

*“You give but little when you give of your possessions. It is when you give of yourself that you truly give”. Khalil Gibran - The Prophet*

I embarked on this journey with one focus in mind, to produce an educational resource designed to enhance the theoretical and practical knowledge of ultrasound with the goal of enhancing care for women around the world. Ultrasound has assumed an integral part of obstetrics and gynecology, whether in identifying a high-risk pregnancy or in assessing the non-pregnant uterus and adnexae. The proper application of ultrasound requires an in depth knowledge of the technology and practical skills for image acquisition, both of which are deficient in many parts of the world. This e-book is intended to fill this gap in all settings.

This e-book has three main sections; the first three chapters focus on the technical and practical use of ultrasound with a review of the physical principles of sound, the practical approach to the ultrasound equipment, and the technical aspect of performing the ultrasound examination. The second section, chapters four to ten, addresses the obstetric ultrasound examination and the third section, chapters eleven to fourteen, addresses the gynecologic ultrasound examination. The last chapter shows how to write an ultrasound report, a key component of the examination. Two chapters in particular, chapters ten and fourteen, present a stepwise-standardized approach to the basic obstetric and gynecologic ultrasound examinations respectively. The book is filled with descriptive figures, tables, and tips that the authors use in their daily ultrasound practice and have been accrued through many years of experience.

Many contributed to the success of this book, first and foremost, my friends and co-authors, Rabih Chaoui, Philippe Jeanty, and Dario Paladini who collectively possess an immense knowledge in ultrasound, are recognized as giants in this field, and provided book content and editorial review. Second, Ms. Emily Walsh, who helped design the book, organize the figures and tables, and produce the product that you see today. Her artistic abilities, time commitment, and focused approach made this project a reality. Third, the Marketing Department at Eastern Virginia Medical School, who coordinated the website to host and support the book. Last, but not least, my wife, Sharon, who was a great support and unselfishly allowed me to spend countless hours on this project.

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Many women around the world approach pregnancy and delivery with fear of death or serious injury. If through this educational resource, we are able to impact a single life, then our efforts would have been justified.

- Alfred Abuhamad, MD.