

# Carotid Duplex Protocol

**ASN 38th Annual Meeting**

**Neuroimaging for Clinicians, by Clinicians**

**January 15-18, 2015**

**Carefree, AZ**

Patricia A. (Tish) Poe, BA RVT FSVU

Director, Quality Assurance

NAVIX Diagnostix



**No disclosures**

# Policy and Procedure

# Policy and Procedure

These documents cover the big picture of how an area of testing is approached including:

- Indications
- Patient history
- Physical exam
- Risk factors
- Patient positioning
- Exam technique considerations

# Protocol: image sequence

Sequence	Location	Level	Orientation	Mode	Label
1.	Common carotid artery		Trans/Long Split	B	CCA
2.	Bifurcation		Trans/Long Split	B	Bif (Label ICA/ECA)
3.	Internal carotid artery	Proximal	Trans/Long Split	B	ICA Proximal
4.	Internal carotid artery	Mid	Trans/Long Split	B	ICA Mid
5.	Common carotid artery	Proximal	Long	C/D	Calcs Package
6.	Common carotid artery	Mid	Long	C/D	Calcs Package
7.	Common carotid artery	Distal	Long	C/D	Calcs Package
8.	External carotid artery		Long	C/D	Calcs Package
9.	Internal carotid artery	Proximal	Long	C/D	Calcs Package
10.	Internal carotid artery	Mid	Long	C/D	Calcs Package
11.	Internal carotid artery	Distal	Long	C/D	Calcs Package
12.	Vertebral Artery	Mid	Long	C/D	Calcs Package
13.	Subclavian Artery	Proximal	Long	B	SCA
14.	Subclavian Artery	Proximal	Long	C/D	Calcs Package

# Evaluate fully

## B-mode Imaging

1. Transverse from clavicle to mandible
  - a. Proximal common carotid artery (CCA)
  - b. Mid CCA
  - c. Distal CCA
  - d. Bifurcation
  - e. Proximal internal carotid artery (ICA)
  - f. Mid/distal ICA

# Evaluate fully

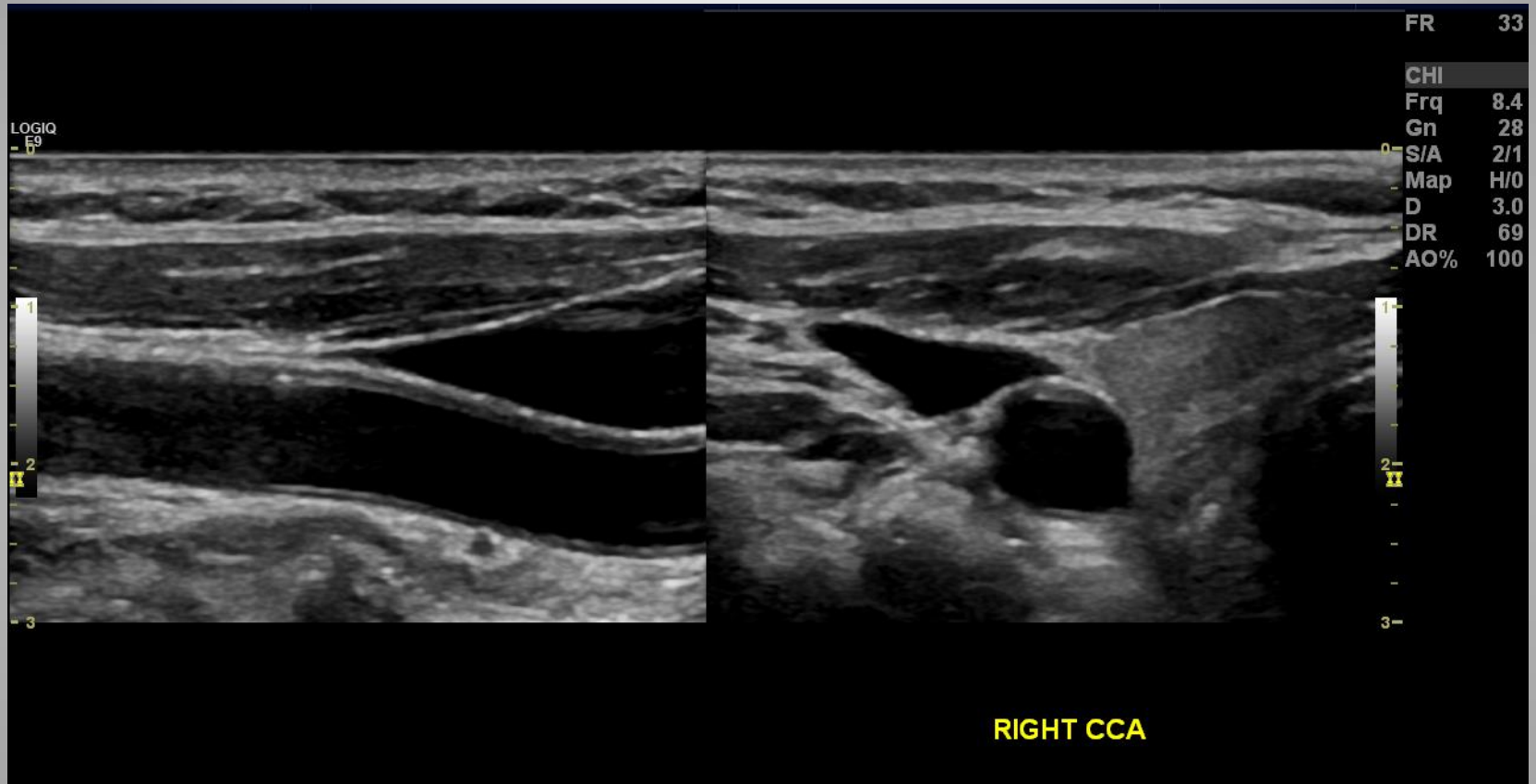
2. Longitudinal plane from clavicle to mandible
  - a. Proximal common carotid artery (CCA)
  - b. Mid CCA
  - c. Distal CCA
  - d. External carotid artery (ECA)
  - e. Proximal internal carotid artery (ICA)
  - f. Mid ICA
  - g. Distal ICA

Identify the location in the CCA where velocity is used to calculate ICA/CCA ratio

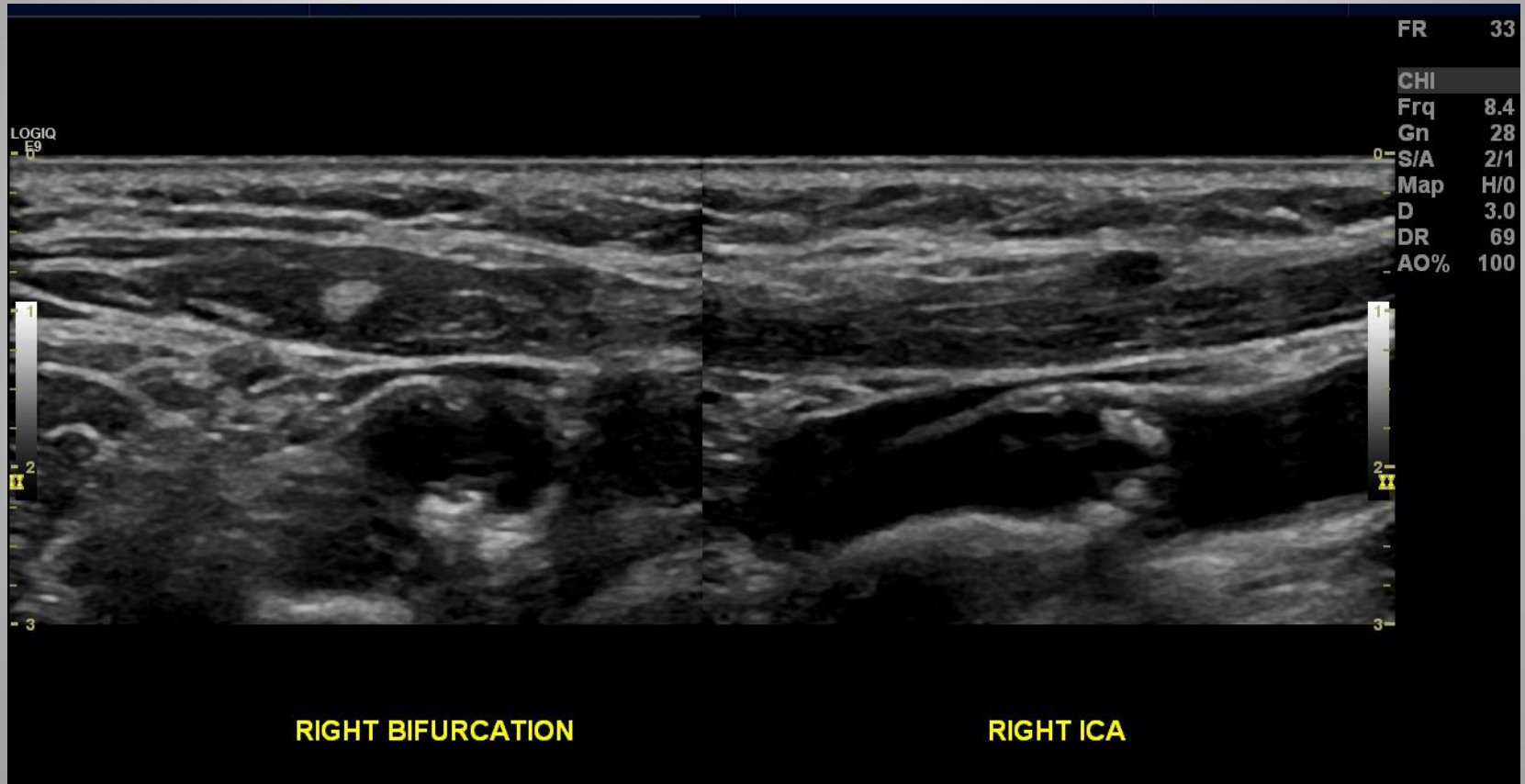
- Mid CCA velocity to be used in the ratio should be obtained about 2 cm proximal to the flow divider
- Do not say “bulb” as this is not a region but an anatomic widening that occurs in the distal CCA to proximal ICA
- Watch angle correction: align to vessel walls



