

POSTER 110

EMERGENCY SONOGRAPHY: THE USE OF FOCUSED ASSESSMENT WITH SONOGRAPHY FOR TRAUMA IN MID-AMERICAN TRAUMA CENTERS

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The use of Focused Assessment with Sonography for Trauma (FAST) has steadily increased as a safe, inexpensive, noninvasive, and quick alternative to other imaging modalities, such as computed tomography (CT), in evaluating free-fluid caused by trauma. However, lack of regulation makes it difficult to assess its prevalence and who is performing the scans. As a result, accuracy is widely variable depending on the person performing the scan and how much training they have received. The purpose of this study is to interview the trauma centers of Missouri with a survey to measure how much ultrasound is used in the emergency setting and who is performing the scans in the state. According to our results, primarily emergency physicians use FAST scans across the state. Research shows that the accuracy and confidence level in using FAST directly correlates to the emergency physician's sonography experience.