ECHOES
WORLD FEDERATION FOR ULTRASOUND IN MEDICINE AND BIOLOGY

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WELCOME TO THE LATEST EDITION OF ECHOES

Dear colleagues and friends,

Strategic planning is something that I never thought I would be involved in as a clinician, but every time I have been coerced into this, I have found it to be a very valuable process. And having been involved with strategic planning of three organisations and two professional societies, I can tell you I am now a big fan of the process. So, it is with great enthusiasm that I look forward to the new WFUMB strategic plan as it will provide a road map for where our members and want the executive to take the society in the future. WFUMB is a complex organisation that encompasses a wide variety of members, different clinical scenarios, clinical settings, clinical standards and expectations. Without a strategic plan, organised chaos is all we can hope for. With the plan, we will all know where WFUMB is headed and who they will get there.

As I think about strategic planning for an organisation, I am reflecting on how similar this is to approaching a patient's ultrasound examination. Ideally, clinicians have a clear approach (strategy) as to how they will systematically examine the patient with ultrasound. This is based on clinical findings, history and clinical evidence. In this issue of the newsletter, we highlight some excellent clinical webinars and two excellent journal papers from our journal.

Education is a major part of WFUMB's activities, and just as the strategic plan needs to be specific to WFUMB, education needs to be specific to the region in which it is being delivered, such as is delivered through of Centres of Education (COEs). In this newsletter, you can read about how the CoEs have tailored their delivery to meet local needs.

Lastly, I am heartened to see the growth in digital access to WFUMB's content. This reminds me that WFUMB is a relevant and useful international source of information for many clinicians around the world and is supported by testimonials from individuals who have benefitted from attendings WFUMB events, such as the World Medical Colours event in Zanzibar. When we impact a single clinician, we can be reassured that the impact of this will be viral. Every patient they encounter benefits from WFUMB's training and events.

Gillian

Prof Gillian Whalley
Department of Medicine, University of Otago

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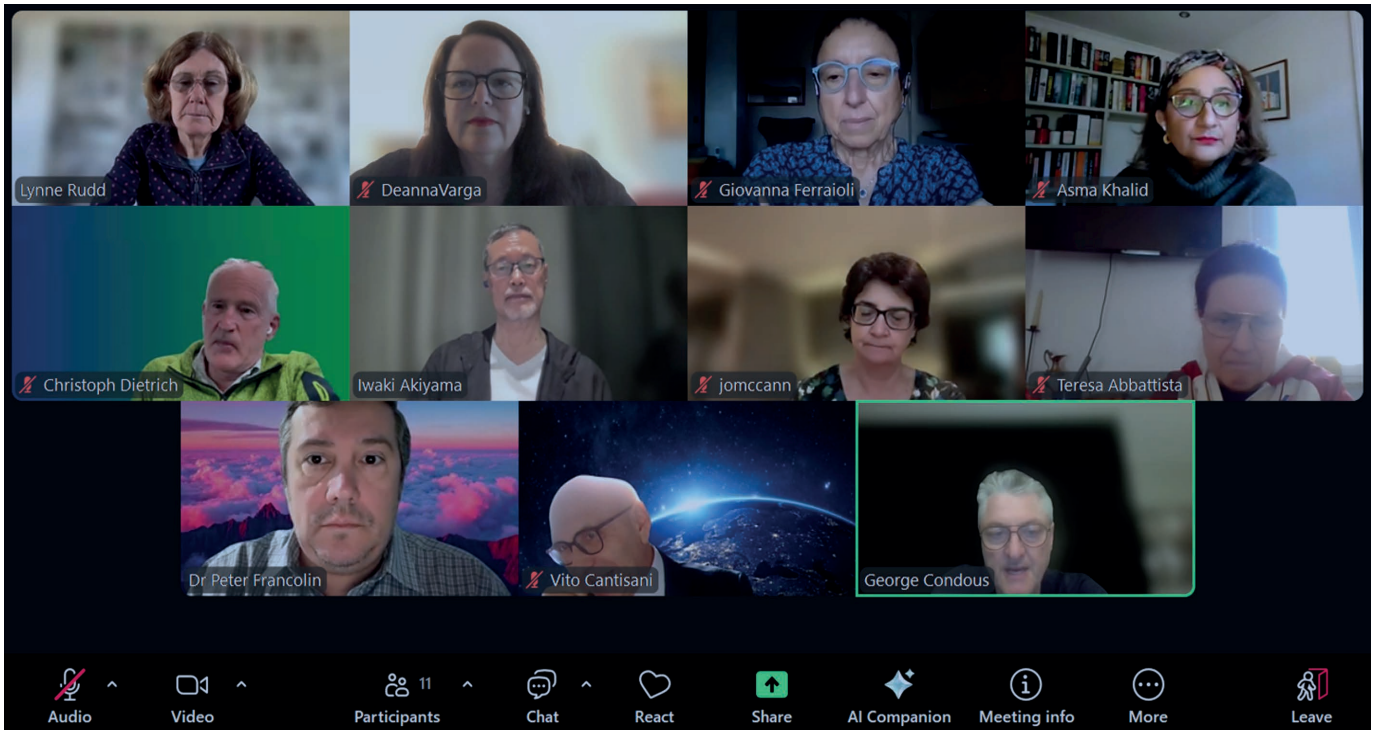
STRATEGIC PLAN 2026–2031: UPDATE

DEANNA VARGA

On 10 March, the WFUMB Executive Board (ExB) met with Federation Presidents to seek their insights on the proposed direction of the WFUMB 2026–2031 Strategic Plan.
WFUMB President, Professor George Condous opened the session by discussing the importance of a Plan that extends beyond any one leadership term, reflects the collective voice of the Federations, and is grounded in strong governance and long-term purpose.



Deanna Varga of Mayvin Global then outlined the strategic planning project and work completed to date, including stakeholder consultation through surveys, interviews, workshops and the in-person ExB Strategic Planning Days. She also stepped through the four strategic pillars and governance principles underpinning the draft Strategic Plan, with Federation Presidents now asked to consider whether this is the right direction for WFUMB for the next five years — and potentially the next ten.

Initial comments from the Presidents were strongly supportive. Comments included: “Rigorous process, provided a lot of thought. A good strategy moving forward”; “Very useful”; “We will support”; and “I’m very happy with this strategic plan.” Presidents recognised the importance of funding, sustainability, engaging the younger generation, and translating the Strategic Plan into the next stage of implementation.

APPROACH

Project Timeline

Federation Presidents have been invited to provide feedback on the Draft Strategic Plan on a Page by 10 April. Their input will then be considered by the ExB before the final draft is presented to the Administrative Council at its May meeting for review and endorsement.

WFUMB ACTIVITIES

WFUMB VIEWING STATISTICS QUARTERLY REPORT

SUZANNE CAIN

WFUMB Digital Growth Accelerates with Record Engagement

WFUMB's latest statistical report (1 November 2025 – 1 March 2026) highlights continued and accelerating growth across its digital platforms, reinforcing the Federation's expanding global reach and impact.

Sustained Growth Reaches New Heights

Website traffic has increased by a further 18.1% over the past four months, with average monthly visitors now reaching 1.29 million—equivalent to more than 323,000 users per week.

This marks another significant milestone in WFUMB's long-term growth trajectory, rising from fewer than 10,000 monthly visitors in 2018 to over one million today. Importantly, the Federation has maintained a consistent pattern of growth of approximately 18% per reporting period over the past two years, demonstrating sustained global demand for its educational resources.

High-Value Content Driving Engagement

WFUMB's core resources continue to attract the highest levels of engagement. The most visited pages include the Home Page, the WFUMB Ultrasound Book, and the December 2025 issue of Echoes.

Educational content remains central to user interest, with strong performance from webinar materials and student-focused initiatives such as the FLAUS Student Webinar Series. Clinical guidance, Centres of Excellence (COE) resources, and interactive learning tools—such as the Case/Image of the Month—also feature prominently among the most viewed content.

Expanding Global Audience
WFUMB's audience remains highly international. The United States continues to generate the highest number of visitors, followed by strong engagement from Singapore, China, Spain, and Romania, alongside a broad spread of users across Asia, Europe, and beyond.
English remains the dominant language, with Spanish and Chinese audiences also representing significant proportions of users. The diversity of languages in the top ten reflects WFUMB's role as a truly global leader in ultrasound education.

Growing Digital and Social Presence
WFUMB's social media platforms continue to show steady growth and increasing engagement:

Page actions: 1,095,213 (+5.2%)
Page views: 1,153,591 (+4.6%)
Overall engagement: 210 million+ (+6.7%)

The Federation's mailing list has also expanded to 26,471 subscribers, supporting direct communication and dissemination of educational content worldwide.

Ultrasound Connections Community
The Ultrasound Connections platform continues to grow steadily, now reaching 1,051 members, including 678 active users. This platform remains an important space for collaboration, networking, and knowledge sharing within the WFUMB community.

Webinars: Extending Global Learning
WFUMB webinars continue to deliver strong impact, particularly through on-demand access. Recent sessions have collectively generated thousands of recording views, including over 12,600 views for ASUM-delivered content, highlighting the ongoing value of accessible, flexible learning. Additional webinars also demonstrated solid engagement, with hundreds of registrations and attendees, further reinforcing the importance of WFUMB's online educational programme.

Looking Ahead
These results underline WFUMB's continued success in expanding its digital footprint and delivering high-quality ultrasound education worldwide. With consistent growth across all channels and increasing global engagement, the Federation is well positioned to build on this momentum in the lead-up to future initiatives and the 2027 World Congress.