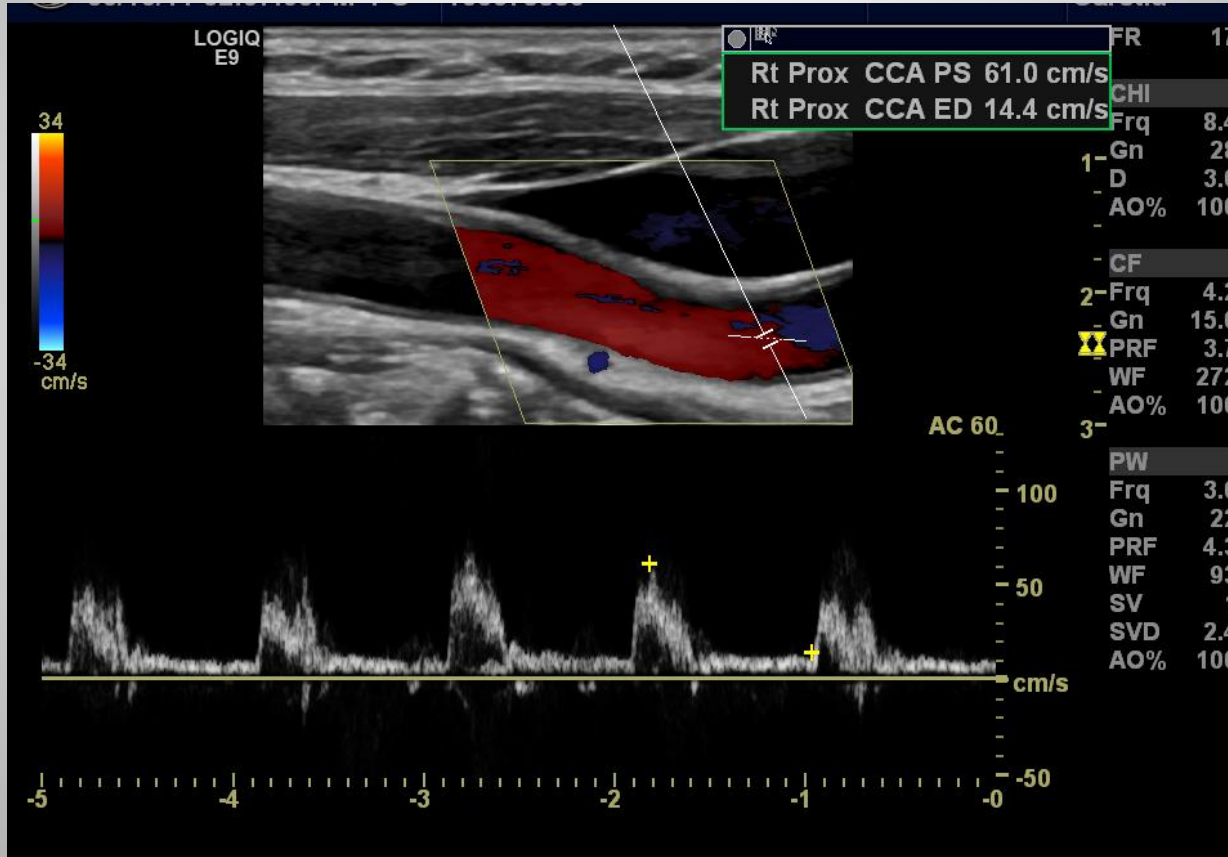
# Protocol



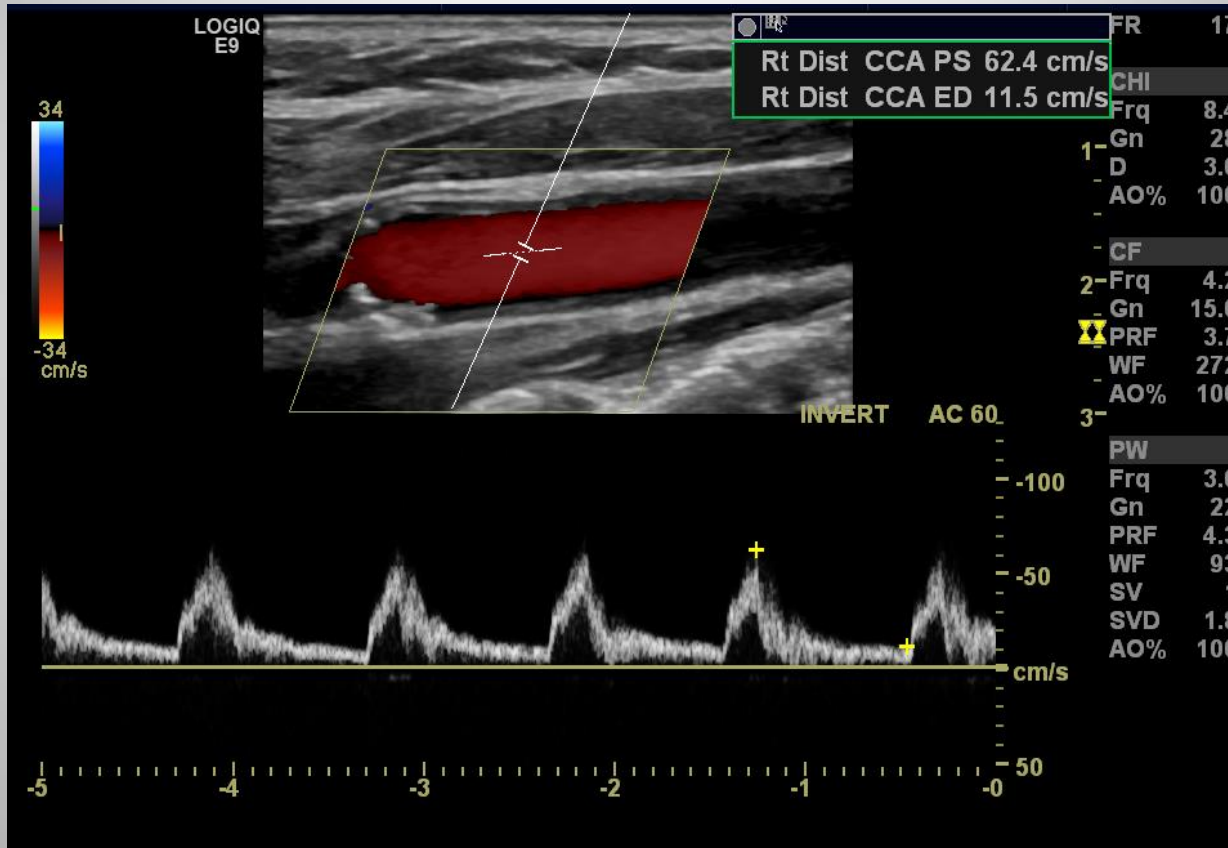
# Protocol



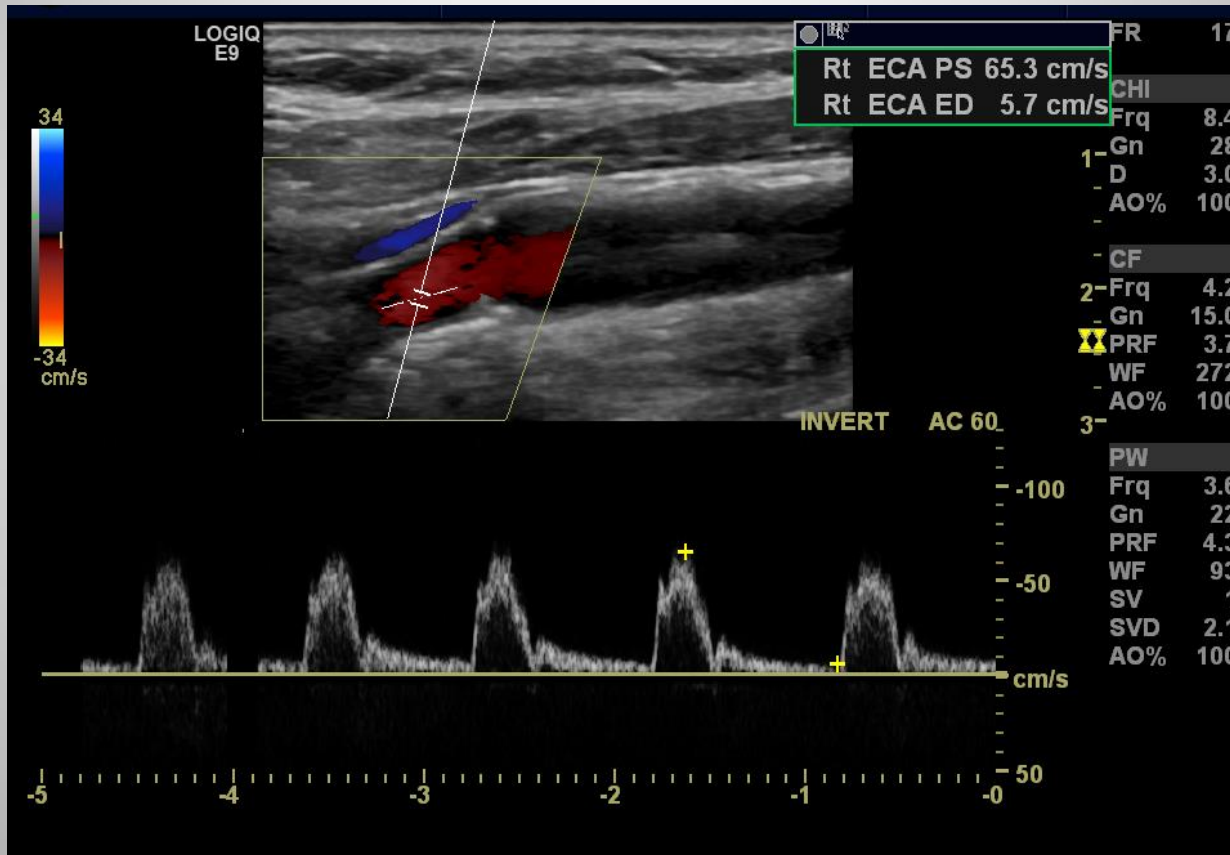
# Protocol



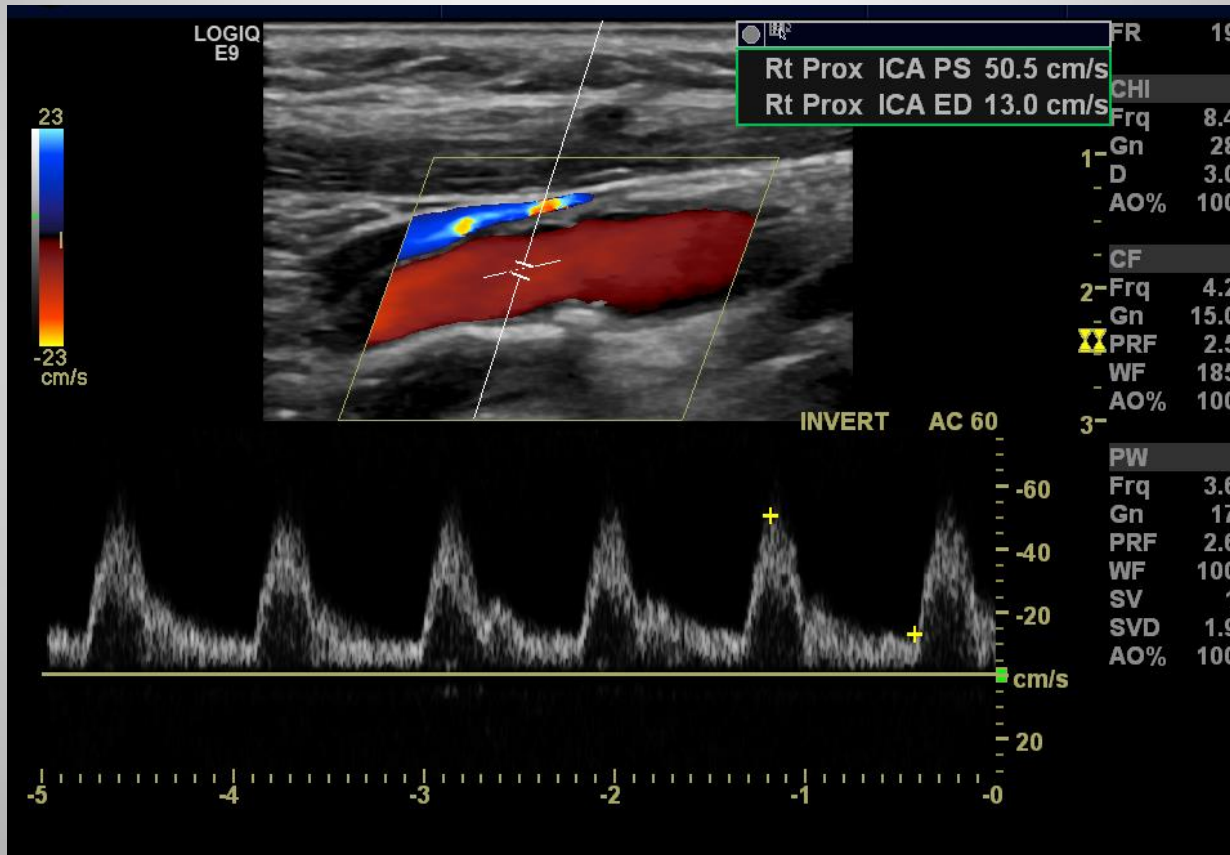
# Protocol



# Protocol



# Protocol

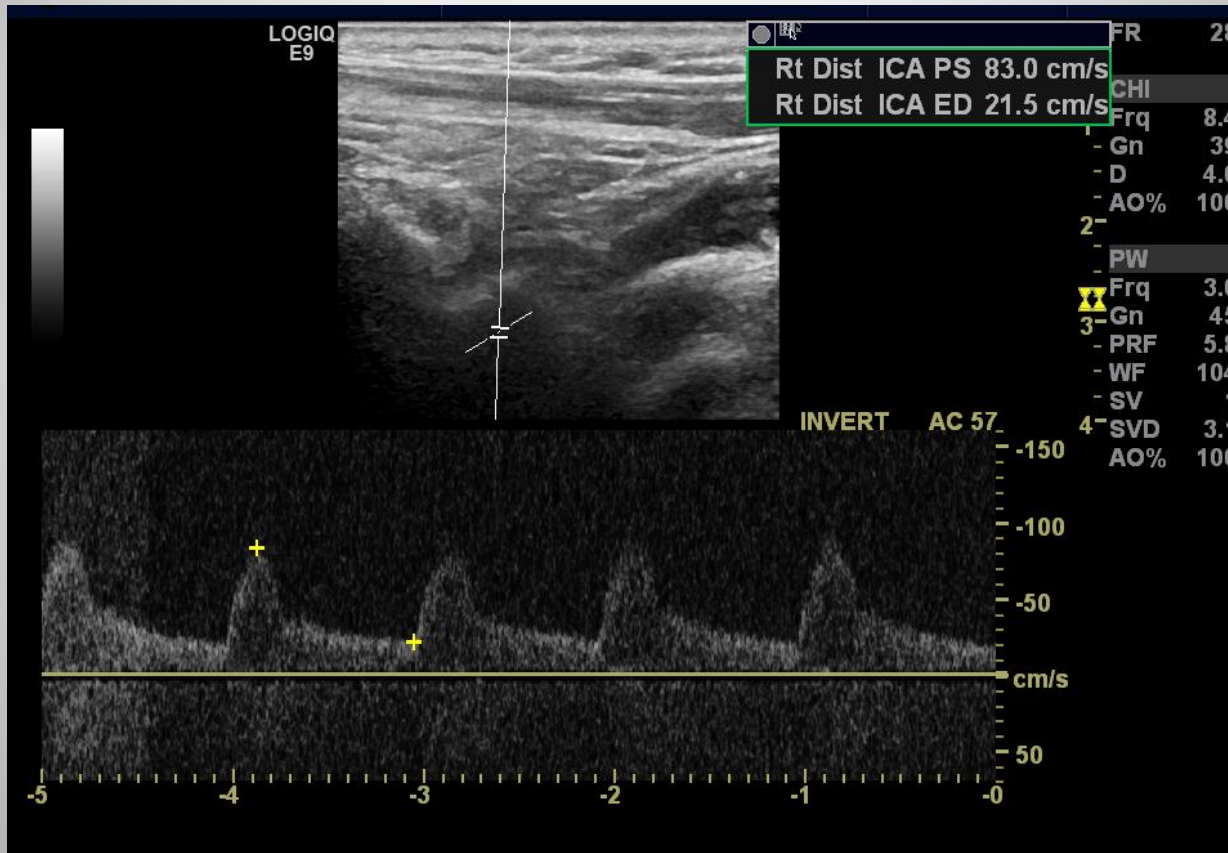




# Protocol



# Protocol





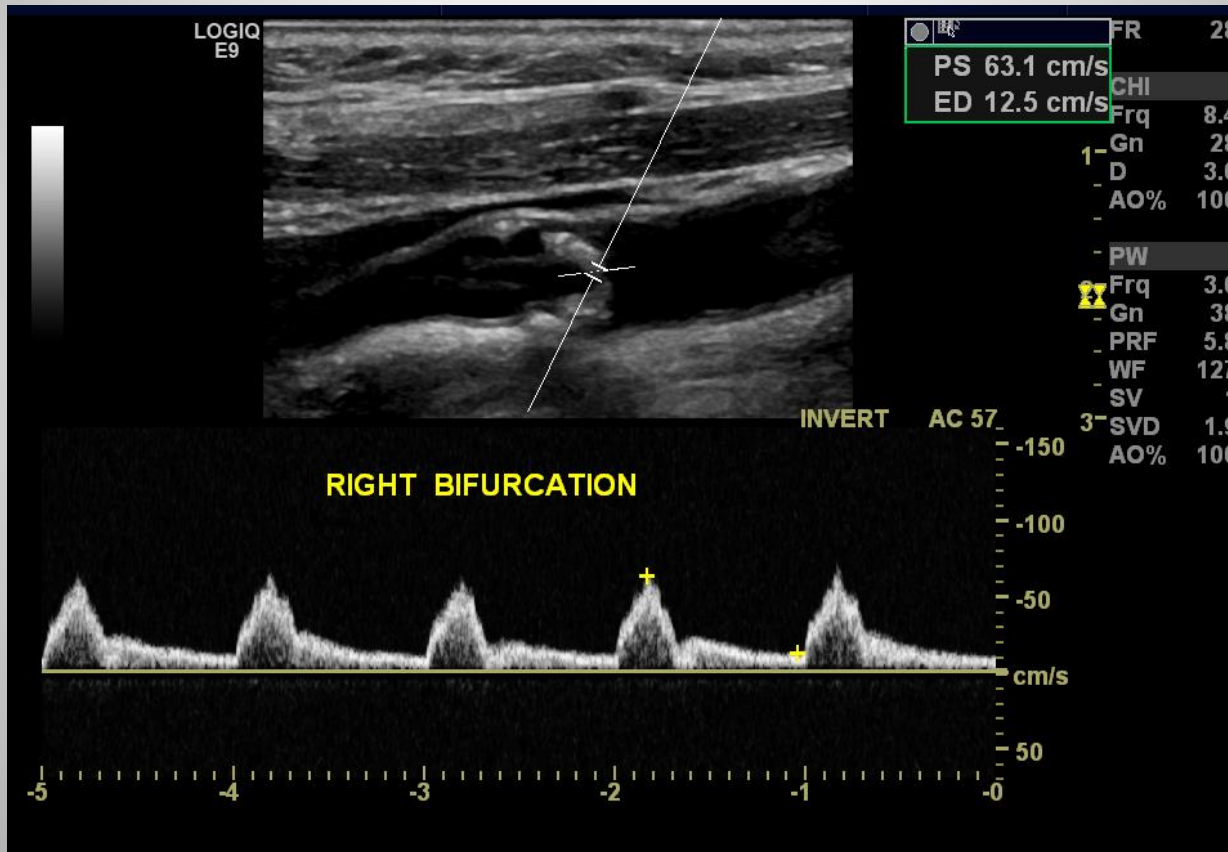
# Protocol



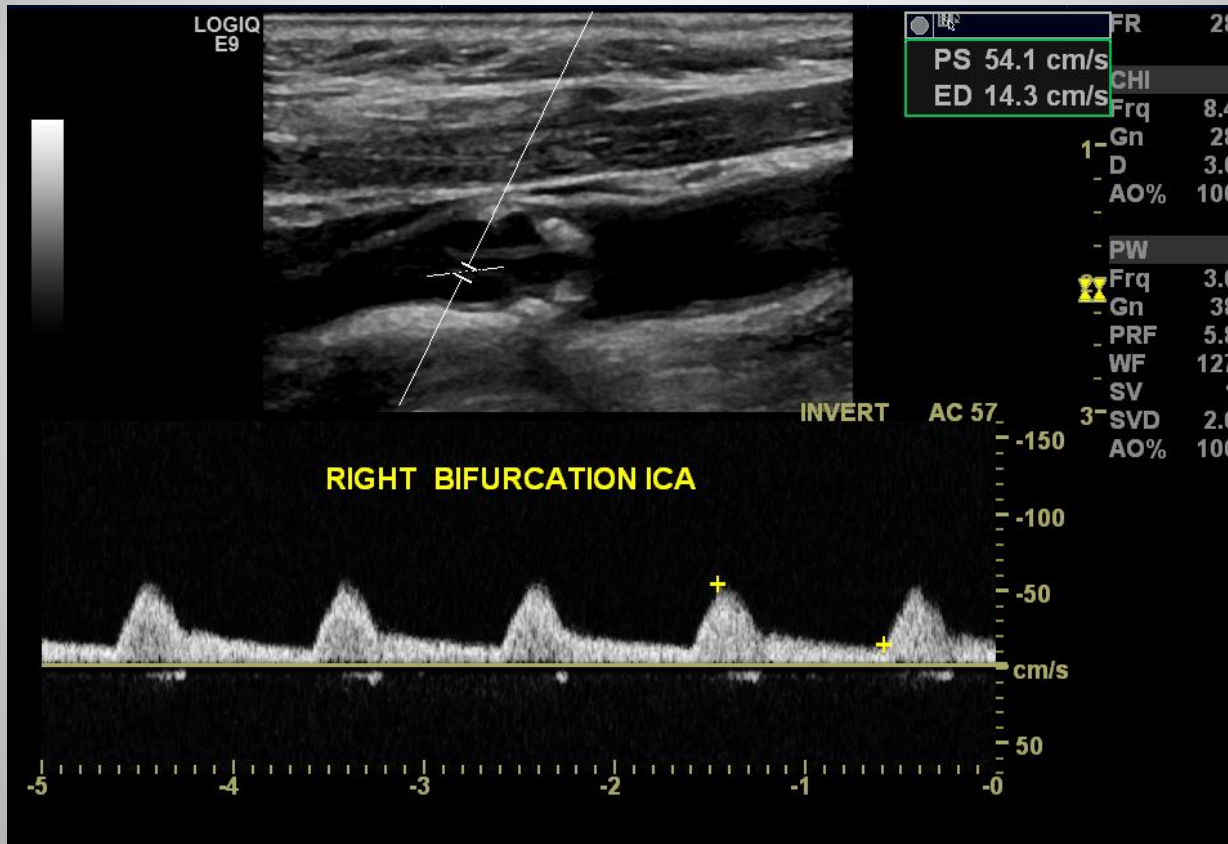
# Protocol



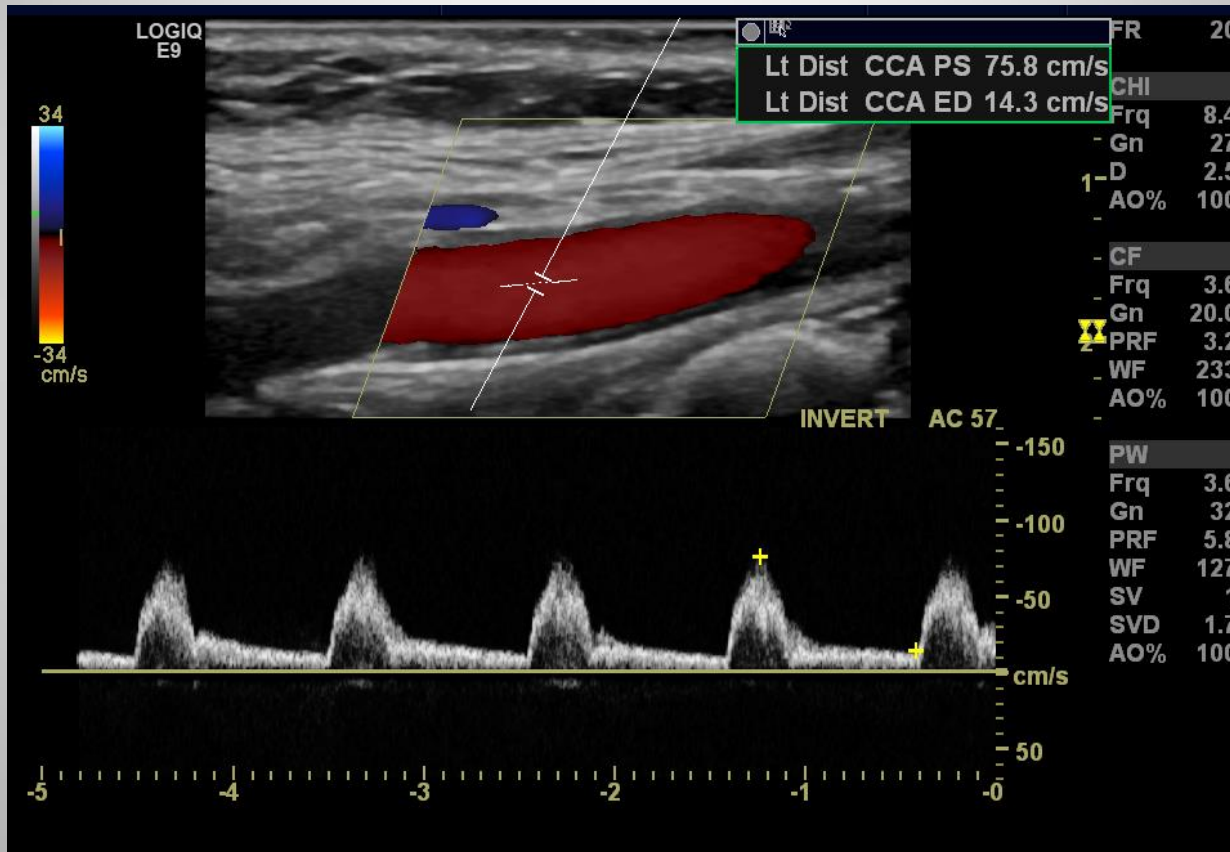
# Protocol



# Protocol



# Protocol



# Protocol

What is missing from our protocol for the image sequence on the right?

Common carotid artery, Mid, Long, C/D

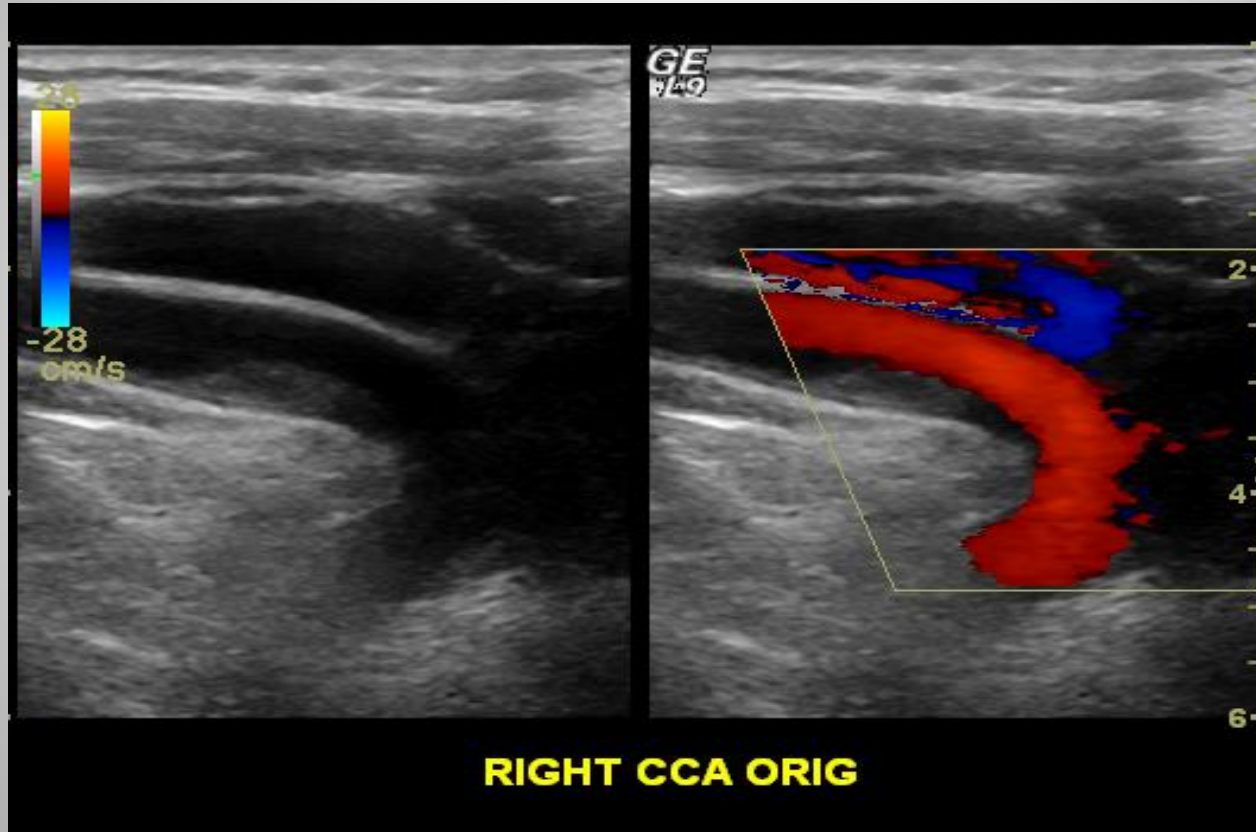
# Protocol

Did you notice anything unusual about the systolic upstroke in the study?

Patient has aortic stenosis, delaying the upstroke bilaterally.



