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Ultrasound Candidate Task Sheet

Case Parameters

This is a 5 minute ultrasound case. You will acquire 1 ultrasound image, and interpret 1 ultrasound video. Please know that the examiner may interrupt you to move through the case in a timely manner.

Expectations for Standardized Patient Interactions

Upon entering the room, the examiner will introduce the patient. You should interact with the standardized patient as you would any patient in a clinical situation, but please:

- Wear gloves.
- Ask the patient to expose parts of their body as needed.
- Do not wipe the gel off the patient; they will remove gel themselves.
- Ask the patient to reposition themselves to facilitate image acquisition as needed.
- Adjust the bed as needed or ask the examiner.
- Do not acquire any further history in your assessment of this patient.

Expectations for Examiner Interactions

- You must verbalize your thoughts while you are performing ultrasounds.
- Once you obtain a representative image, ask the examiner to "freeze" the screen.

Expectations for Ultrasound Machine Manipulation

- You will manipulate the ultrasound probe; the examiner will operate the machine
- Ask the examiner to adjust machine settings (depth, gain, or other modes) or transducer probe selection (linear, curvilinear, or phased array) as necessary.
- Notify your examiner if you would like to make any measurements.

Patient Information

A 54-year-old male with no prior medical history presents with shortness of breath. He notes the dyspnea has been progressive over the past 1 month with associated dry cough.

Physical Exam Findings

Vital signs: T 36.7C, HR 112, BP 80/54, RR 28, O2 saturation: 86% on room air.
Bilateral lower extremity edema.

Task Statement

Your tasks are as follows:

1) Obtain a parasternal long axis view of the heart.
2) Interpret a video of a parasternal long axis view of the heart.
3) Incorporate the ultrasound findings into your medical decision making of the patient.