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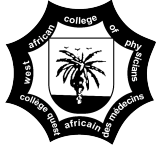


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TABLE OF CONTENTS

GENERAL INFORMATION	1C
INFORMATION FOR AUTHORS	1F
EDITORIAL NOTES – The Double Burden of Communicable and Non-Communicable Diseases – G. E. Erhabor	353
The Resurging Outbreaks of Yellow Fever Infection – T. O. Olajubu, G. E. Erhabor.....	354
ORIGINAL ARTICLES	
An Evaluation of Platelet Factor 4, Beta-Thromboglobulin and Mean Platelet Volume in the Assessment of Thrombotic Risks in Subjects with Diabetic Mellitus Subjects at Lagos State University Teaching Hospital, Ikeja, Lagos, Nigeria.....	357
A. O. Dada, O. A. Dada, A. A. Akinbami, A. R. Bamiro, I. E. Uche, O. I. Adeyemi, O. A. Kareem, O. B. Okunowo, M. R. Dosu	
Assessment of Drug History Information in Referral Letters to the Antiretroviral Therapy Outpatient Specialist Clinic of a Federal Teaching Hospital in Ilorin.....	362
O. A. Agede, M.O Bojuwoye, J. A. Ogunmodede	
Assessment of Healthcare-Seeking Behaviour and Self-Medication among Adult Patients with Gastrointestinal Symptoms at a Rural Clinic in the Niger Delta of Nigeria.....	367
N. P. Dienye, C. Imarhiagbe, A. I. Dan-Jumbo, P. O. Dienye, S. Uriah, N. O. Nnadi, C. O. Akinla	
Effect of an Antidepressant on Medication Adherence among Type 2 Diabetic Patients with Depression Accessing Care in GOPC of FETHI.....	375
O. E. Gabriel-Alayode, S. L. Omotola, O. T. Elegbede, O. A. Ajetunmobi, S. M. Agboola, A. K. Jimoh, A. O. Elegbede	
Evaluation of Homocysteine Status and its Correlation with Disease Severity in Individuals with Sickle Cell Anaemia in Steady State.....	382
N. I. Ugwu, P. O. Manafa, S. E. Agina, C. E. Onah, E. C. Okocha	
Knowledge, Attitude and Practice in the Prevention of Nosocomial Infections among the Hospital Staff of a Nigerian Tertiary Hospital.....	389
E. F. Mbon, O. V. Chimezie, O. Ehioghae, O. A. Adesegun, B. E. Fikayo	
Psychometric Properties of the Modified Family Affluence Scale (FAS II) among Adolescents in Nigeria: A Preliminary Report.....	397
F. I. Eleazu, B. E. Edet, E. A. Essien, C. J. Okafor, A. C. Okoro, O. Udofia	
Relationship between Periodontal Disease, Dental Caries and the Risk Indicators for Cardiovascular Disease in Lagos, Nigeria.....	404
A. Oyapero, L. L. Enone, R. Moronkola, R. O. Ojikutu	
Bone Mineral Density and Vitamin D Status in Nigerians: The Impact of HIV.....	414
E. E. Abene, Z. M. Gimba, H. Rawizza, G. Odoh, G. A. Amusa, D. Y. Chundusu, L. C. Imoh, E. I. Agaba, S. A. Sagay	
Vascular Access in Hemodialysis: Peculiarities in a Low-Income Setting, Pattern, Prevalence and Relationship with Intradialysis Events and Dialysis Dose.....	421
P. K. Uduagbamen, M. Sanusi, F. O. Soyinka, O. B. Udom, A. F. Ogunlade, O. A. Omokore, C. C. Emmanuel	
Yellow Fever Disease: Pattern of Presentation of Patients in Federal Medical Centre, Asaba, Delta State, Nigeria	428
A. Q. Aigbokhaode, N. L. Orhue, A. O. Ojimba, F. C. Ugoeze, C. E. Origbo, D. Caleb, S. I. Ezemenahi, N. P. Ekhaton, U. Mkpuma, J. I. Okereke, V. A. Osiatuma, E. O. Ezunu	
Outcome of Patients with Common Endocrine Diseases Who Had COVID-19 in two Centers in Lagos, Nigeria: A Cross-Sectional Study.....	435
O. Oluwole, W. Fashola, O. B. Olopade, I. A. Odeniyi, O. A. Fasanmade	
Gender Differences in Clinical Characteristics and Lifestyle Behaviours of Overweight and Obese Adolescents.....	438
N. J. Iduoriyekemwen, M. T. Abiodun, W. E. Sadoh, A. N. Onyiriuka	
A Review of Scrotal Ultrasonography in Uyo, Nigeria.....	445
N. N. Nwafor, I. P. Eyo, O. D. Ogholoh, C. C. Nwafor	
CASE REPORT	
Premature Atherosclerotic Cardiovascular Disease: A Case of Myocardial Infarction Seven Years after Bentall Procedure in a Nigerian Man.....	452
B. T. Osibowale, O. S. Ogah, A. A. Adebiyi, V. A. Obasuyi, K. T. Adeleke, O. O. Oresegun, A. Aje, A. M. Adecoye	
INDEX TO VOLUME 40, NO. 4, 2023	
Author Index	456
Subject Index	457