WFUMB remains committed to innovation, accessibility, and global collaboration—ensuring that ultrasound education continues to reach and benefit healthcare professionals everywhere.

WFUMB ACTIVITIES

RECENT WEBINAR EVENTS

WFUMB Webinars 2026: A Strong Start to the Year

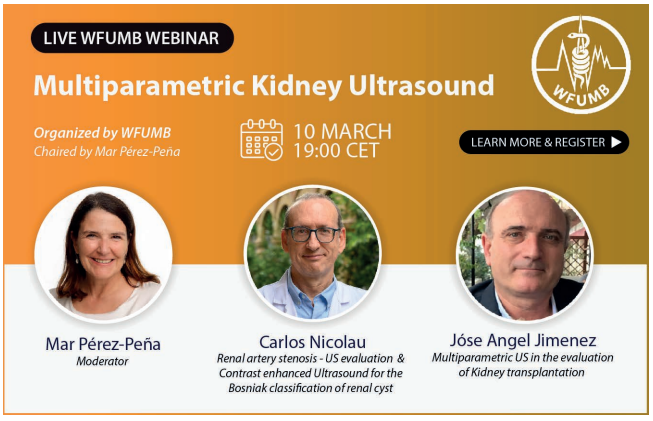
WFUMB's 2026 webinar programme has begun with a series of high-quality educational events, continuing the Federation's commitment to delivering accessible, expert-led ultrasound learning to a global audience.

The year opened in January with the "Anatomy, Pathology & Interventional Procedures on Shoulder Ultrasound" webinar, which provided a comprehensive overview of musculoskeletal ultrasound. The session combined core anatomical knowledge with practical insights into pathology and interventional techniques, offering valuable guidance for clinicians involved in MSK imaging and procedures.

Building on this momentum, WFUMB delivered further specialist content in March with the "Multiparametric Kidney Ultrasound" webinar, held on 10 March 2026. This session explored advanced renal imaging techniques, including Doppler assessment, contrast-enhanced ultrasound (CEUS), and applications in renal transplantation and vascular pathology. The webinar highlighted the growing role of multiparametric ultrasound in improving diagnostic accuracy and guiding clinical management.

Together, these early 2026 webinars demonstrate WFUMB's continued focus on combining foundational knowledge with advanced clinical applications. By covering diverse topics—from musculoskeletal interventions to cutting-edge renal imaging—the programme supports clinicians, trainees, and researchers in enhancing both their theoretical understanding and practical skills.

With additional webinars scheduled throughout the year, including collaborative and regionally focused sessions, WFUMB's 2026 programme is set to further expand its global educational reach and impact.



[View the presentation here >](#)

[View the presentation here >](#)

WFUMB ACTIVITIES

MULTIPARAMETRIC ULTRASOUND IN RENAL IMAGING – WEBINAR HIGHLIGHTS

MAR PÉREZ-PEÑA

In a webinar organized by WFUMB and held on March 10th , it was addressed the growing role of multiparametric ultrasound in renal imaging, combining B-mode ultrasound, Doppler techniques, and contrast-enhanced ultrasound (CEUS) to improve diagnostic accuracy in the following clinical scenarios:

Renal Artery Stenosis

Dr. Carles Nicolau reviewed the multiparametric ultrasound evaluation of renal artery stenosis (RAS). Doppler ultrasound remains the primary non-invasive technique for screening, using parameters such as peak systolic velocity and renal-aortic velocity ratio, together with indirect signs including the tardus–parvus waveform in intrarenal arteries. B-mode imaging may reveal indirect findings such as renal asymmetry or cortical thinning related to chronic ischemia. The two main etiologies are atherosclerosis, typically affecting the proximal renal artery in older patients with cardiovascular risk factors, and fibromuscular dysplasia, usually involving the mid or distal artery in younger women. CEUS can complement Doppler by assessing renal cortical perfusion and helping clarify equivocal cases.

Kidney Transplantation

Dr. José Ángel Jiménez Lasanta discussed the role of multiparametric ultrasound in renal transplant evaluation. Ultrasound remains the first-line imaging modality for graft monitoring. B-mode imaging assesses graft morphology, hydronephrosis, and perirenal collections, while Doppler evaluates vascular patency and resistive index values. The most common vascular complication is transplant renal artery stenosis, which may require angioplasty, whereas renal arterial or vein thrombosis represents an early postoperative complication that can threaten graft survival. CEUS further improves assessment of graft microvascularization and may detect cortical ischemia or perfusion defects not visible with conventional Doppler imaging.Dr. Jimenez defends the incorporation CEUS in regular renal graft examinations.

Bosniak Cysts and CEUS

Dr. Carlos Nicolau presented the role of CEUS in the characterization of complex renal cysts. CEUS enables real-time detection of enhancement in septa, walls, or mural nodules, which are key features in Bosniak classification. Compared with CT, CEUS offers high temporal resolution without ionizing radiation or nephrotoxic contrast. However, its high sensitivity to minimal vascularization may lead to lesion upgrading, generating debate regarding potential overclassification. CEUS is particularly valuable for evaluating I, II and IV cysts and for follow-up of previously diagnosed lesions and may require combination with the other technics in IIF and III cysts.

There were more than 300 participants from all over the world and the presentations were followed by a rich debate where the speakers resolved several questions from the audience.

WFUMB ACTIVITIES

CENTRES OF EDUCATION REVIEW

ASMA KHALID

The WFUMB Centres of Education (CoE) review, presented at the Federation Presidents' Meeting on 10th March 2026, examined governance, operational processes, and training practices across CoEs. Conducted by Dr Asma Khalid, the review assessed whether WFUMB has adequate mechanisms to ensure accountability, quality, and transparency in delivering ultrasound training. The methodology combined key informant interviews with CoE representatives, Executive Board and Administrative Councillor members, alongside an internal document review.

The findings identified clear gaps in training delivery. Formal trainee selection, competency assessment, and supportive supervision systems were inconsistent or absent across many CoEs. While some data was collected locally, reporting to WFUMB was limited, restricting the Board's ability to make informed, evidence-based decisions. There was strong agreement that competency-based education should underpin all training, presenting an opportunity for WFUMB to define minimum global standards. CoEs expressed a need for practical and technical support, including access to training resources, online platforms, visiting faculty, and greater visibility of WFUMB at a local level.

Governance weaknesses were also evident. There was a lack of clearly defined roles, responsibilities, and accountability across the system. CoE directors did not have formal job descriptions, due diligence processes were limited, and risk-based decision-making was not embedded. Although there is strong volunteer commitment, the current model presents sustainability risks, particularly if key individuals disengage or organisational knowledge is not systematically captured.

The review proposed the development of a Governance and Accountability Framework and a suite of Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs). These would define roles across WFUMB and CoEs, standardise data collection and reporting, and enable transparent, data-driven decision-making. SOPs would provide clear guidance on establishing, operating, evaluating, and, where necessary, ceasing CoE activities.

Key recommendations included establishing dedicated operational roles to manage CoEs, standardising curricula and competencies across all centres, and developing training-of-trainer programmes and supportive supervision guidance. A strategic approach for 2026–2031 was outlined, beginning with a CoE mapping exercise and piloting of SOPs and reporting systems, with the aim of establishing accredited Centres of Education.

In conclusion, WFUMB has the commitment and capacity to strengthen ultrasound training globally. However, this will require governance reform, clearer accountability, improved data systems, and a shift towards more structured and sustainable operating models aligned with its mission.

WFUMB ACTIVITIES

WFUMB FIJI CENTRE OF EDUCATION STRENGTHENS MATERNAL FETAL MEDICINE SERVICES IN THE PACIFIC REGION

SUE WESTERWAY

The WFUMB Fiji Centre of Education (CoE) Fiji, based within the Department of Medical Imaging and Anatomy at Fiji National University (FNU) in Suva, has further strengthened maternal and fetal health services in the Pacific with the donation by Canon Medical Systems of an advanced Canon ultrasound system for use at the Colonial War Memorial Hospital (CWMH) in Suva.

The donation was formalised under a Memorandum of Understanding between Canon Medical Systems ANZ and the WFUMB Fiji CoE, signed in February at the Canon office in Sydney by Dr Sue Westerway, the Co-Director of the WFUMB Fiji CoE. The MoU is aimed at improving pre-natal healthcare outcomes in Fiji and the Pacific through enhanced access to ultrasound technology and coordinated clinical training.

Signing the Canon / WFUMB Fiji CoE MOU For delivery of Canon Ultrasound Unit to the MFM unit at CWMH in Suva

The ultrasound system will be located in the Maternal Fetal Medicine (MFM) Department at CWMH to support clinical service delivery as well as the education and upskilling of practitioners, strengthening pre-natal care and maternal health outcomes. Canon's support under the agreement also includes logistics and structured on-site clinical applications training delivered by experienced Canon Medical Systems Applications Specialists as well as training for service personnel to ensure ongoing compliance.

All formal Obstetrics and Gynecology training for the entire Pacific region is based out of FNU & CWMH, with current trainees from Fiji, Samoa,Tonga, Vanuatu, Solomon Islands, Cook Islands, Papua New Guinea, Tavalu, Micronesia and Timor Leste.