Obtain data as far proximally as possible





# Subclavian artery evaluation

Obtain and document bilateral brachial blood pressures prior to performing cerebrovascular examinations.

Blood pressure symmetry is important in determining the presence and severity of subclavian artery stenosis.

If you find a pressure gradient of  $\geq 20$  mmHg, this may be indicative of a significant pressure reducing lesion in the upper extremity arteries.

- Bilateral subclavian artery stenosis may be present creating lowered BP bilaterally.

# Subclavian Artery

The proximal subclavian artery is evaluated in all patients, with additional images added when stenosis is identified. The following signs, symptoms, or conditions increase suspicion for hemodynamically significant subclavian artery disease:

- Discrepancy in brachial blood pressures  $\geq 20$  mmHg
- Abnormal flow in the extracranial vertebral artery
- Bruit of unknown origin
- Velocity increase in the proximal subclavian artery

# Subclavian Artery

- There are no firm velocity criteria for the subclavian or brachiocephalic (innominate) arteries
- Considering that the normal velocity range in the adult aorta, carotid and femoral arteries is 60-100 cm/sec, velocities over 200 cm/sec are *suspicious* for >50% stenosis
- Proceed as far proximally as possible and include waveforms more distally to look for turbulence or delayed upstroke

# Carotid Duplex Cases: Case 5



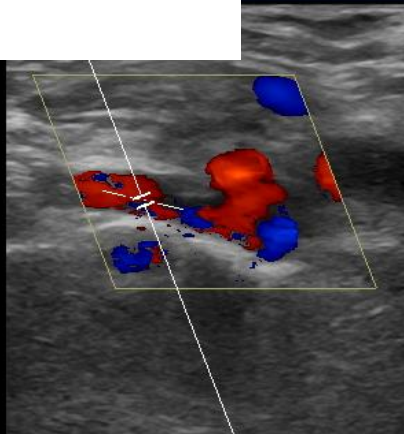
Right Subclavian prox

341 PSV

MI 0.27 TIs 0.3 9L

--:--:--

Carotid

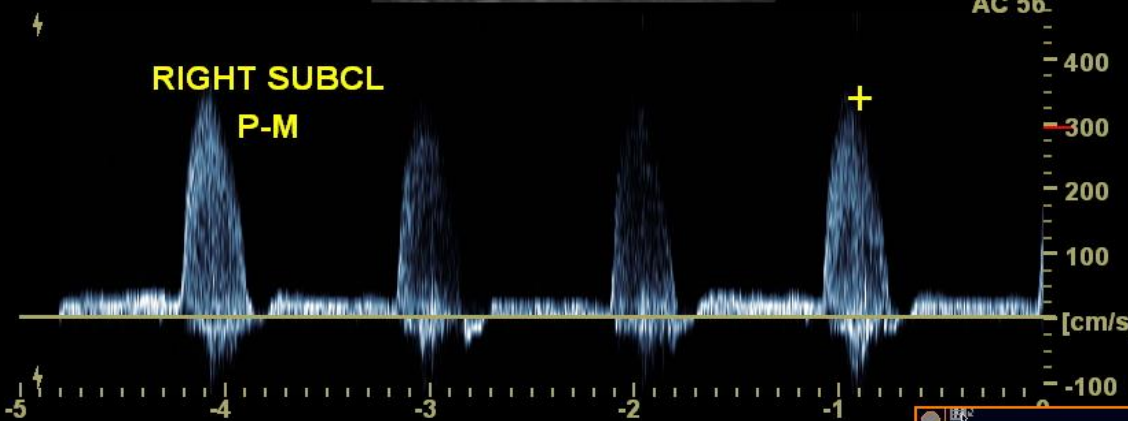


B  
- Frq 8.0 MHz  
- Gn 25  
- S/A 2/1  
- Map H/0/0  
- D 5.0 cm  
2x DR 72  
- FR 18 Hz  
- AO 100 %

