

ULTRASOUND GUIDED PROCEDURES

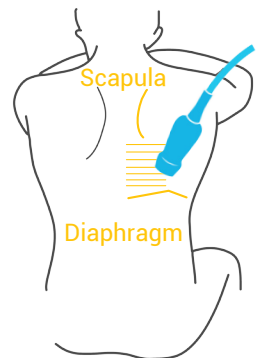
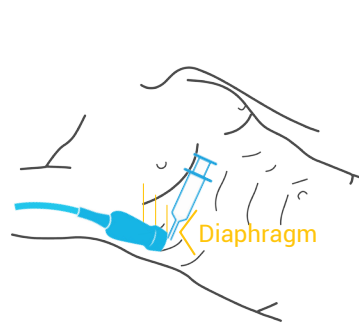
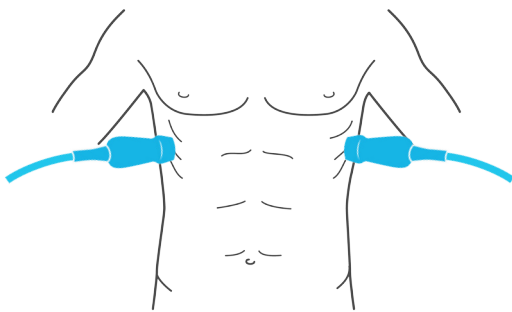
Thoracentesis

Use a lower frequency probe to evaluate the area and mark for a static approach. If you choose to perform the procedure dynamically, switch to a linear probe for better visualization of the needle.

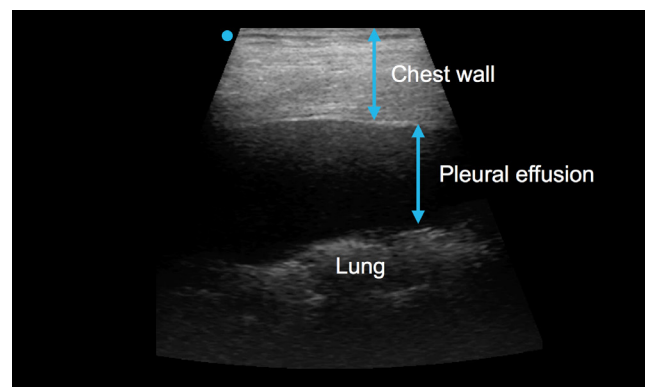
You can place your probe in one of two locations for performing a thoracentesis: zone 4 of the right or left lung.

You can perform the procedure with the patient supine or with the patient sitting up.

It is important to visualize the diaphragm and assess how large the effusion is, then choose a safe entry point above the diaphragm that is within the effusion.



Once you select your entry point, make note of the chest wall depth (as well as where the lung tissue is) so that you know how deep to go to safely aspirate fluid.



Remember to enter with the needle right above the rib, to avoid the neurovascular bundle that sits beneath.