The machine acknowledgement was marked by a photo session involving the WFUMB Fiji CoE Team, PISUMB and Canon representatives. Dr Westerway said the partnership reflects a structured collaboration model that integrates equipment support with sustained applications training to ensure long-term clinical and educational impact. Dr Nitik Ram, Consultant Obstetrician and Gynaecologist at CWMH acknowledged Canon for the donation and recognised the WFUMB Fiji CoE for the training and ongoing support provided to clinicians, noting the rapid improvement

in MFM services at CWMH with the major assistance of Dr Felicity Park MFM from John Hunter Hospital in Australia. He also highlighted the serious shortage of medical imaging technologists and sonographers and the impact this workforce challenge continues to have on timely and effective clinical service delivery. Over 200 patients attend the Maternity clinic each day, with over 50 requiring a scan.

Assistant Professor Keshwan, PISUMB President and the Co-Director of the Fiji CoE said that the Fiji CoE, established in 2019, has expanded its role in teaching and training practitioner to use ultrasound safely and effectively, contributing to the ongoing upskilling of hundreds of practitioners from across the entire Pacific region. He added that the CoE has also facilitated the formal training activities of the International Society of Ultrasound in Obstetrics and Gynecology (ISUOG), which have upskilled Obstetrics and Gynaecology (O&G) registrars and sonographers through structured teaching and hands-on scanning practice to strengthen maternal fetal medical services

2026 will see the Fiji CoE conduct hands-on training in multiple Pacific countries.

Maternal-Fetal Scan Unit at
Colonial War Memorial Hospital

Canon Applications Specialist Dr Tracey Hanchard
Guiding Dr Nitik Ram with the use of the Canon system

Raymond Keshwan, CoE Co-Director
Dr Tracey Hanchard from Canon,
Keshni Lata – FNU faculty
Sue CW – CoE Co-Director

WFUMB ACTIVITIES

ASUM WFUMB MOBILE CENTRE OF EDUCATION

JO MCCANN

The ASUM WFUMB Mobile Centre of Education (CoE) Butterfly handheld ultrasound devices were recently used to support PoCUS workshops in Solomon Islands and Papua New Guinea and a teaching session in Fiji.

In Solomon Islands and Papua New Guinea, rural and remote-based doctors participated in PEARLS (Practical, Evidence-based Approach to Relevant Learning Skills) hands-on training covering three high-impact clinical applications: cardiac assessment, the FAST (Focused Assessment with Sonography in Trauma) examination, and early pregnancy evaluation. These competencies address some of the most time-critical diagnostic challenges faced by clinicians working in resource-limited environments, where access to conventional imaging infrastructure remains constrained.

Teaching session in Fiji

PoCUS workshop in Papua New Guinea

In Fiji, the devices supported Pacific Otolaryngology trainees, who used the technology to develop skills in ultrasound evaluation of the head and neck region, an emerging and valuable application for this specialty cohort.

PoCUS workshop in Solomon Islands

FROM OUR PARTNERS

WORLD MEDICAL COLOURS (WMC) REPORT ON ULTRASOUND TRAINING IN THE ZANZIBAR ARCHIPELAGO

FRANCA MELONI & GIOVANNA FERRAIOLI

The most beautiful colours: Sustainability and self-maintenance

The World Medical Colors (WMC) is an Italian association dedicated to providing ultrasound training to healthcare professionals working in public hospitals with limited resources and located in underserved areas of the world. The WMC has developed an ultrasound training program in Zanzibar Archipelago since 2006 to equip local healthcare workers - including doctors, nurses, and technicians - with essential diagnostic skills. The capacity-building initiative has expanded ultrasound access to remote communities, improved maternal care, and empowered local providers to offer critical services. The program also features a train-the-trainer component designed to ensure long-term sustainability by enabling ongoing self-maintenance.

The Zanzibar Archipelago consists of several islands, with Unguja and Pemba being the largest. Travel between Pemba and Unguja takes three to five hours by boat or about thirty minutes by plane, though locals usually choose the less expensive boat option.
In 2011, WMC and Ministry of Health of Zanzibar Archipelago signed their first memorandum of understanding (MoU). By June 2022, the fourth MoU was arranged for a 2023-2025 ultrasound training program. The fifth MoU was signed in June 2025, followed by another three-year ultrasound training course beginning in January 2026.

The following accounts are written by five participants of the WMC training program. Dr. Khadija Suleiman Said, Mr. Khamis Abraham and Mr. Mahmoud Badru attended the first program and have served as local coordinators since 2011. Dr. Sabiha Soud Mohd and Abdulla Ameir Salum are the top performers of the 2023-2025 program and have been selected to join the train-the-trainer initiative starting from January 2026.

Dr. Khadija Suleiman Said

Gynecologist & Obstetrician - Ultrasound training coordinator - WMC Zanzibar Archipelago representative.

"I trained while carrying life in my arms and responsibility on my shoulders — ultrasound became my bridge between motherhood and medicine. Ultrasound training has empowered me not only as a clinician but also as a community advocate. Its impact continues to extend far beyond me, reaching every trainee I mentor and every patient they serve".

Dr. Khadija Suleiman Said (far right) with attendees of the 2018–2021 edition of the ultrasound training program.

I am Dr. Khadija Suleiman Said, a specialist in Gynecology and Obstetrics and one of the pioneering participants of the ultrasound training program in Zanzibar which was led by the WMC. My performance during the initial course placed me among the best trainees, which earned me the privilege of attending two advanced ultrasound courses in Italy. These courses, which lasted a total of four months, were generously sponsored by SIUMB, The Italian Society of Ultrasound in Medicine and Biology, for which I am very grateful.

My journey through the training was both rewarding and challenging. At the time, I was a very busy practicing gynecologist, which meant I had to carefully create time for studying and hands-on practical sessions while continuing to serve my patients. I was also a new mother, balancing postpartum recovery, caring for a newborn, my professional responsibilities, and the training simultaneously. Financial constraints added another layer of difficulty, as there was no allocated budget to support trainees. This meant limited access to ultrasound machines, books, and essential learning materials. Despite these obstacles, my determination to gain ultrasound skills and improve patient care kept me going.

Today, I serve as one of the Ultrasound Training Coordinators and local representatives of WMC in Zanzibar Archipelago. Through this role, I have had the opportunity to train many healthcare providers, empowering them with critical diagnostic skills that are transforming healthcare delivery within their communities.

While the Ministry of Health in Zanzibar has shown appreciation for our initiatives, we continue to face challenges due to limited administrative and financial support, particularly in record keeping and the trainee application process, despite our strict selection criteria and standards.
One of the greatest successes of the training program is its reach. Our trainees come not only from regional and district hospitals but also from health centers and dispensaries. This has expanded ultrasound services into remote areas where access was previously limited, improving early diagnosis and maternal care while also creating sustainable income opportunities for trained sonographers.

On a personal level, the ultrasound training changed my life professionally. I am now able to independently perform ultrasounds and make accurate diagnoses without relying on a sonographer. This has strengthened my clinical work and allowed me to contribute more effectively during outreach programs with organizations such as Jamiiyatul Akhalaqul Islaam (JAI), Zanzibar Outreach Program (ZOP), and others.

I currently own a portable ultrasound machine, which allows me to provide free ultrasound services and ensure accurate diagnoses during community outreach. I have also had a chance to show my expertise through administering ultrasound training in Sudan as well as offering training with the Kilimanjaro Foundation in Arusha. These skills were invaluable during my time working in Namibia, where I was able to perform my own ultrasounds independently, improving efficiency and patient care.

Ultrasound training has empowered me not only as a clinician but also as a community advocate. Its impact continues to extend far beyond me—reaching every trainee I mentor and every patient they serve.

Khamis Abdulraman Simai

Radiographer and sonographer from Unguja Island, Zanzibar Archipelago; coordinator of the WMC ultrasound training program since 2011.

"I began my ultrasound studies under challenging conditions, initially undertaking training on Pemba Island while I was expected to fulfill work obligations on Unguja Island. Today, I serve as a medical imaging specialist under the Ministry of Health Zanzibar and as a local coordinator and facilitator for the WMC ultrasound program".

My name is Khamis Abdulraman Simai, and ultrasound was the first and only path I chose in my professional life. I am proud to be among the first group of ultrasound students trained under the WMC program in Zanzibar Archipelago, a pioneering initiative that shaped the future of ultrasound services in the islands.

My journey began in 2007 in Pemba Island and concluded in 2010 in Unguja, where I completed four demanding years of training and graduated with an advanced diploma in diagnostic ultrasound. These years were filled with challenges. I often studied under difficult circumstances, required to work on one island while attending training on another. Despite the strain, I remained focused, guided by a promise I once made to my lecturer, Dr. Franca Meloni, that my ambitions would reach higher levels of education.

Khamis Abdulraman Simai provides instruction on optimizing ultrasound imaging to attendees of the 2026-2028 edition of the training program.

Following my success, I was recommended to serve as one of WMC's local ultrasound facilitators. In 2010, I joined the first intake of the bachelor's degree in diagnostic ultrasound at ECUREI University in Kampala, Uganda. Because my advanced diploma was accepted as part of the course, I completed the program in just two years.

Subsequently, I pursued advanced studies in China, obtaining a master's degree in medical imaging and nuclear medicine from Tongji Medical College at Huazhong University of Science and Technology between 2014 and 2017.

Today, I serve as a medical imaging specialist under the Ministry of Health Zanzibar and as a local coordinator and facilitator for the WMC ultrasound program. I also contribute to mobile ultrasound and POCUS OB training initiatives with doctors with Africa CUAMM, supporting maternal and child health services in underserved communities.