4- CF  
- Frq 5.0 MHz  
- Gn 42  
- L/A 0/7  
- AO 100 %  
PRF 3.9 kHz  
WF 208 Hz  
S/P 5/16

AC 56

RIGHT SUBCL  
P-M

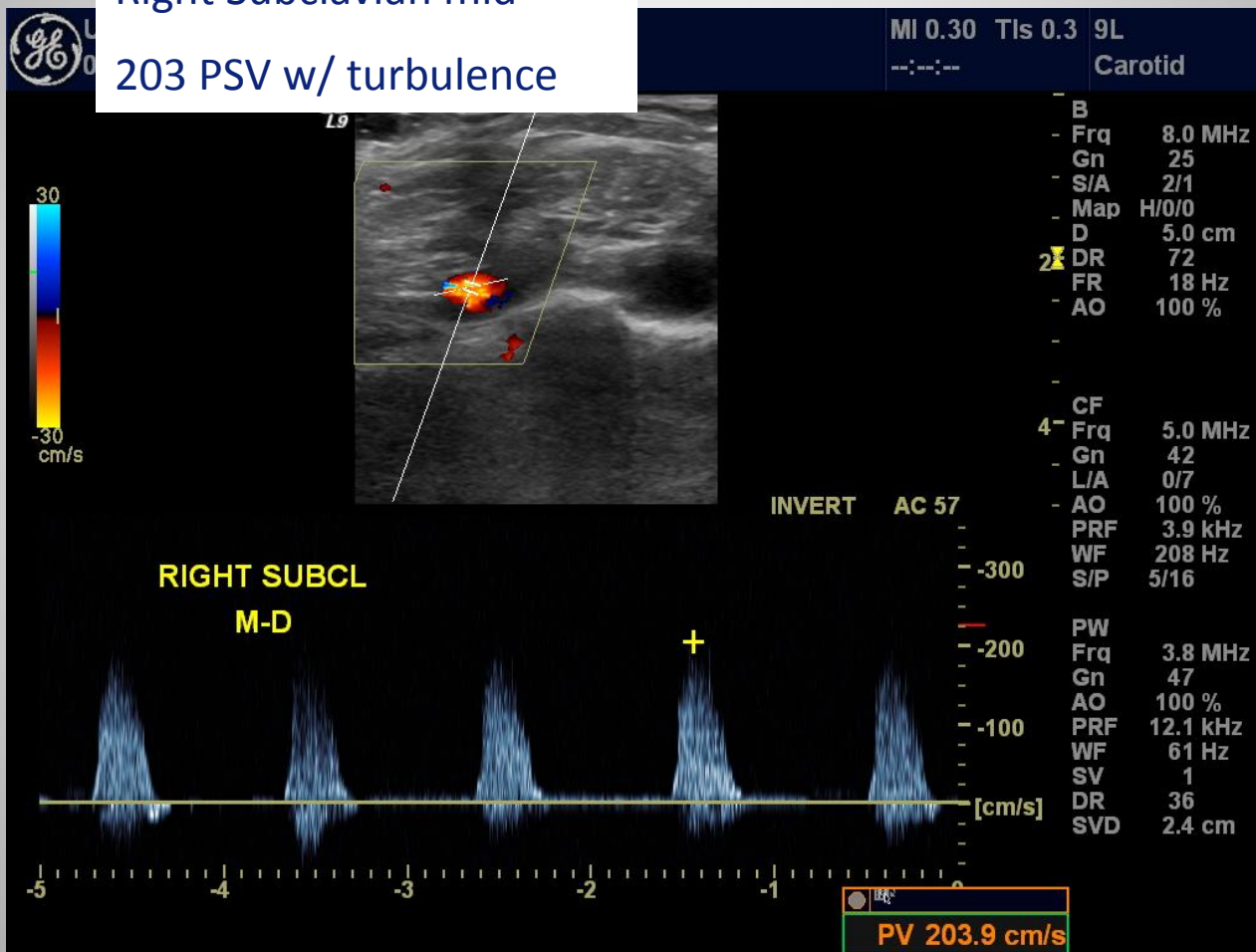


PW  
- Frq 3.8 MHz  
- Gn 44  
- AO 100 %  
PRF 16.0 kHz  
WF 80 Hz  
SV 1  
DR 36  
SVD 2.3 cm

PV 341.0 cm/s

# Carotid Duplex Cases: Case 5

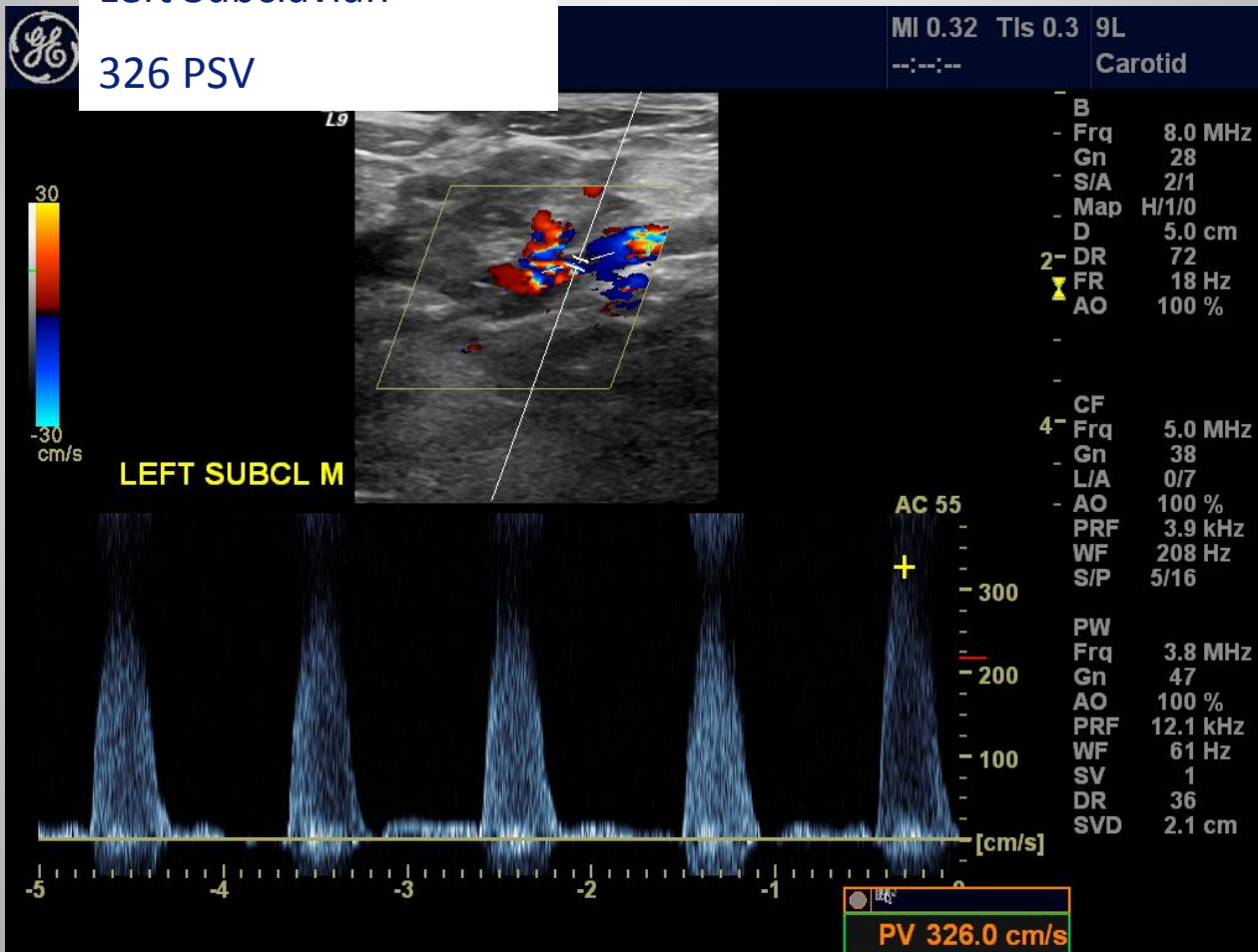
Right Subclavian mid  
203 PSV w/ turbulence



