verbally disclosed to all learners during opening remarks.

FACULTY:

Jennifer Sipos, MD
Professor of Medicine
Division of Endocrinology
Medical Director, Neuroendocrine Service Line
Arthur G James Comprehensive Cancer Center
The Ohio State University
Columbus, Ohio
No relevant financial relationships to disclose

Content:

All content for this CME activity were reviewed and approved by member(s) of the GUI staff to determine content validity and ensure that no commercial bias exists prior to final course material compilation and printing.

Reviewed & approved:
Lori Green BA, RDMS, RDCS, RVT
Trisha Reo AAS, RDMS, RVT
Mark Swanson, RDMS, RVT

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Disclosure of Presence/Absence of Relevant Financial Relationships with Ineligible Companies for Individuals in Control of Content

In addition to the faculty listed on the previous page, the following individuals are recognized by GUI as being in control of content of this program:

James Mateer, MD, RDMS (Medical Director-planner & QI Task Force)
Medical Director, Gulfcoast Ultrasound Institute
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No relevant financial relationships to disclose

Charlotte Derr, MD, RDMS, FACEP, FPD-AEMUS (Co-Medical Director-planner & QI Task Force)
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No relevant financial relationships to disclose

Andreas Dewitz, MD, RDMS (Member of Advisory Board & QI Task Force Subcommittee)
Clinical Professor of Emergency Medicine
Clinical Director of POCUS Education, Solomont Simulation Center
Department of Emergency Medicine
Boston Medical Center
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No relevant financial relationships to disclose

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No relevant financial relationships to disclose

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St. Petersburg, FL
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Mark Swanson, RDMS, RVT (Senior Clinical Instructor/Product Specialist-planner, Content Reviewer, QI Task Force)
Gulfcoast Ultrasound Institute, Inc.
St. Petersburg, FL
No relevant financial relationships to disclose

At the time of printing **all hands-on instructors for this program have signed disclosure forms and have no relevant financial relationships to disclose.** A verbal disclosure will be made during opening remarks. All scanning sessions are monitored by the program director and/or the program manager to ensure education objectives are met and no commercial bias occurs.

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Welcome!!

The entire staff at Gulfcoast Ultrasound Institute would like to welcome you to our educational facility.

Our goal is to provide the highest quality continuing education possible in a relaxed and personal atmosphere. The content of each program has been carefully planned to provide you with the information needed to obtain a firm foundation to begin gaining the experience to perform and/or interpret ultrasound examinations in the specialty of your choice. The program will be structured with lectures in the morning and hands-on sessions during the afternoon to allow more individualized attention the program participants will be divided into groups for the hands-on workshops based on your experience level and type of equipment you work with.

To help you get the most out of this program we would like to make the following recommendations:

1. Attend the lectures and scheduled hands-on sessions.

2. When you are not involved in a scheduled afternoon session, take advantage of the SUPPLEMENTAL SCANNING WORKSHOP or check out a DVD from our library.

3. If you do not understand a particular concept, ASK FOR HELP!

4. Study your course workbook during the evening.

5. Remember excellence is not achieved overnight. Becoming proficient in any ultrasound specialty requires the commitment to continually study and perform multiple (at least 100) exams before an initial level of confidence is achieved. The AIUM guidelines suggest competency for interpretation requires a minimum of 500 exams per specialty.

6. Begin scanning immediately upon return to the ultrasound departments even if it's on a volunteer. We recommend scanning/interpretations under supervised conditions until an accepted level of proficiency has been obtained.

All of our instructors, guest speakers and office staff are here to serve you! If you have any questions of any kind, please do not hesitate to ask.

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Gulfcoast Ultrasound Institute
EQUIPMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

Throughout the past 37 years Gulfcoast Ultrasound Institute has taken great pride in our ability to provide quality continuing education programs while remaining unbiased regarding the recommendation of ultrasound equipment.

Our programs are supported by most of the major equipment manufactures by providing their systems for use during the hands-on sessions. These companies have learned their products will be used and demonstrated to the best of our abilities in an educational setting and that no selling or promotion is done on our premises.

We realize that some of the course participants may currently be in the process of evaluating equipment for purchase and would like the opinions of our staff to determine the “best” system for your department. Everyone has a “favorite” ultrasound system (usually because it is the one, they have worked with the most and are comfortable with) however, Gulfcoast Ultrasound must take an unbiased position in regards to equipment recommendations.

If you are currently evaluating equipment for purchase, we suggest you invite the equipment manufacturers to your facility for a private demonstration to determine image quality, ease of use, over-all capabilities etc. on an individual basis.

Thank you!

Lori Green BA, RDMS, RDCS, RVT

Lori Green, BA, RDMS, RDCS, RVT
Program Director