My journey reflects resilience, mentorship, and a lifelong commitment to service through education.

Mahmoud Badru Ali

Radiographer and sonographer from Pemba Island, Zanzibar Archipelago; coordinator of the WMC ultrasound training program since 2011.

"The training was particularly challenging because there was no ultrasound machine at my hospital and supervision was limited; as part of the first cohort of trainees, much of our learning relied on teamwork and trial and error".

I am Mahmoud Badru Ali. I have served as a radiographer for 38 years, and in 2026 I mark 16 years of my journey as a sonographer. When I began my career in 1987, ultrasound did not exist in Zanzibar Archipelago. We relied on conventional radiography, long hours, and commitment to patients who trusted us with very limited resources.

Ultrasonography arrived in Pemba in 2002, and it profoundly impacted my life. I dedicated myself completely to mastering it, even though it required many sacrifices. I traveled great distances to attend training sessions, worked in an X-ray department with few staff, responded to emergency calls after hours, and often paid for transportation myself.

Mahmoud Badru Ali provides guidance to trainees during a hands-on session of the 2026-2028 edition of the ultrasound training program.

The training was particularly challenging because there was no ultrasound machine at my hospital and supervision was limited; as part of the first cohort of trainees, much of our learning relied on teamwork and trial and error.

Through sustained effort, I successfully completed five rigorous years of training and earned an advanced diploma in diagnostic ultrasound with high distinction. This process enabled my development as both a qualified sonographer and a facilitator. The donation of an ultrasound machine to my hospital marked a significant milestone, allowing me to provide reliable patient care and contribute to the training of colleagues. Currently, owning a portable ultrasound machine represents a professional achievement obtained through years of dedication and commitment.

Ultrasound has expanded my professional perspective and added value to my efforts. I am deeply grateful to WMC, the president and course director Dr. Franca Meloni, and Dr. Giovanna Ferraioli for their guidance throughout the program. I also sincerely thank my colleagues in the program, Khamis, Dr Khadija, and Aida, whose dedication and collaboration were instrumental to the success of this journey.

Dr. Sabiha Soud Mohd

Clinical Officer from Pemba Island, Zanzibar Archipelago, enrolled in the 2023–2025 edition of the WMC Ultrasound Training Program and selected for the WMC train-the-trainer initiative.

"Balancing full-time work with demanding studies was not easy. Resources were limited, finances were tight, and the learning curve was steep. With time, ultrasound transformed from something unfamiliar into a powerful tool in my hands".

My name is Dr. Sabiha Soud Mohd. I am a Clinical Officer at Michenzani Health Centre, Pemba Island, holding an advanced diploma in diagnostic ultrasound from WMC in partnership with the Ministry of Health Zanzibar (2023–2025). Upon entering the ultrasound program in 2023, I had no prior experience in imaging; however, I was committed to professional growth and enhancing my capabilities as a healthcare provider.

Balancing full-time work with demanding studies was not easy. Resources were limited, finances were tight, and the learning curve was steep. Yet I pushed myself, spending extra hours studying and practicing, determined not to fall behind. With time, ultrasound transformed from something unfamiliar into a powerful tool in my hands. I began interpreting images with confidence, making diagnoses, supporting outreach programs, and scanning pregnant women who relied on timely answers.

This training significantly enhanced my understanding of patients. Medical conditions that were previously viewed solely from a clinical perspective became clearer and more comprehensible. The use of ultrasound improved my clinical decision-making, enabling more accurate diagnoses and faster interventions, thereby positively impacting patient outcomes.

A particularly meaningful moment in my journey was when I moved from being a learner to becoming an assistant tutor, where I helped train incoming students and offered support to other healthcare professionals. Sharing my knowledge has been deeply rewarding and has contributed to strengthening healthcare services throughout our community.

Dr. Sabiha Soud Mohd demonstrates how to perform liver scanning to attendees of the 2026-2028 edition of the training program.

The journey involved significant sacrifice. For three years, I frequently traveled between Pemba and Unguja, managing transport, accommodation, food, and family costs. It was exhausting physically, financially, and emotionally, but ultimately worthwhile.

Ultrasound has transformed me, not only professionally but personally. I am grateful for this opportunity to serve, to teach, and to grow. I am proud to be part of a healthcare system that is slowly bridging gaps and bringing essential services closer to the communities that need them most.

Abdulla Ameir Salum

Clinical Officer from Unguja Island, Zanzibar Archipelago, enrolled in the 2023–2025 edition of the WMC Ultrasound Training Program and selected for the train-the-trainer initiative.

"I am passionate about sharing my knowledge with other healthcare professionals and dream of one day establishing an ultrasound training center in Zanzibar, so more local practitioners can gain the skills needed to serve our people".

My name is Abdulla Ameir Salum, Clinical Officer and Sonographer from Unguja, Zanzibar Archipelago. Growing up on this beautiful island, I always knew I wanted to play a meaningful role in improving healthcare for my community. My journey into ultrasound began with a simple desire—to diagnose better, treat faster, and make a real difference in patients' lives.

Ultrasound quickly became more than just a skill to me. I was drawn to its safety, its accuracy, and its ability to give answers without causing harm. I successfully met the selection criteria and was admitted to the WMC ultrasound training program for 2023–2025, implemented in partnership with the Ministry of Health Zanzibar. For three years, I dedicated myself fully to learning this vital field. The journey was intense, demanding, and deeply rewarding.
Through classroom learning and hospital-based practical training, I gained both the technical skills and the confidence needed to work in real clinical settings.

Abdulla Ameir Salum provides a detailed explanation of transducer handling to participants in the 2026–2028 edition of the ultrasound training program.

The path was not always easy. Restricted access to equipment, combined with the ongoing requirement to stay abreast of technological advancements, challenged my patience and resilience. At times, the challenges were overwhelming, but thanks to my instructors' support and my perseverance, I adjusted and kept moving ahead. Those challenges made me a stronger and more resourceful sonographer.
Along the way, I was fortunate to participate in professional workshops and seminars, and to receive recognition for my performance. These moments reminded me that hard work truly pays off and motivated me to keep striving for excellence.

Today, my focus is on providing quality ultrasound services, especially in areas that matter most, such as maternal and child health. I am passionate about sharing my knowledge with other healthcare professionals and dream of one day establishing an ultrasound training center in Zanzibar, so more local practitioners can gain the skills needed to serve our people.
My journey is still unfolding, but I am proud of how far I have come. Every scan I perform reinforces why I chose this path—to serve, to learn, and to contribute to better healthcare for my community and beyond.

Conclusions by Dr. Franca Meloni, WMC President

More than two decades ago, we started our project in Zanzibar Archipelago with one clear purpose: to educate. Over time, that small beginning has grown into something greater than we ever imagined.
The personal stories shared in this article go beyond simply describing an ultrasound training program. The experiences of Khadija, Khamis, Mahmoud, Sabiha, and Abdulla highlight a philosophy rooted in real collaboration:

rather than just providing help, it's about empowering local communities by teaching skills and giving them the tools needed to thrive independently. These accounts focus on what the participants have accomplished, not just what outsiders have contributed. The goal was to become unnecessary, and in that way, success was achieved. Training began with the first group of operators—now some of those early attendees have become coordinators, and the most promising recent attendees are preparing to take on the role of trainers. Knowledge is continuously passed on within the community, creating a self-sustaining project poised for ongoing growth and impact.

The current priority extends beyond simply introducing ultrasound technology to underserved areas. It involves strengthening robust healthcare systems that enable a midwife in a remote clinic to perform life-saving diagnoses and empower clinical officers, such as those in Pemba, to aspire towards establishing training centers for their peers. The goal is to overcome geographical and economic barriers through enhanced expertise.

WMC is transitioning to a new role. Instead of just being training providers, we are now facilitators of cultural exchange, working to break down barriers and support the next generation of healthcare leaders. This is the real 'colour' we have been searching for: one that stands for sustainability, professional dignity, and strong local leadership.

We believe that the WMC project in Zanzibar Archipelago is not only a successful initiative but also a model that can be adapted and repeated in other areas. We share this journey with the WFUMB global community, strongly believing that the future of ultrasound worldwide depends on local, sustainable efforts led by those who know their communities best. Our aim is not to take over, but rather to listen, build relationships, and empower people like Khadija, Khamis, Mahmoud, Sabiha, Abdulla, everywhere.

There is still a long way to go, with ongoing logistical and financial obstacles. At this stage, our responsibility is to stand alongside them as supporters throughout this remarkable journey.

STUDENTS' AREA

INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF MEDICAL STUDENTS ASSOCIATION (IFMSA)

GENERAL ASSEMBLY, 1-7 MARCH 2026 COPENHAGEN,

WFUMB has a Memorandum of Understanding with IFMSA and a group of their members attended WFUMB 2025 Kyoto, Japan to present their activities. Lynne Rudd was invited to join the March meeting and present WFUMB's activities to the more than 700 student delegates coming from 135 organisations from 125 countries. (Some countries such as Brazil have more than one representative organisation having around 400 medical schools in their country, the majority of which are private.)

WFUMB was not the only external organisation present at the March meeting which was the 75th anniversary of the IFMSA. Alumni were invited to return for this anniversary meeting which started life in Copenhagen 75 years ago. The WHO European Director was present, along with the World Federation of Neurology, World Heart Federation, World Federation for Medical Education and the Global Climate and Health Alliance (GCHA) amongst many others.

