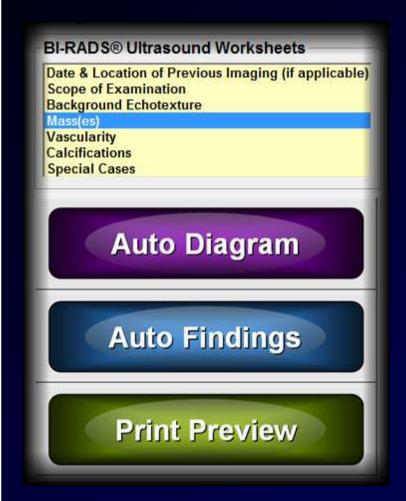
Automated BI-RADS® Ultrasound Worksheet for Sonographers



Hamid Tahmasebpour, BSC CRGS

Clinical Instructor, University of British Columbia

Director of Research & Development, Digital Orientation Resolutions Inc.

Program Director, Ultrasound Seminars & Workshops, www.sonographers.ca

Contact: hamid@sonographers.ca



How are we communicating the breast US findings?



HISTORY

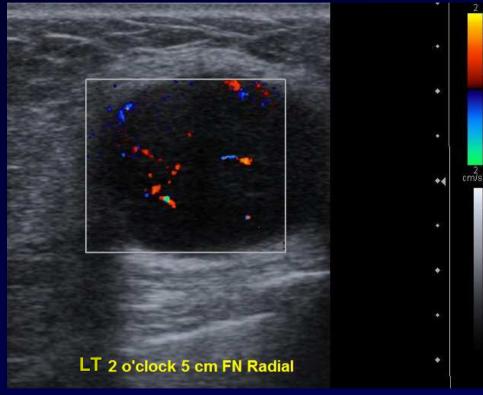
60 year-old female with palpable lump in the left breast. After performing a diagnostic ultrasound, the reporting radiologist suspected a fibroadenoma or a complicated cyst and therefore she recommended a follow up ultrasound in 4-6 months.

4 weeks after the first ultrasound, patient felt that the mass was getting larger and she tried to book her follow up ultrasound right away but the original clinic refused to do so as she was recommended for 4-6 months later.

The patient referred to another private clinic and a second ultrasound was performed. On the second ultrasound exam, the sonographer also performed color Doppler.

How are we communicating the breast US findings?



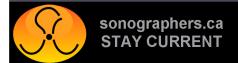


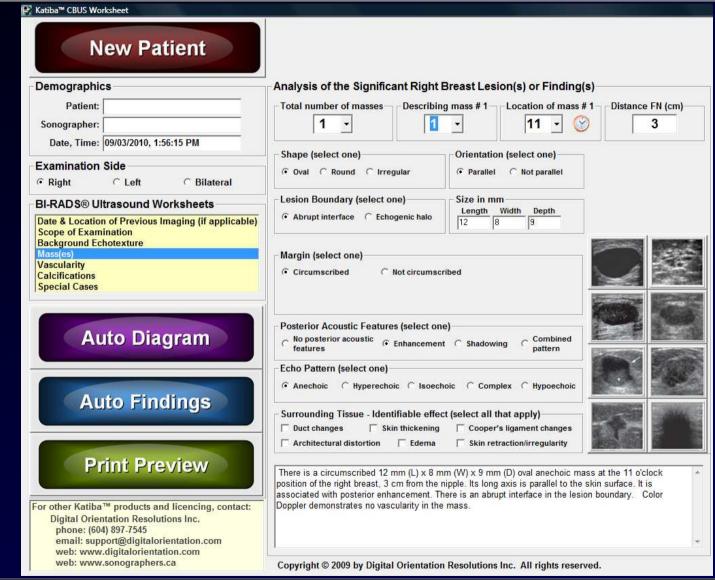
A core biopsy was arranged right away and the biopsy result confirmed an invasive ductal carcinoma.



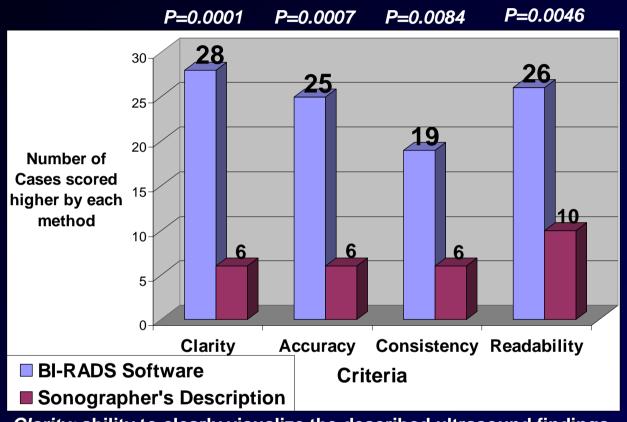
How to improve the communication for breast US reports:

- A breast scanner must be a registered sonographer
- Certified Breast Ultrasonographer (CBUS) recommended
- Automated BI-RADS® Worksheet to ensure reports with:
 - accuracy
 - clarity
 - consistency
 - Readability
 - efficiency









Clarity: ability to clearly visualize the described ultrasound findings

Accuracy: correctly described ultrasound findings

Consistency: uniformity of described ultrasound findings

Readability: understanding of hand-writing, abbreviations, and drawings

Whittaker TM, Tahmasebpour HR, Gardiner I et al: The Accuracy, Clarity, Consistency, and Efficiency of Structured Reporting of Breast Ultrasonography Using Computer Software Compared with Free-Text Reporting. RSNA 2009, Chicago, USA

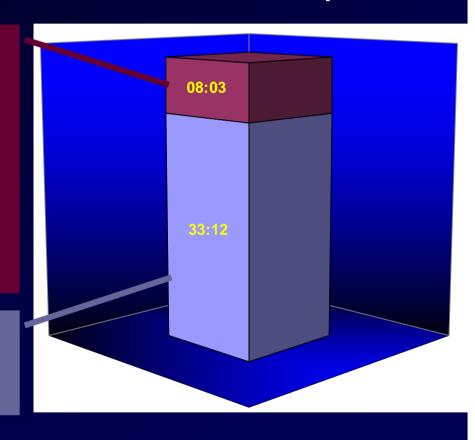


Turn Around Time for 199 Published Breast Ultrasound Reports

Average time (8 minutes and 3 seconds) spent to use the Automated BI-RADS Worksheet to:

- 1. Check cases with radiologist
- 2. Rescan the patient by radiologist (if applicable)
- 3. Publish the final report by radiologist
- 4. Print out the report
- 5. Deliver the report to a clerk to fax it

Average time (33 minutes and 12 seconds)
spent by sonographer to perform ultrasound exams



Whittaker TM, Tahmasebpour HR, Gardiner I et al: The Accuracy, Clarity, Consistency, and Efficiency of Structured Reporting of Breast Ultrasonography Using Computer Software Compared with Free-Text Reporting. RSNA 2009, Chicago, USA



The goal is to ensure that patients with cancer receive:

"the right treatment, the first time, as soon as possible to have a chance for cure"

