



Appendix A: Ultrasound Prioritization Guideline Summary

For notes and alternative tests, refer to *BC Guidelines: Ultrasound Prioritization Guideline*

General: Overview					
	Priority Level 1	Priority Level 2	Priority Level 3	Priority Level 4	Priority Level 5
	Immediately to 24 hours	Max 7 calendar days	Max 30 calendar days	Max 60 calendar days	Specified time
Abdomen and Pelvis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Acute abdominal pain (e.g., appendicitis, cholecystitis) Acute post-transplant assessment Splenic rupture Septic renal colic/focal pyelonephritis Acute painful hernia, (obstruction, strangulation, or ischemia suspected) Intra-abdominal abscess Painful jaundice Testicular torsion/Epididymitis Testicular rupture Priapism 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Acute painful hernia, (obstruction, strangulation, or ischemia not suspected) Painless jaundice Pancreatitis, complications Painless hematuria Renal colic Acute renal failure New testicular mass New painless abdominal or pelvic mass 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Acute painless hernia/chronic hernia (if diagnosis in doubt) Extra-testicular mass Cholelithiasis New pulsatile abdominal mass Renal stone burden 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chronic abdominal pain/bloating Abnormal liver function tests/ Known chronic liver disease Pre-transplant work-up Scrotal or pelvic ultrasound as part of workup for varicocele embolization/uterine artery embolization Peyronie's disease 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Known abdominal aortic aneurysm/ Endovascular abdominal aortic aneurysm repair follow-up
Obstetrics and Gynecological	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ectopic pregnancy Threatened abortion Embryonic/fetal demise Placental abruption Vasa/vena previa Pre-term labour to determine cervical length Acute pelvic pain of suspected gynecological cause (e.g., query ruptured cyst, pelvic inflammatory disease, ovarian torsion) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Medical abortion Polyhydramnios Oligohydramnios Follow-up of oligohydramnios (unless otherwise specified) Intrauterine growth restriction Post-dates fluid assessment Intrauterine device localization with pain 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Post-menopausal bleeding Follow up possible fetal abnormality from routine detail scan High risk pregnancy Pelvic mass Intrauterine device localization without symptoms 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dysfunctional uterine bleeding e.g., fibroids, adenomyosis Follow-up placental location Adnexal cyst follow-up (unless otherwise specified) Fetal detail exam (unless otherwise specified) 	
Musculoskeletal/Extremity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deep vein thrombosis Septic arthritis/toxic synovitis Abscess 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Acute tendon tears 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New palpable neck/thyroid mass New palpable extremity mass Acute rotator cuff tear 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Synovitis/arthropathy follow-up Tendinopathy, chronic shoulder pain, non-operative rotator cuff tear Bursitis Chronic palpable mass Multi nodular goiter Carpal tunnel syndrome or other neuropathy Baker's cyst 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Follow-up soft tissue mass
Pediatrics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pyloric stenosis Intussusception Clinically suspicious intra-abdominal /pelvic mass 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increasing head circumference (hydrocephalus) Biliary atresia as the cause of neonatal jaundice 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Follow-up antenatal hydronephrosis 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Developmental dysplasia of the hip (may be P2/P3; within 4–6 weeks of birth) Spine ultrasound (prior to 5 months of age) Urinary tract infection Chronic liver disease Renal anomaly 	
General	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Abscess 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cancer staging or metastatic workup New suspicious palpable mass 			
Vascular		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carotid ultrasound with acute stroke/transient ischemic attack symptoms 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carotid doppler screening 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Follow-up of prior carotid surgery or stenting