The issue which concerns both WFUMB and IFMSA is the creation of a medical ultrasound curriculum. IFMSA has internal approval and will organise a survey of its members later this year on the current status of ultrasound education worldwide.

WFUMB has invited IFMSA to help promote and participate in the Student Ultrasound Congress taking place at WFUMB 2027 Lima, Peru, perhaps having a session in the main congress as well as by submitting abstracts. WFUMB has plans to create a Next Generation Committee with representatives from IFMSA as well as involving IFMSA with the proposal from Editor in Chief, Manjiri Dighe of the Open Access Journal to invite applications from young scholars and physicians to join its Editorial Board. This is believed to be a valuable opportunity for trainees /early-career physicians/researchers to engage with a growing academic community.
IFMSA has biannual meetings with the August meeting to be held in Kazakhstan and the next March meeting in Rwanda.

Lynne Rudd with Anna Liakopoulou and Diana Basit from IFMSA

Lynne Rudd would like to thank Anna Liakopoulou, Liaison Officer for Medical Sciences and Research Issues, for the warm welcome, the opportunity to bring WFUMB's activities to the students' attention and to experience the enthusiasm and engagement of all the meeting participants.

STUDENTS' AREA

WFUMB AND AMBOSS PARTNER TO OFFER EXCLUSIVE FREE ACCESS FOR MEMBERS

WFUMB is pleased to announce a new collaboration with AMBOSS, a leading global medical learning and knowledge platform, offering members an exclusive opportunity to access its comprehensive resources free of charge.

This partnership was initiated following a successful introduction between WFUMB and AMBOSS representatives at the IFMSA General Assembly, where both organisations identified a shared commitment to strengthening medical education and supporting the next generation of healthcare professionals.

Two Weeks Free Access for WFUMB Members

As part of this cooperation, all WFUMB members will be eligible for two weeks of free access to the AMBOSS platform. Following this introductory period, members will also benefit from a 25% discount on their first annual subscription, providing continued access at a reduced rate.

AMBOSS is widely recognised for its integrated approach to medical learning, combining a powerful knowledge library with interactive clinical tools designed to support both study and practice. This aligns closely with WFUMB's mission to promote ultrasound as a core clinical skill and to bridge the gap between foundational knowledge and real-world application.

Supporting Education and Clinical Practice

Through this initiative, WFUMB aims to enhance the educational resources available to its global membership, complementing its existing portfolio of webinars, guidelines, and training programmes. The AMBOSS platform offers valuable support across a wide range of specialties, helping clinicians and trainees strengthen diagnostic reasoning and clinical decision-making.

Members will be able to activate their free access via a dedicated AMBOSS landing page created specifically for WFUMB. This streamlined process ensures easy access to the platform and its full range of features.

A Shared Vision for Global Learning

The collaboration reflects a shared vision between WFUMB and AMBOSS: to expand access to high-quality medical education worldwide. By combining WFUMB's expertise in ultrasound education with AMBOSS's innovative digital learning tools, this partnership will support continuous professional development across diverse healthcare settings. The agreement will run initially for two years from May 2026, with both organisations committed to promoting the opportunity through their respective communication channels, events, and training activities.

Looking Ahead

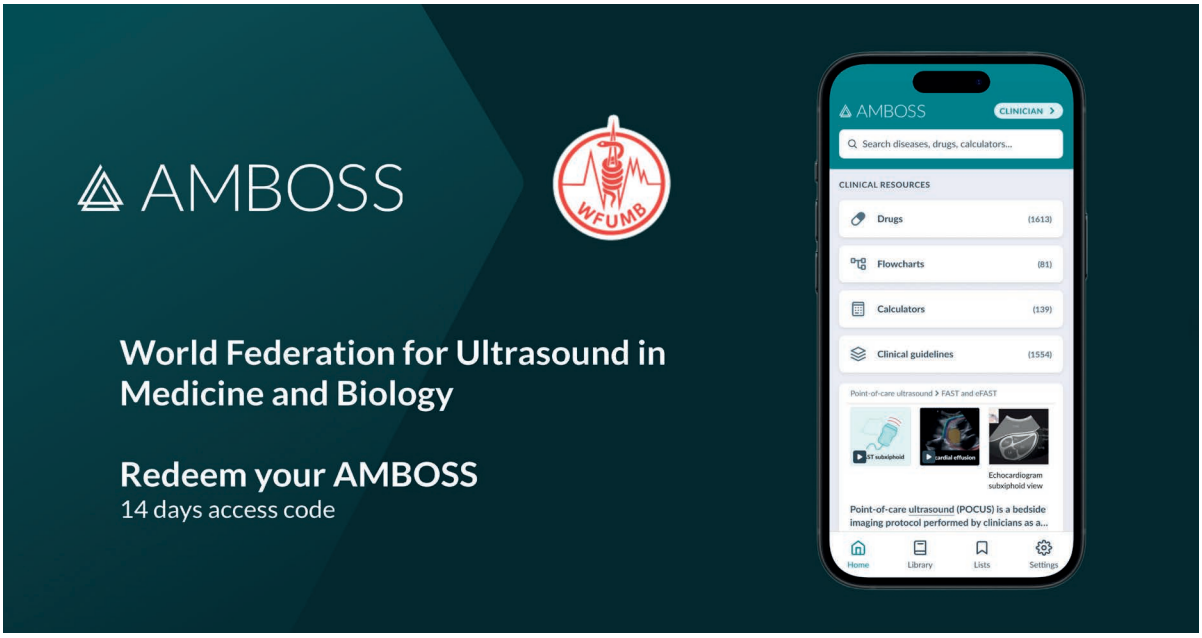
This new member benefit represents an important step in WFUMB's ongoing efforts to deliver added value to its community. Members are encouraged to take full advantage of this limited-time free access and explore how AMBOSS can support their learning and clinical practice.

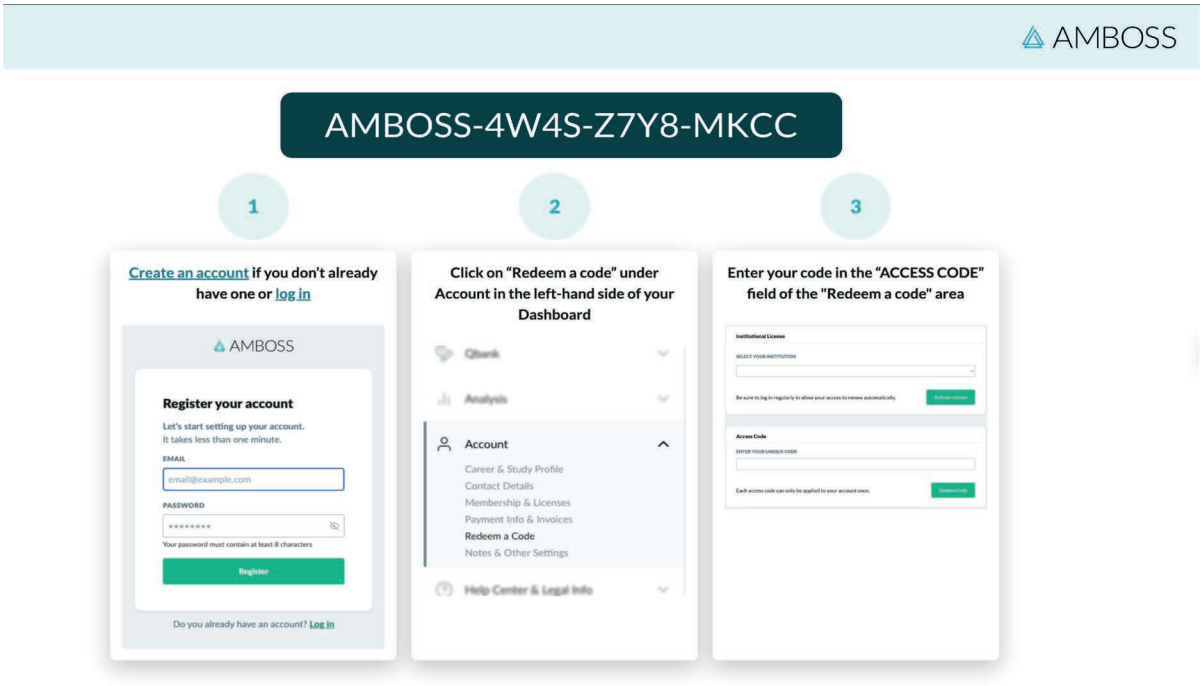
In today's clinical practice, Point-of-Care Ultrasound (POCUS) has evolved from a niche skill to a core competency that sharpens bedside decisions. Yet translating theory to confident execution remains challenging.

AMBOSS provides WFUMB members with special access to over 1,500 interactive articles, clinical tools, and action-driven content.

Claim your 2 weeks of free AMBOSS access

Visit: https://www.amboss.com/us/redeem-code
Enter Code: AMBOSS-4W4S-Z7Y8-MKCC





AFFILIATED FEDERATION NEWS

AFSUMB 2026, DA NANG, VIETNAM 12-14 MARCH 2026

JO MCCANN,
PRESIDENT, ASUM | WFUMB ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCILLOR

It was a privilege to attend the 17th AFSUMB Congress in the beautiful coastal city of Da Nang, Vietnam. Hosted by the Vietnamese Society of Ultrasound in Medicine (VSUM) under the banner "New Sound for Life, New Sight for Mind". The congress brought together ultrasound enthusiasts from across the Asia-Pacific region and beyond, in a setting that was as engaging as the programme itself.