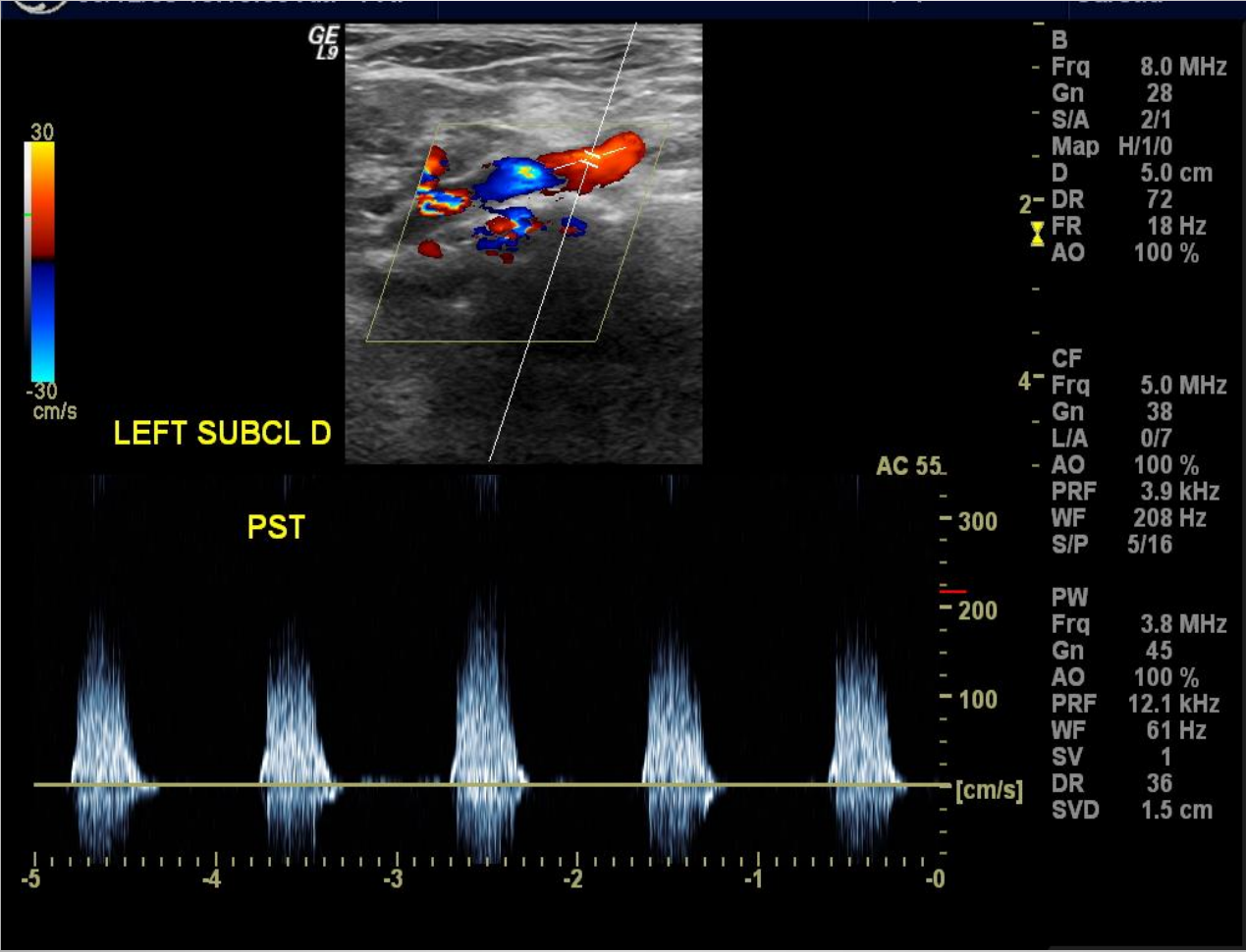
# Carotid Duplex Cases: Case 5

Left Subclavian

326 PSV

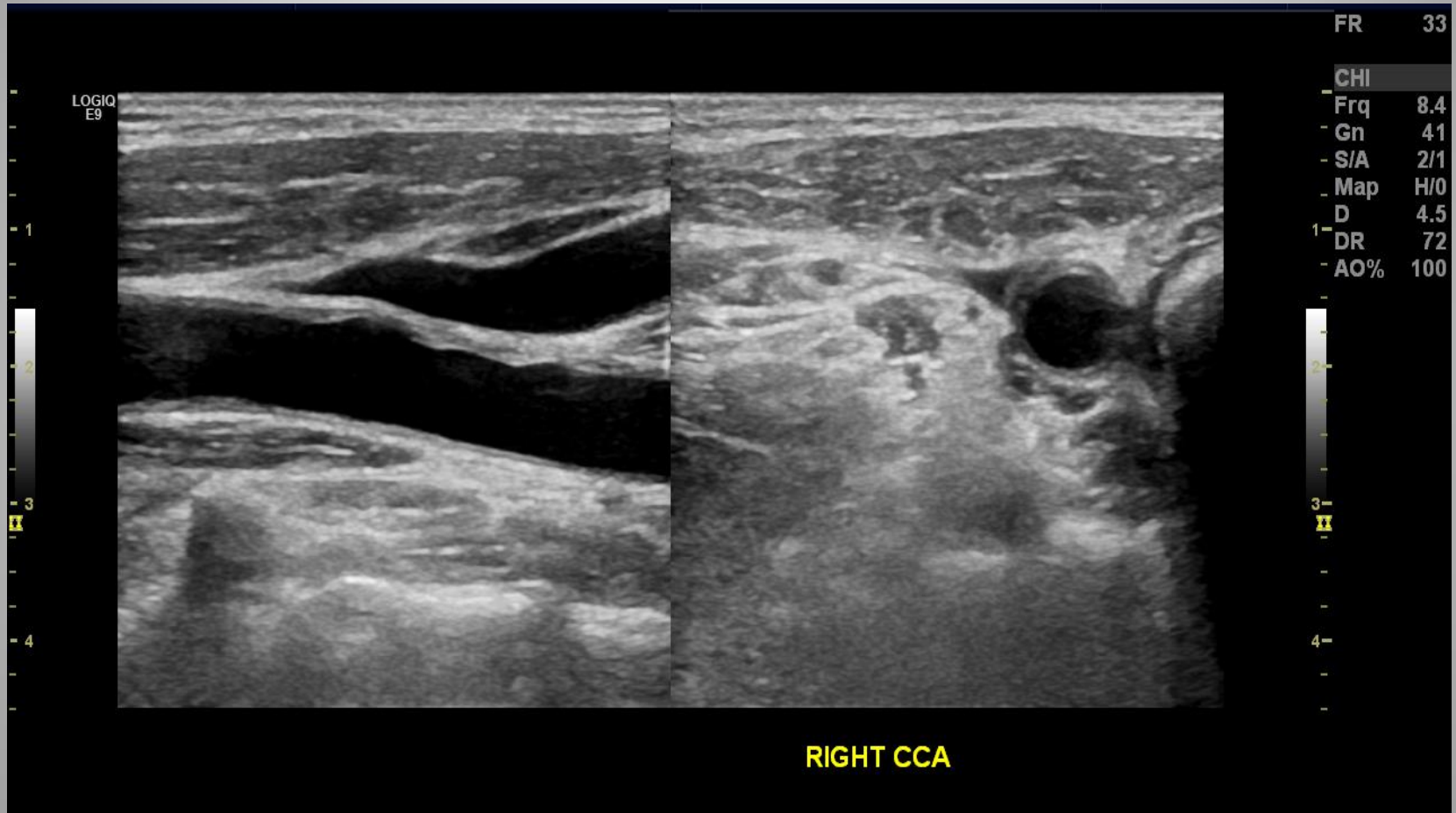


# Carotid Duplex Cases: Case 5



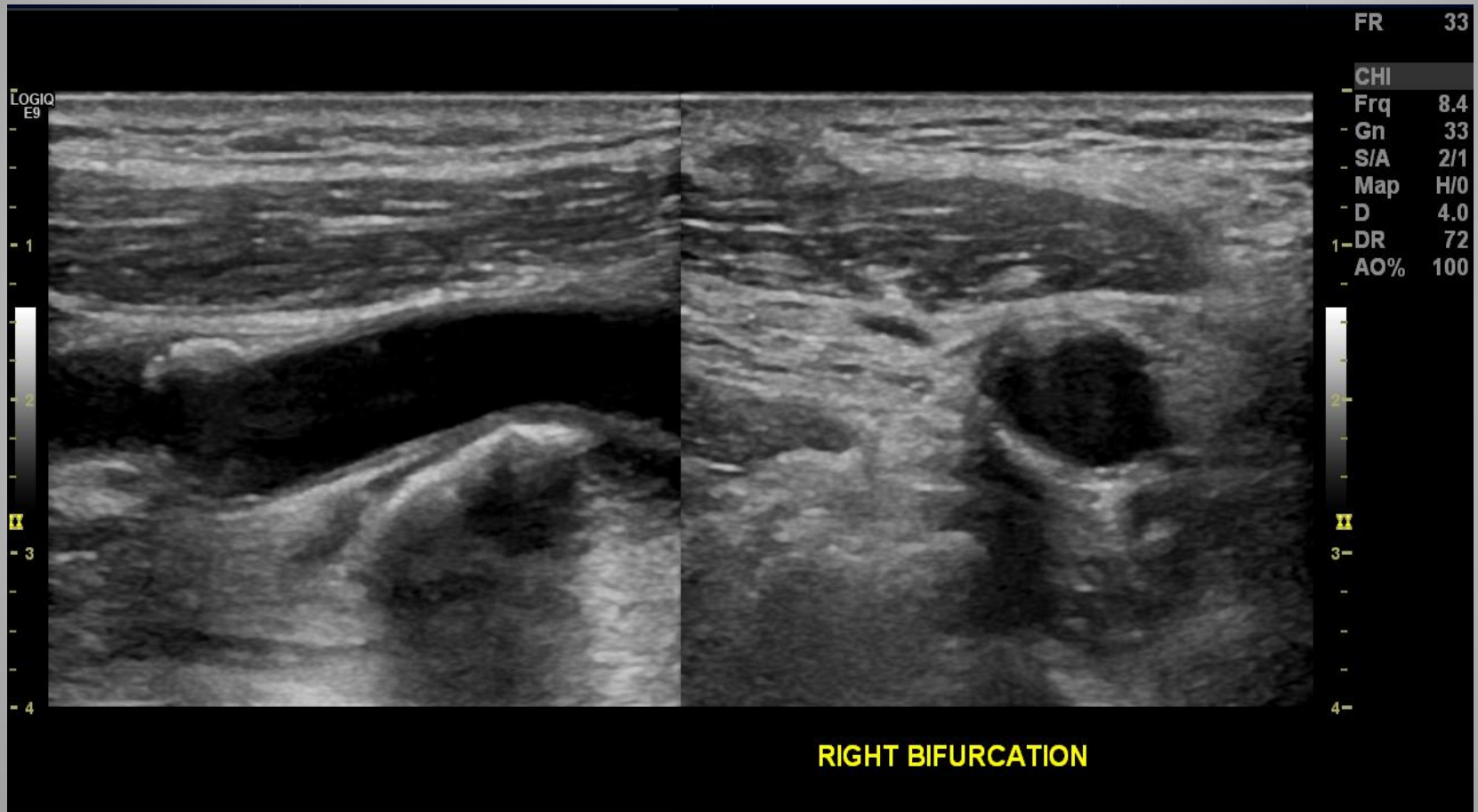


# Optimize B-mode

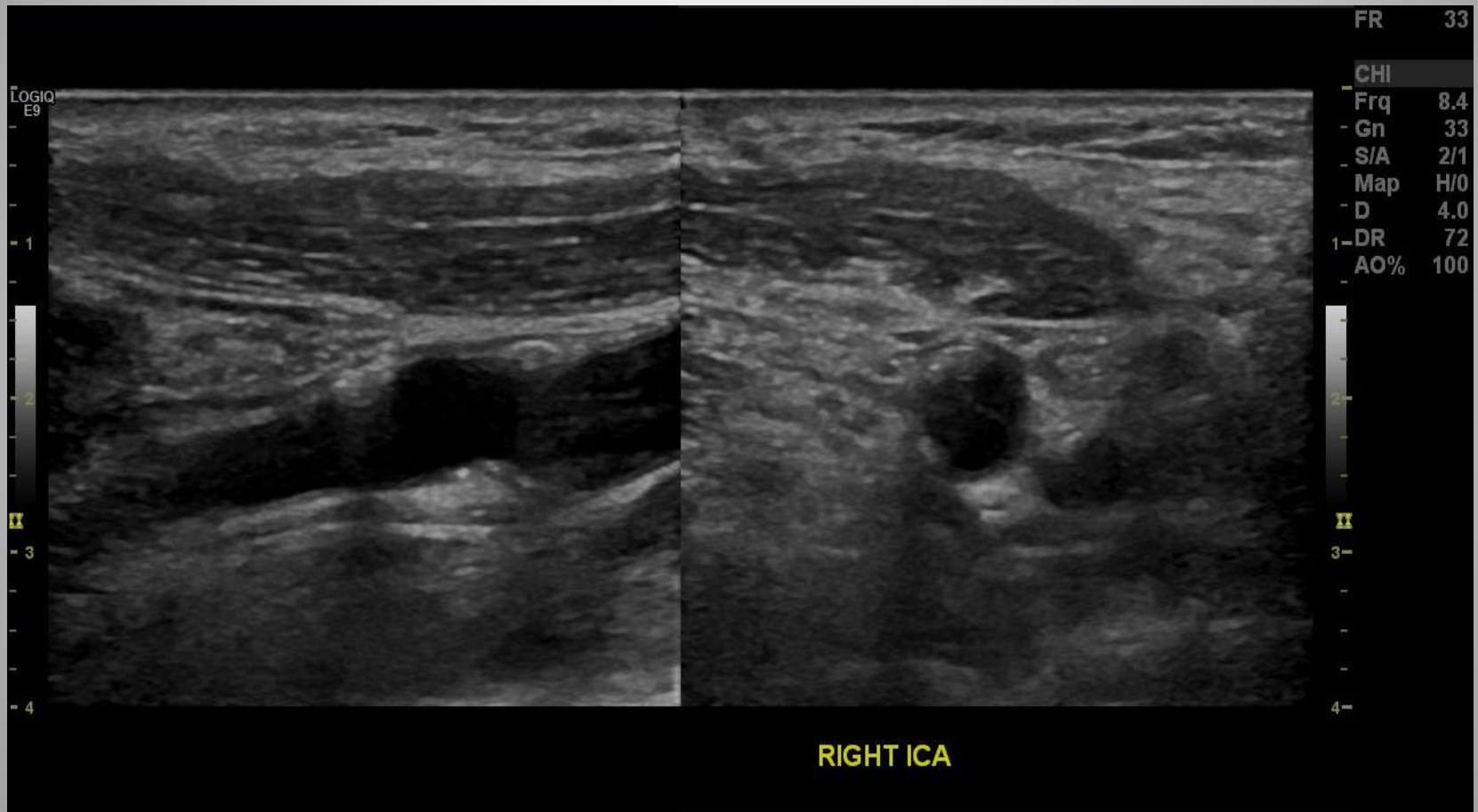




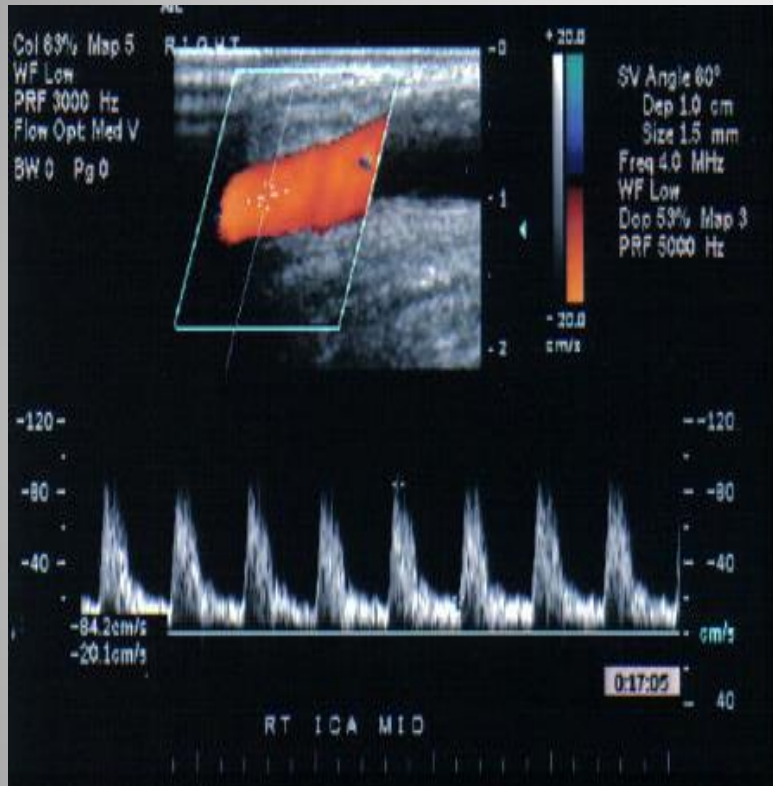
# Optimize B-mode



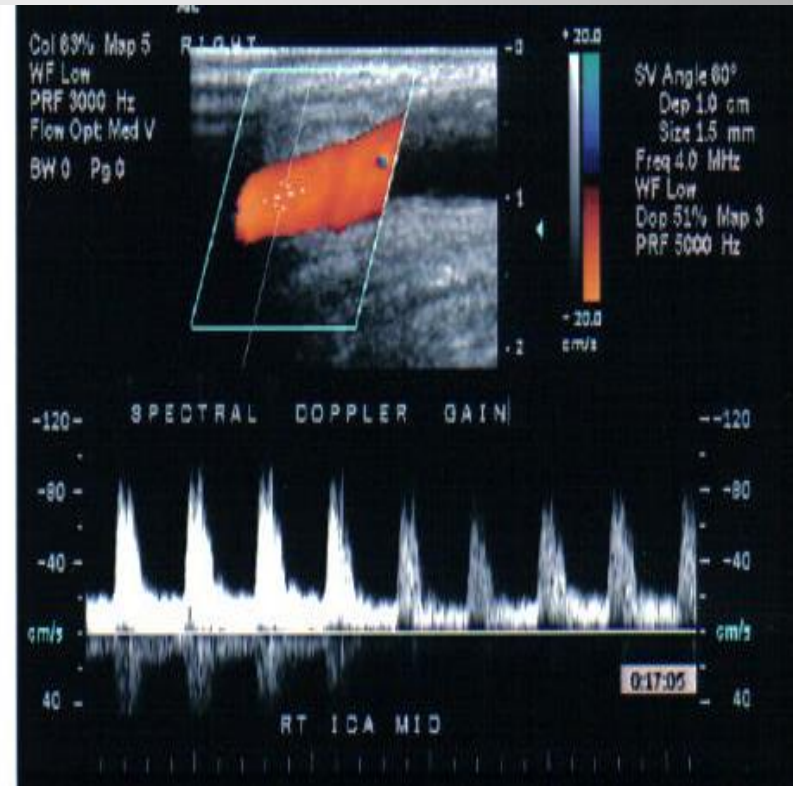
# Optimize B-mode



# Optimize gain settings

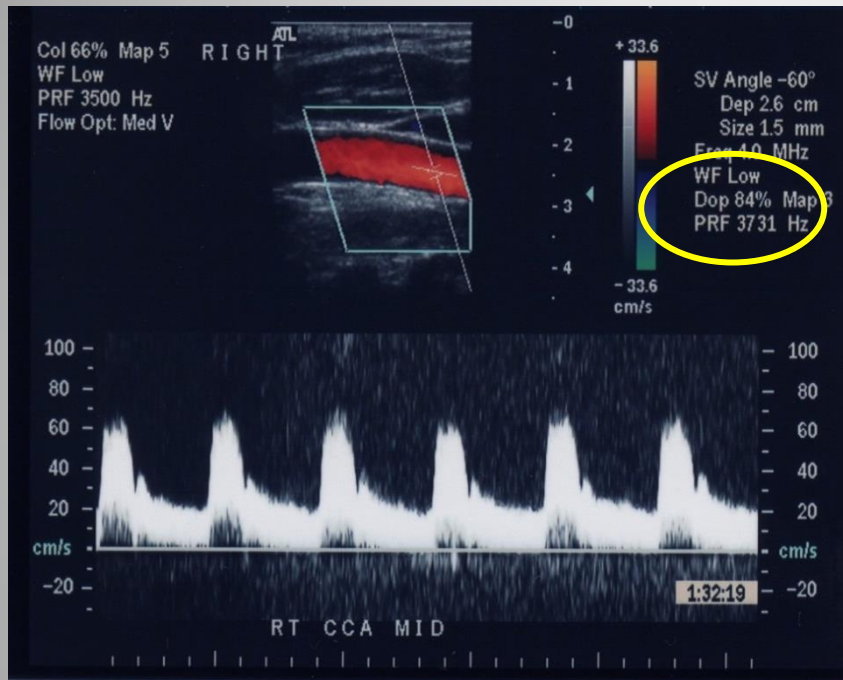


Spectral Doppler gain appropriate

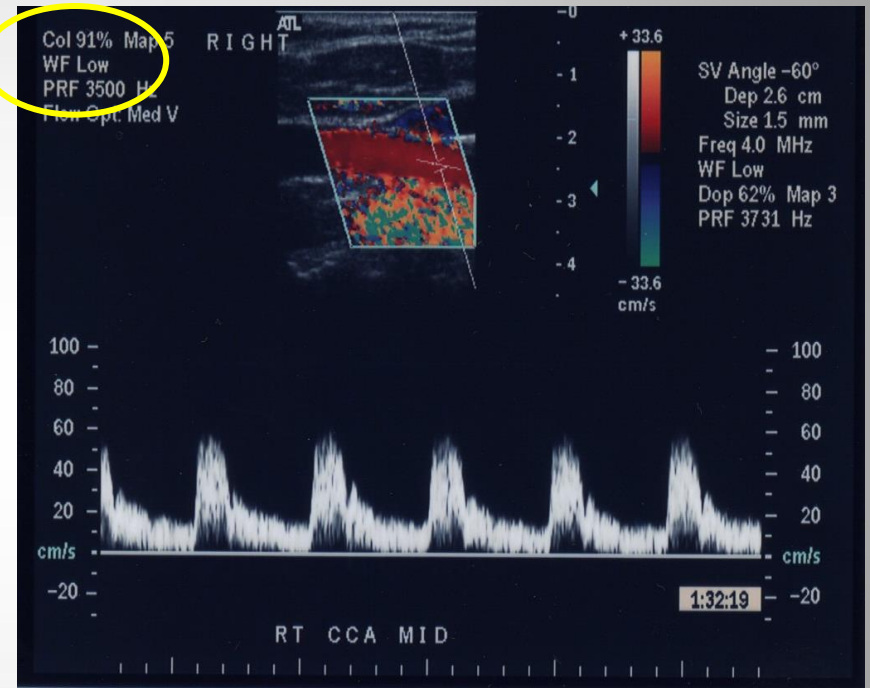


Spectral Doppler gain too high and then decreased

# Color and spectral Gain



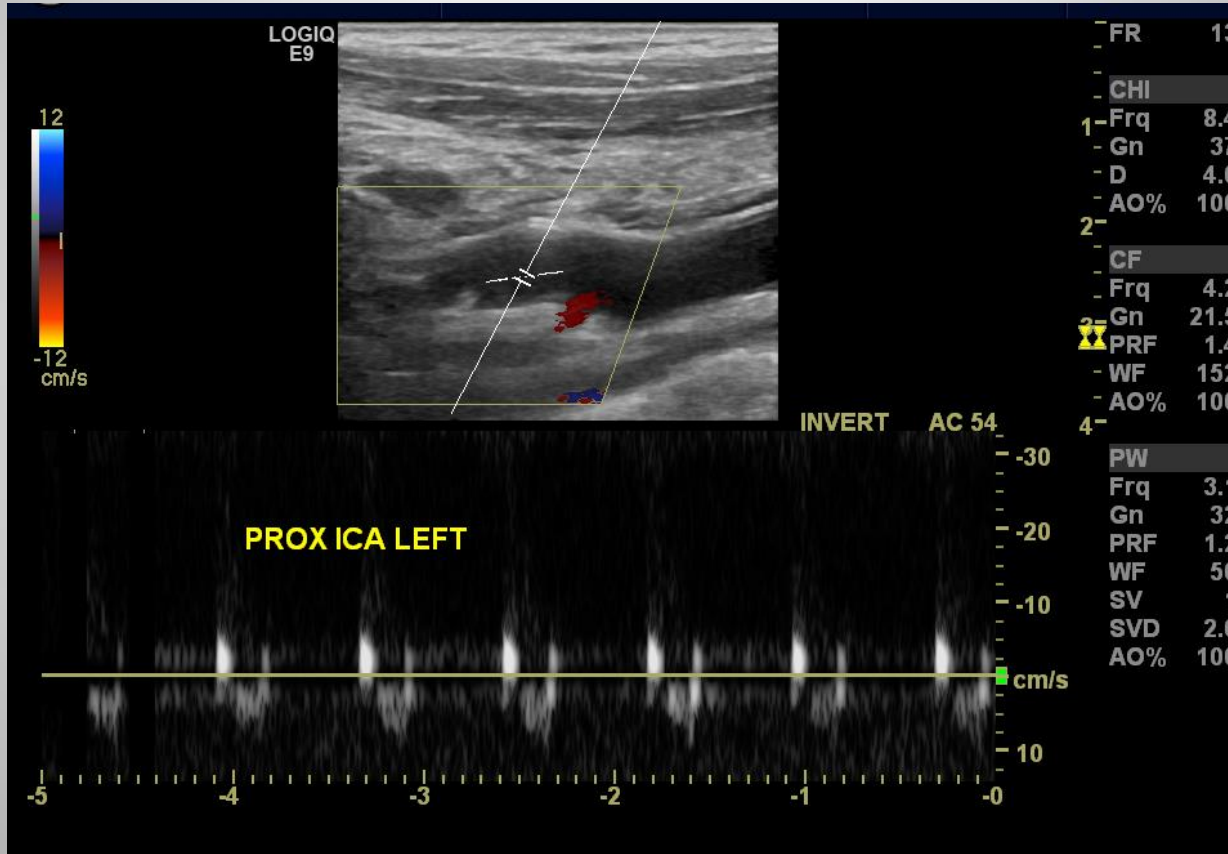
Spectral Doppler gain too high



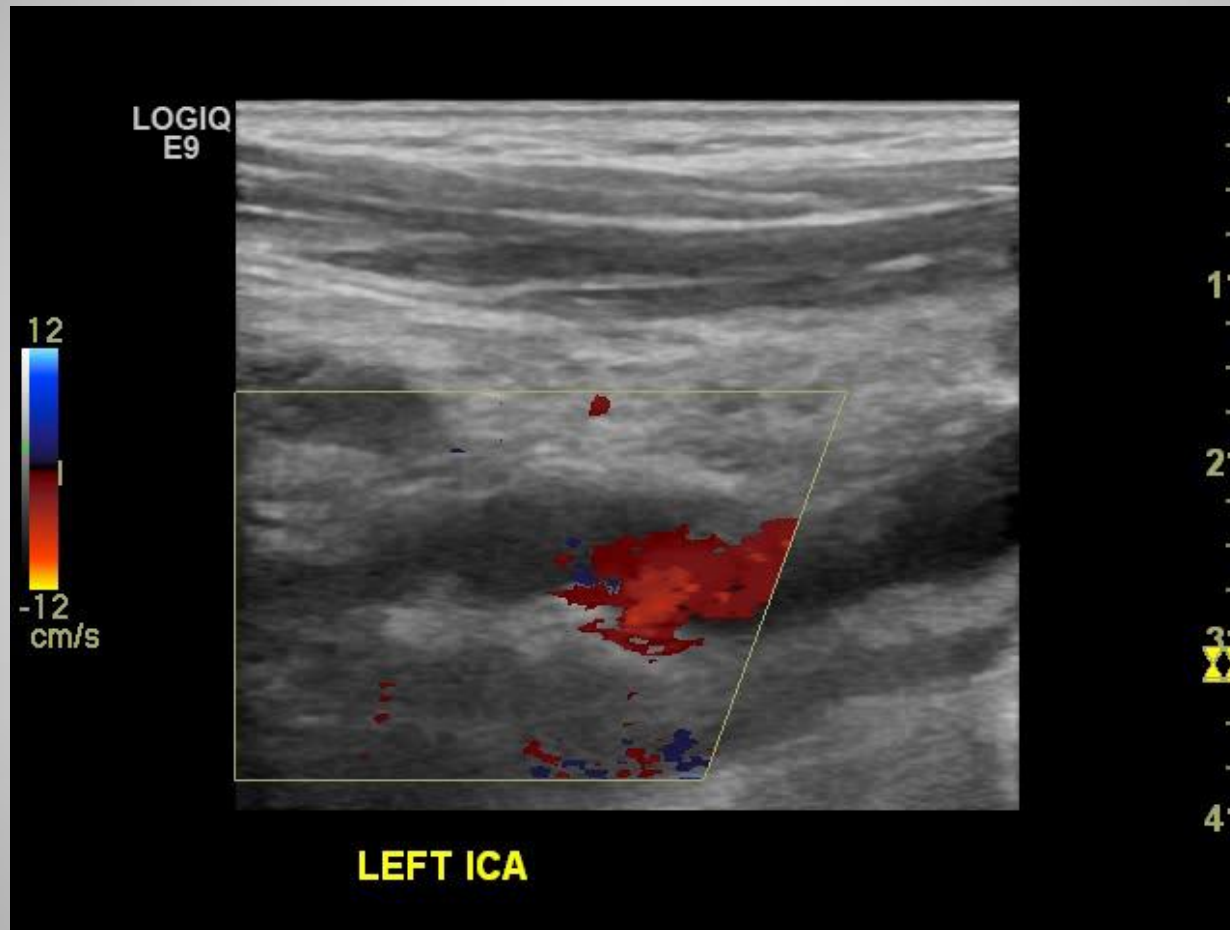
