

# AAA

## ABDOMINAL AORTIC ANEURYSM

### TRANSDUCERS:

Low Frequency; Convex or Phased Array  
Abdominal exam type

### CLINICAL INDICATIONS:

- Pulsatile Abdominal Mass
- Abdominal or lower back pain
- Abdominal aortic aneurysm, pain may radiate to the groin or legs; may signal growth, dissection or rupture
- Thoracic aortic aneurysm may cause pain in the chest or upper back

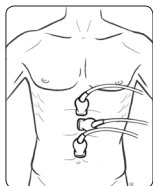
### AAA RISK FACTORS:

- Hx of smoking
- Family Hx
- High blood pressure
- High cholesterol
- Atherosclerosis

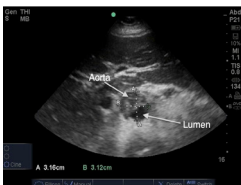
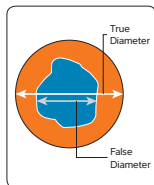


# SonoSite Technology Mobilizes High Performance Ultrasound for: **ABDOMINAL AORTA ULTRASOUND**

## Probe Placements



## Clinical images



## IMAGING PLANES:

The Abdominal Aorta should be examined in both the longitudinal and transverse scanning planes to include its proximal; mid; and distal segments for the evaluation of aortic aneurysm..

## TRANSVERSE IMAGING:

The transvers aorta appears anterior to the spine and medial to the inferior vena cava. Be certain to maintain correct transducer and image orientation. The transverse imaging plane is preferred to perform initial measurements.

## BIFURCATION:

The transverse aorta should be examined from its proximal segment extending to the bifurcation into the common iliac arteries.

## MEASUREMENTS:

Measurement calipers are positioned from the outer wall to the corresponding outer wall for both the antero-posterior and cross sectional diameters. Measure the entire aortic diameter to include any thrombus. Ultrasound diameter measurements >3cm may raise concern for an aneurysm.

## LONGITUDINAL IMAGING/AAA:

Longitudinal imaging of the abdominal aorta may also reveal the appearance of an aortic aneurysm. Remember the aorta courses anteriorly as it progresses distally.