The programme showcased a breadth of clinical and research content, from fetal neurosonography and ultrasound-guided MSK interventions to microvascular contrast-enhanced ultrasound (CEUS), multiparameter liver assessment, and the rapidly evolving landscape of artificial intelligence in ultrasound.

The congress was a valuable opportunity to strengthen the ties between WFUMB's federation members and supporting organisations, with the Presidents from WFUMB, EFSUMB, ASUM along with ISUOG President-Elect in attendance.

Attending as ASUM President, I was proud to represent Australasia and to reinforce the importance of regional collaboration. The relationships we build between WFUMB federation members at events like this are central to our shared ultrasound mission.

Whether it is sharing educational frameworks, aligning on ultrasound safety and quality standards, or supporting one another's capacity-building work in under-resourced settings, we are stronger when we are connected. I came away with a renewed sense of the collegial spirit that underpins WFUMB's global network.

My thanks go to VSUM and the Organising Committee for an exceptionally well-run congress, and to the AFSUMB leadership for their continued commitment to advancing ultrasound education across the region. The next AFSUMB congress will no doubt build on this strong foundation.

In the meantime, I look forward to carrying the connections made in Da Nang into our ongoing WFUMB work and to continuing to advocate for a world in which ultrasound expertise is accessible to all who need it.

AFFILIATED FEDERATION NEWS

FLAUS REPORT

Expanding Access to High-Quality Ultrasound Education

WFUMB, in collaboration with the Latin American Federation for Ultrasound in Medicine and Biology (FLAUS), is delivering an exciting programme of online education through the WFUMB–FLAUS Webinar Series 2026. The series will feature six webinars held throughout the year, running from February to December 2026, and is designed to provide high-quality, up-to-date scientific content for the global ultrasound community.

Chaired by Dr. Antonio Carlos Matteoni de Athayde and Dra. Edda Chaves, the programme brings together international experts to present on a wide range of clinically relevant topics, reflecting WFUMB's commitment to advancing ultrasound education worldwide.

All webinars are delivered in Spanish with live English surtitles, ensuring that participants from different regions can engage fully with the content. Recordings are subsequently made available with English subtitles, allowing for flexible, on-demand learning and extending the reach of each session.

The series covers a broad spectrum of ultrasound applications. Early sessions include topics such as ultrasound in the prediction of preeclampsia and gastrointestinal ultrasound in paediatric patients.These sessions highlight the series' focus on both foundational knowledge and evolving clinical applications, supporting practitioners across multiple specialties.

The WFUMB–FLAUS webinar initiative continues to strengthen collaboration between regional federations while supporting WFUMB's mission to deliver accessible, high-quality education to healthcare professionals worldwide.
By combining expert-led teaching with multilingual accessibility and on-demand availability, the 2026 series offers an invaluable opportunity for clinicians, trainees, and students to enhance their knowledge and clinical practice—wherever they are in the world.
Members are encouraged to participate in upcoming sessions and explore recorded webinars at:

wfumb.org/flaus-webinars-2026

AFFILIATED FEDERATION NEWS

EFSUMB REPORT

EUROSON 2026: A Premier European Ultrasound Congress with Dedicated Opportunities for Students

The EUROSON 2026 Congress, the 36th annual meeting of the European Federation of Societies for Ultrasound in Medicine and Biology (EFSUMB), will take place in Lublin, Poland from 11–14 June 2026.

Recognised as one of Europe's leading scientific events in medical ultrasonography, EUROSON 2026 will bring together clinicians, researchers, educators, and industry experts from across the continent and beyond. The congress provides a multidisciplinary platform to exchange knowledge, present the latest research, and explore innovations in diagnostic and interventional ultrasound.
The scientific programme is designed to be both comprehensive and practical, featuring plenary lectures, expert-led sessions, hands-on workshops, and industry symposia. A strong emphasis is placed on translating new developments into clinical practice, ensuring that participants gain both cutting-edge insights and practical skills applicable to everyday patient care.

Supporting the Next Generation: STUC at EUROSON 2026

A key highlight of EUROSON 2026 is its commitment to young professionals and students through the Student Ultrasound Congress (STUC). This dedicated pre-congress event is specifically designed for medical students and early-career practitioners with an interest in ultrasound.

STUC will offer an intensive programme of learning and networking, including hands-on scanning opportunities, interactive teaching sessions, and direct engagement with experienced faculty. Taking place immediately before the main congress, it provides an ideal entry point for students to build foundational skills and confidence in ultrasound, while also connecting with peers and mentors from across Europe.

STUC2026

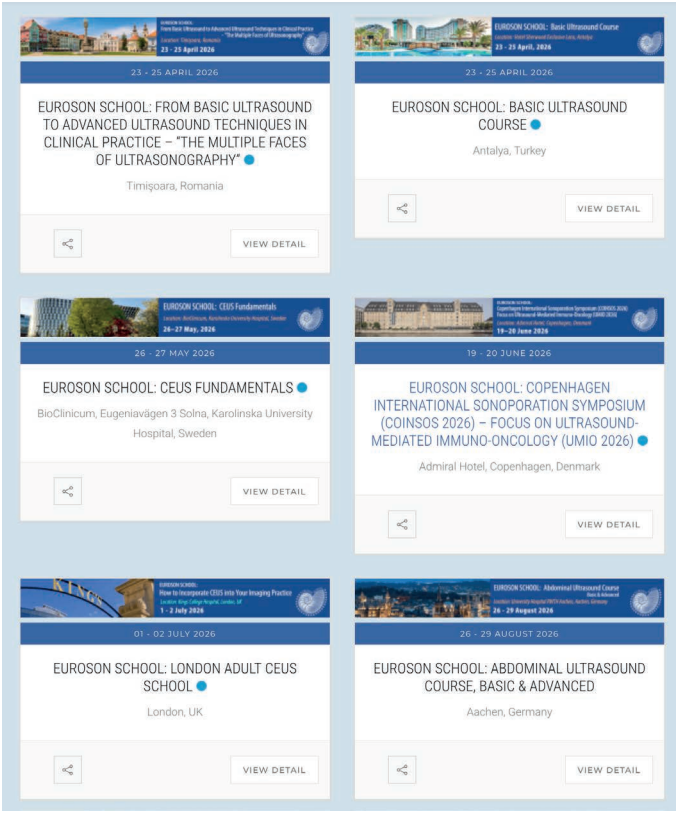
A Collaborative and Forward-Looking Event

EUROSON 2026 reflects EFSUMB's ongoing commitment to education, innovation, and collaboration. By combining a high-level scientific programme with dedicated initiatives such as STUC, the congress ensures that both established professionals and the next generation of ultrasound practitioners are supported.

Set in the historic and vibrant city of Lublin, the congress promises not only academic excellence but also valuable opportunities for networking and international collaboration—making EUROSON 2026 a key event in the global ultrasound calendar.

Other events taking place over the next few months ...

We are delighted that the 2026 Euroson School calendar full with over 14 schools already! We've got a great mix of topics, including CEUS, Neonatal Ultrasound, Sonoanatomy, Interventional Ultrasound, Abdominal Imaging, and much more. To learn more about the courses and to register visit efsumb.org/euroson-schools We look forward to welcoming you to these educational events!



AFFILIATED FEDERATION NEWS

MASU REPORT

MASU Renaissance: A New Chapter for Ultrasound

The past year has marked a true “rebirth” for the Mediterranean and African Society of Ultrasound (MASU). We are in a phase of profound transformation, driven by new partnerships and a modern vision.

Our Roots and the “Silent” Pillars

Every great association rests on solid foundations, often built away from the spotlight. MASU’s growth is made possible by the constant commitment of two historical members: Professor Gharbi, who continues to support us with his invaluable advice, and Professor Arbeille, our efficient Treasurer. Their dedicated work behind the scenes is the fundamental pillar of our society.

Welcoming New Partners: GARMS

We are thrilled to officially welcome the Ghana Association of Registered Medical Sonographers (GARMS). Their dynamism and eagerness to collaborate are concrete proof of the growing spirit of unity across the African continent.

Education and Growth:

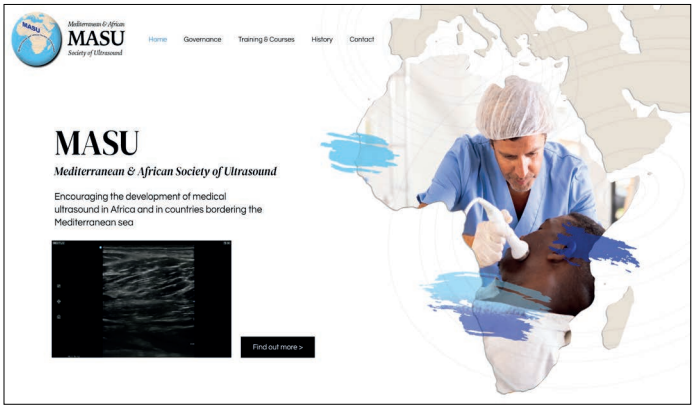
- Monthly Webinars: Our online meetings continue to be a success, with faculty freely sharing their specific expertise.
- Unified Basic Course: We are designing a common educational path involving teachers from all our member associations.
- Lean Organization: We aim to keep bureaucracy to a minimum to focus on spreading knowledge across different cultures.

