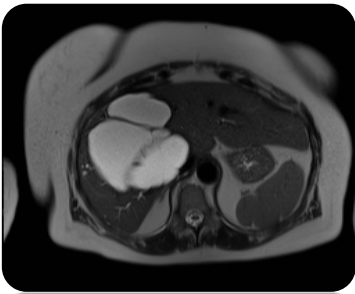




# Cardiac MRI Essentials

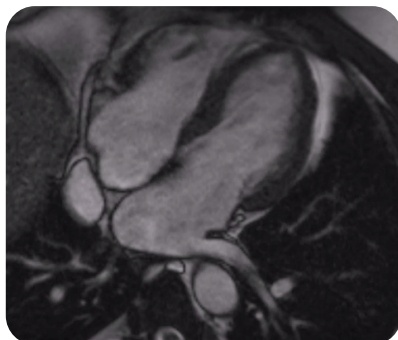
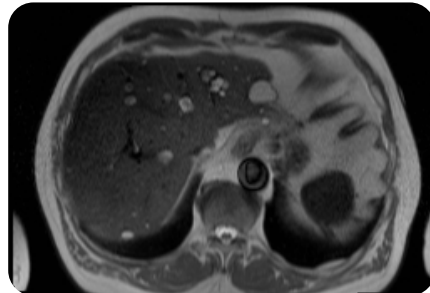
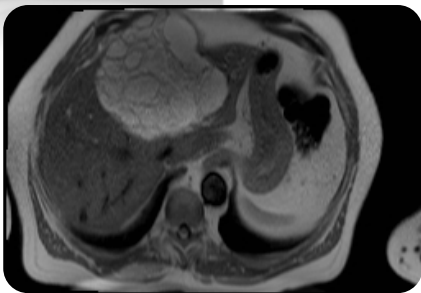
## Incidental findings

- CMR studies will typically include some imaging of the chest and abdominal cavity in the field of view
- Incidental abnormalities may be seen in the lungs, liver, mediastinum, kidneys, spleen, or elsewhere
- Approximately 1% of incidental findings are thought to be highly significant
- The CMR report should include information about any incidental findings



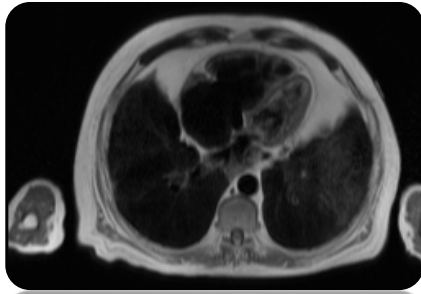
## Liver cysts

- Common incidental finding
- Important to consider whether benign or malignant
- May need radiologist opinion and/or further imaging



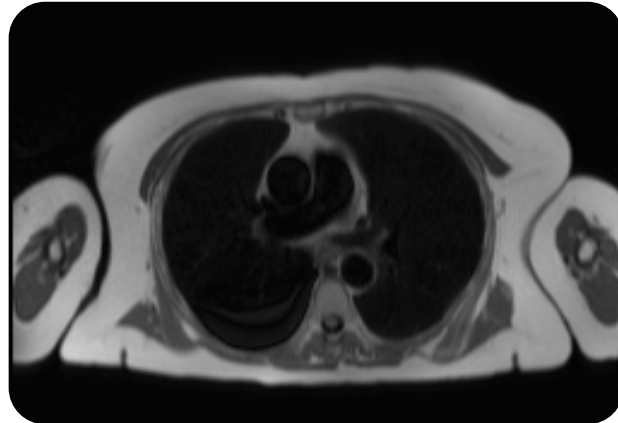
## Pericardial findings

- Incidental pericardial findings include:
  - Pericardial cyst (left)
  - Pericardial effusion



## Pulmonary findings

- CMR is generally not very helpful for imaging the lung fields
- Incidental findings can include fibrosis (left), pleural effusion (below) and lung nodules/masses



## How do we assess incidental findings during CMR?

- Have a structured approach for reviewing and reporting CMR studies
- Use the tissue signal characteristics on T1-weighted or T2-weighted imaging to help identify incidental findings
- Consider the use of contrast
- Check the findings of previous imaging studies
- Report studies with an experienced radiologist

## Further reading

Incidental extra-cardiac findings on clinical CMR. *European Heart Journal – Cardiovascular Imaging* 2013; **14**: 158-166 [[click here to access online](#)]