Color Doppler gain too high



# Fully document occlusion

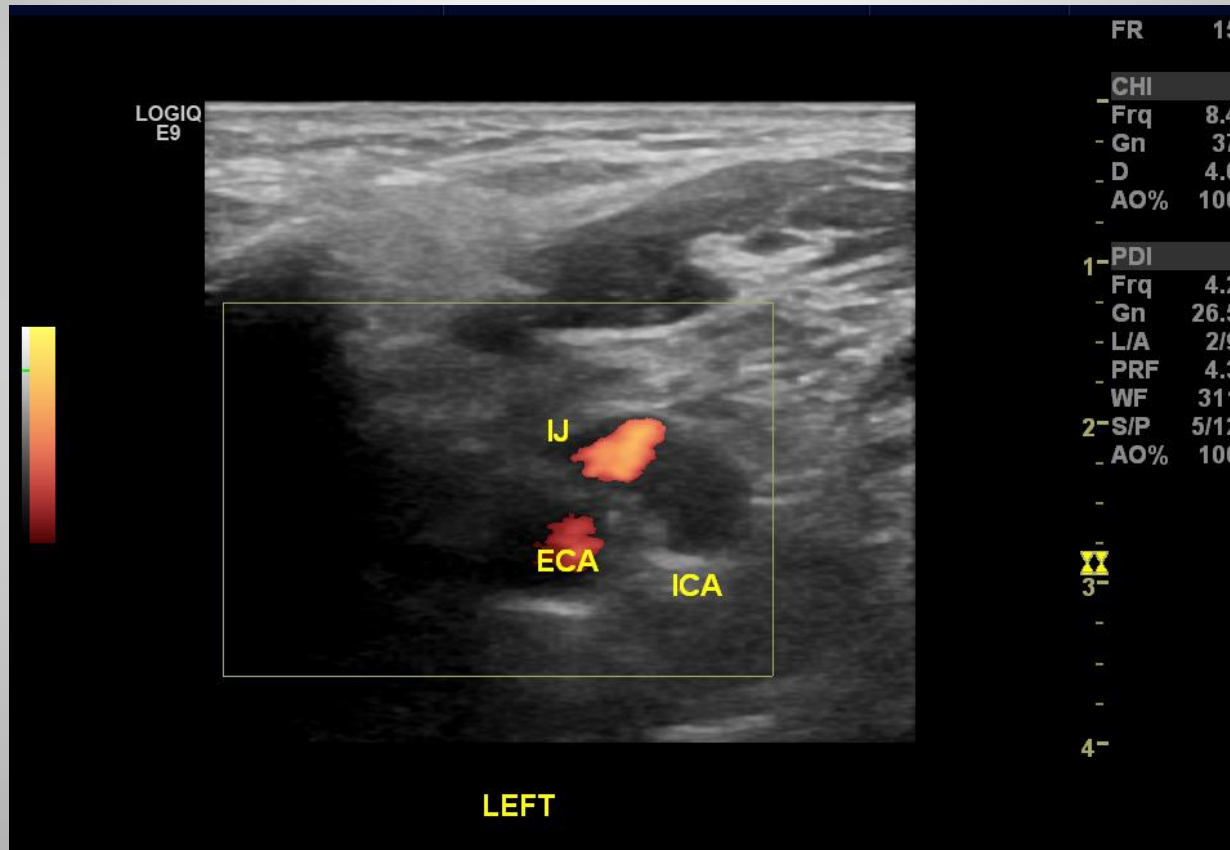


# Fully document occlusion



# Fully document occlusion

## Power Doppler



# Reporting basics

The technologist should get the following information from each patient about the indications/symptoms for which he/she is complaining and document the answers in the patient record:

Onset

Frequency

Duration

Radiation

Methods of relief

Associated symptoms



# Reporting basics

Identification of physical findings must be evaluated and documented in the patient record, noting location and severity.

These physical signs include, but are not limited to:

Gait

Strength of grip

Facial drooping

Speech patterns or slurring

# Identify when to add TCD: always of in view of findings or symptoms

In NAVIX:

Complete TCD added

- ≥50% ICA stenosis
- Symptoms of TIA, CVA or VBI with no significant extracranial carotid disease

# Identify when to add TCD: always of in view of findings or symptoms

In NAVIX:

Limited TCD (OA and Siphon) added:

- Plaque noted during the Extracranial evaluation

# Carotid Duplex Examination: Quality

- Consistency in examination and interpretation methodology
- Optimization of B-mode and Doppler
- Recognize when your standard criteria don't fit the case
- Comparison to prior studies
- Review of cases produced in your laboratory

Thank you for your attention and for  
this beautiful meeting location!