Towards Digital Independence

MASU is also evolving internally with the renewal of its Statutes. Furthermore, we are completing the transition to a fully independent web platform. We wish to express our deep gratitude to WFUMB for the generous support provided in creating our initial online presence; their help was essential in allowing us to stand on our own feet today.

A Shared Vision

Today, MASU is a dynamic hub for ultrasound in the Mediterranean and Africa. Thanks to the passion of our members, we are building something significant to improve patient care through diagnostic imaging.



FROM WFUMB JOURNALS

AN ARTICLE FROM ULTRASOUND IN MEDICINE AND BIOLOGY (UMB)

A REVIEW FROM MARIA CRISTINA CHAMMAS

Ultrasound in Medicine & Biology 50(2024)1183−1187

Value of Multimodal Ultrasound Combined with BRAF Gene in Evaluating Cervical Lymph Node Metastasis of Papillary Thyroid Microcarcinoma

A recent study published in Ultrasound in Medicine and Biology by Xue and colleagues explores an important and clinically relevant question: how can multimodal ultrasound help predict cervical lymph node metastasis in papillary thyroid microcarcinoma?

Papillary thyroid microcarcinoma, defined as tumors measuring 10 mm or less, usually carries an excellent prognosis. However, a subset of these tumors may behave more aggressively and develop cervical lymph node (LN) metastases early in the course of the disease. Identifying these patients before surgery is essential in order to guide appropriate treatment planning and avoid both undertreatment and unnecessary surgical interventions.

What makes this study particularly interesting is its focus on a multiparametric ultrasound approach, combining conventional B-mode ultrasound (US), contrast enhanced ultrasound (CEUS) and shear wave elastography (SWE), together with molecular analysis of the BRAF V600E mutation.

US remains the cornerstone of thyroid imaging and continues to provide essential information about tumor morphology. In this study, microcalcifications identified on B mode US were strongly associated with cervical LN metastasis, reinforcing the concept that punctate echogenic foci may reflect a more aggressive biological behavior.

CEUS adds another important dimension by allowing real time of tumor microvascularization. The authors observed that hyper enhancement or iso enhancement patterns were independently associated with LN metastasis, suggesting that tumors with richer vascularization may have a greater potential for metastatic spread.

The study also evaluated several quantitative CEUS perfusion parameters, including peak intensity, wash in slope, rise time, time to peak, half time and area under the curve. Among these parameters, lower peak intensity values were associated with a higher probability of LN metastasis, indicating that perfusion characteristics may provide additional insight into tumor behavior.

Elastography was assessed through the average elastic modulus measured with SWE. Interestingly, the metastatic group showed lower elasticity values, a finding that differs from some previous reports. The authors appropriately point out that factors such as sample size, lesion depth or technical variability may influence these results, and further studies are needed to clarify the role of elastography in predicting metastatic risk.

The BRAF V600E mutation is the most common genetic alteration in papillary thyroid carcinoma and has been associated with tumor aggressiveness in several studies. However, in this cohort the mutation did not show a significant association with cervical LN metastasis, highlighting that imaging biomarkers may sometimes provide stronger predictive information than genetic alterations alone.

When the authors analyzed all factors together, three variables emerged as the most important independent predictors of lymph node metastasis: male sex, presence of microcalcifications and hyper or iso enhancement pattern on CEUS.

When these parameters were combined, the diagnostic model achieved 92.3% sensitivity and 73.9% overall accuracy, demonstrating the value of integrating multiple ultrasound features in risk assessment.
Beyond its specific findings, this work highlights a broader and very important message for the US community. Modern thyroid imaging increasingly relies on multiparametric evaluation, where morphology, vascularization and tissue biomechanics are assessed together in order to better understand tumor biology.

For clinicians and sonographers, this reinforces the critical importance of careful interpretation of US findings. Ultrasound is not only a diagnostic tool for detecting thyroid nodules, but also a powerful instrument for predicting tumor behavior and guiding clinical management. As US technologies continue to evolve, studies like this help demonstrate how advanced techniques such as CEUS can complement conventional imaging and contribute to more personalized patient care.

From my perspective, this study reinforces something that is central to our daily practice. We must remain constantly updated and committed to providing the most complete and highest quality US examination possible for our patients. A thorough and multiparametric US evaluation can play a crucial role in helping clinicians choose the most appropriate therapeutic strategy. Ultimately, our goal is always the same: to improve decision making and achieve the best possible outcomes for our patients.

FROM WFUMB JOURNALS

AN ARTICLE FROM WFUMB ULTRASOUND OPEN

A REVIEW FROM MARIA CRISTINA CHAMMAS

Article: Body habitus vs hepatic steatosis: Understanding the drivers of non diagnostic shear wave elastography (SWE)

Sai Dhanush Reddy Jeggari, Lauren A. Ling, Kathleen R. Pope, Anthony E. Samir, Theodore T. Pierce
WFUMB Ultrasound Open 2 (2024) 100073

Understanding When SWE May Fail

A recent study published in WFUMB Ultrasound Open investigated an important but often underappreciated issue in clinical elastography: the factors that lead to non diagnostic shear wave elastography (SWE) examinations in liver imaging. As SWE becomes increasingly integrated into routine clinical assessment of liver disease, understanding the technical limitations that affect measurement reliability is essential. In this retrospective single center study, the authors explored how hepatic steatosis, body

mass index, and skin to capsule distance influence the technical feasibility of SWE examinations. Using ultrasound guided attenuation parameter (UGAP) to quantify hepatic fat, the investigators demonstrated that increasing liver attenuation, higher body mass index (BMI), and greater skin to capsule distance significantly increase the likelihood of a non diagnostic elastography examination. Among these variables, skin to capsule distance emerged as the strongest predictor, reflecting the well-known impact of ultrasound beam attenuation in deeper tissues and patients with increased subcutaneous fat.

These findings have practical implications. Identifying patients at higher risk of unreliable elastography measurements may help clinicians select alternative diagnostic strategies or optimize scanning conditions before attempting SWE.

Main strengths of the study

Several aspects of the study deserve recognition. First, the authors address a highly relevant technical challenge in everyday clinical ultrasound practice. While elastography has become widely adopted for non-invasive liver fibrosis assessment, the determinants of examination failure remain incompletely understood.

Second, the study introduces UGAP based quantitative assessment of hepatic steatosis as a predictor of elastography reliability. This approach provides an objective parameter to evaluate how liver fat may interfere with shear wave propagation.

Third, the analysis incorporates multiple patient related variables, including BMI and skin to capsule distance, allowing a more comprehensive understanding of factors influencing elastography feasibility. Finally, the work provides clinically useful information by demonstrating that skin to capsule distance is the strongest predictor of non-diagnostic SWE examinations non-diagnostic SWE examinations, reinforcing the importance of patient habitus and scanning depth in ultrasound physics and image quality.

Limitations to consider

Despite its contributions, several limitations should be acknowledged. The study is retrospective and single center, which limits generalizability to broader patient populations and different clinical settings. The sample size is relatively modest, which may reduce the statistical power of subgroup analyses and limit the robustness of some conclusions.

Another limitation relates to vendor specific technology. UGAP and elastography implementation vary across ultrasound platforms, and the results may not be directly applicable to other systems or attenuation measurement techniques. Finally, although the study identifies predictors of non diagnostic exams, it does not fully explore technical optimization strategies that might improve elastography success rates in high risk patients.

My Perspective

Despite these limitations, this study contributes valuable insight into the practical realities of liver elastography. By highlighting the influence of patient habitus and hepatic steatosis on measurement reliability, it reminds us that ultrasound based quantitative techniques remain highly dependent on acoustic conditions.

For the ultrasound community, the message is clear. Understanding the technical boundaries of our imaging tools is just as important as mastering their clinical applications. Such knowledge allows clinicians to interpret elastography findings more critically and to select the most appropriate imaging strategy for each patient.

In everyday practice, recognizing the limitations of the tools we use can prevent frustration and allow us to obtain the greatest possible benefit from the imaging methods available.

Ultimately, combining solid technical knowledge with appropriate training helps ensure that ultrasound examinations deliver reliable information and support better clinical decision making for our patients.

NEWS & UPCOMING EVENTS

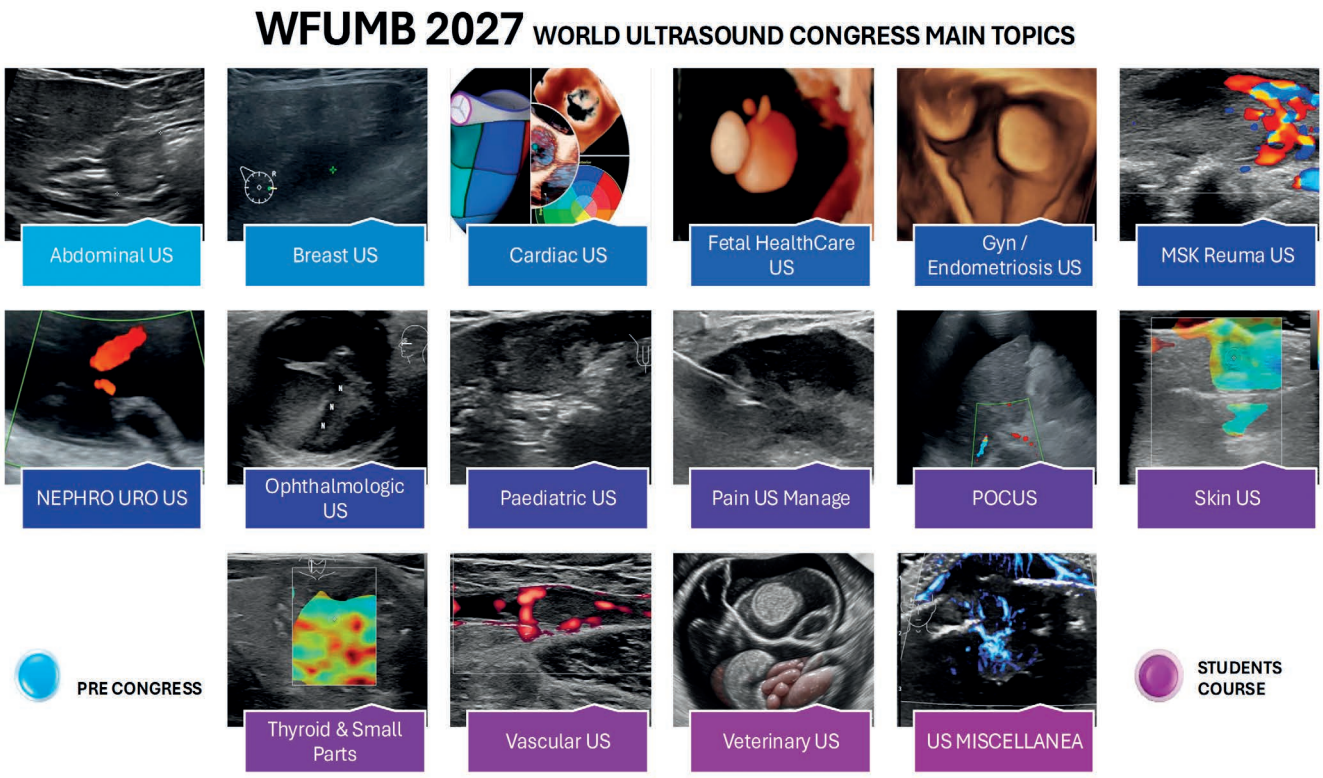
WFUMB CONGRESS 2027

LIMA, PERU

Join Us in Lima for WFUMB 2027 – The Global Ultrasound Community Comes Together

The World Federation for Ultrasound in Medicine and Biology (WFUMB) is delighted to invite members to the 21st WFUMB World Congress, taking place 20–23 May 2027 in Lima, Peru - a vibrant gateway to Latin America and a hub of scientific exchange.
Held biennially, the WFUMB Congress is the federation's flagship event, bringing together clinicians, researchers, educators, and industry leaders from across the globe. Building on the momentum of previous congresses, WFUMB 2027 will once again showcase the very best in ultrasound science, education, and innovation.

A World-Class Scientific Programme
WFUMB 2027 will feature a dynamic and forward-looking programme designed to reflect the rapidly evolving landscape of ultrasound. Delegates can expect cutting-edge sessions on emerging technologies and clinical applications, including advances in contrast-enhanced ultrasound, elastography, interventional techniques, and real-time imaging innovations.
The congress will provide a unique platform to exchange ideas, share research, and engage with internationally renowned experts across multiple disciplines—reinforcing WFUMB's mission to promote collaboration and advance global healthcare through ultrasound.



Global Collaboration, Local Impact

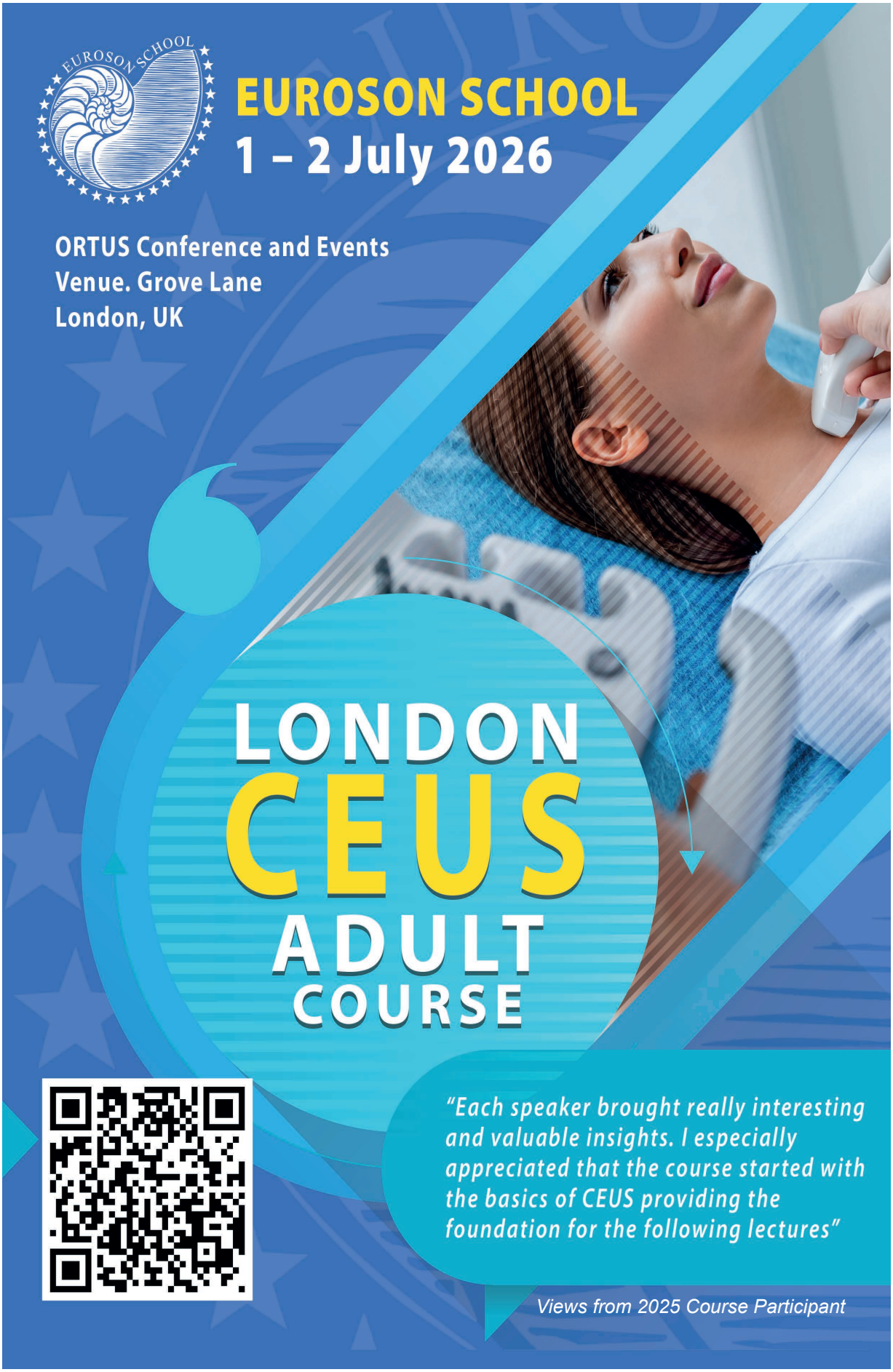
Hosted in partnership with regional and international societies, WFUMB 2027 is expected to attract thousands of participants from around the world. The meeting will foster cross-disciplinary dialogue and strengthen connections between established leaders and the next generation of ultrasound professionals.

Why Attend?

* Discover the latest scientific breakthroughs and clinical applications
* Engage with a global network of experts and peers
* Present your research and gain international visibility
* Participate in hands-on workshops and interactive sessions
* Experience the rich culture and history of Lima

Further details on registration, abstract submission, and the fullprogramme will be released soon. Stay informed and register your interest via the official congress website. We look forward to welcoming you to Lima for an inspiring and impactful WFUMB 2027 Congress.

https://www.wfumb2027congress.com/


EUROSON SCHOOL
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1 – 2 July 2026
ORTUS Conference and Events
Venue. Grove Lane
London, UK
LONDON
CEUS
ADULT
COURSE
"Each speaker brought really interesting and valuable insights. I especially appreciated that the course started with the basics of CEUS providing the foundation for the following lectures"
Views from 2025 Course Participant

NEWS & UPCOMING EVENTS

ULTRASOUND CALENDAR

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

APRIL 2026

- **International Conference on Ultrasound and Radiology (ICUR)**
  April 02, 2026, in London, UK

- **ISUOG Understanding CSP and PAS**
  April 12, 2026 Livestream
-
- **EULAR Basic Ultrasound Course (Adult Rheumatology)**
  April 23, 2026 in Antalya, Turkey

- **ISUOG Approved Course: Endometriosis**
  April 23, 2026 in Budapest

- **EUROSON SCHOOL: From Basic Ultrasound to Advanced Ultrasound Techniques in Clinical Practice – "The Multiple Faces of Ultrasonography"**
  April 23-25, 2026, in Timisoara, Romania

MAY 2026

- **EULAR Basic Musculoskeletal Ultrasound Course**
  May 18, 2026 in Krakow, Poland

JUNE 2026

- **EUROSON 2026**
  June 11-14, 2026, Lublin, Poland

- **International Society for Therapeutic Ultrasound (ISTU) 2026**
  June 15-18, 2026, Trondheim, Norway

- **EUROSON SCHOOL: Copenhagen International Sonoporation Symposium (COINSOS 2026) – Focus on Ultrasound-Mediated Immuno-Oncology (UMIO 2026)**
  June 19-20, 2026 in Copenhagen, Denmark