A Review of Scrotal Ultrasonography in Uyo, Nigeria

Examen de l'Échographie Scrotale à Uyo, au Nigeria

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ABSTRACT

BACKGROUND: Scrotal ultrasonography is a useful, sensitive, readily available and safe imaging modality in the investigation of scrotal pathologies, including those possibly contributory to male infertility. The aim of this study was to review the scrotal ultrasound scans (SUSS) done in the University of Uyo Teaching Hospital over a period of 18 months from July 2018 to December 2019.

METHODOLOGY: This was a retrospective study of all the SUSS performed in the Department of Radiology of University of Uyo Teaching Hospital (UUTH) within an 18-month period. All subjects who presented for scrotal ultrasound with adequately filled request forms which included the biodata and clinical information were included in the study.

RESULTS: A total of 79 scans were reviewed during the period. The age range of study patients was 4 – 78 years, with a mean of 41.2 ± 15 years. The modal age group was 30-39 years, made up of 20 cases (25.6%). Primary and secondary infertility were the major indications for referrals, in 17 cases (21.8%) and 13 cases (16.7%) respectively. Following SUSS, the findings were normal in 11 patients (14.1%), while hydrocele, and varicocele accounted for 19 cases (24.3%) and 9 cases (11.5%) respectively. Microlithiasis was seen in 7 cases (9%) while a diagnosis of testicular tumor was made in 5 (6.4%) of cases. Three (3) of the 5 testicular tumors, were confirmed histologically.

CONCLUSION: Infertility was the main indication for SUSS and hydrocele the commonest finding. Ultrasound is recommended as first line imaging modality in the investigation of scrotal lesions. **WAJM 2023; 40(4): 445–451.**

Keywords: Scrotal ultrasound, Male infertility, Hydrocele, Varicocele.

RÉSUMÉ

CONTEXTE: L'échographie scrotale est une modalité d'imagerie utile, sensible, facilement accessible et sûre pour l'examen des pathologies scrotales, y compris celles qui peuvent contribuer à l'infertilité masculine. L'objectif de cette étude était d'examiner les échographies scrotales (SUSS) effectuées à l'hôpital universitaire de l'Université d'Uyo sur une période de 18 mois, de juillet 2018 à décembre 2019.

MÉTHODOLOGIE: Il s'agissait d'une étude rétrospective de toutes les SUSS réalisées dans le département de radiologie de l'hôpital universitaire d'Uyo (UUTH) au cours d'une période de 18 mois. Tous les sujets qui se sont présentés pour une échographie scrotale avec des formulaires de demande adéquatement remplis qui comprenaient des données biologiques et des informations cliniques ont été inclus dans l'étude.

RÉSULTATS: Au total, 79 échographies ont été examinées au cours de la période. L'âge des patients étudiés était compris entre 4 et 78 ans, avec une moyenne de $41,2 \pm 15$ ans. La tranche d'âge modale était de 30 à 39 ans, soit 20 cas (25,6 %). L'infertilité primaire et secondaire était la principale indication de consultation, dans 17 cas (21,8 %) et 13 cas (16,7 %) respectivement. Après le SUSS, les résultats étaient normaux chez 11 patients (14,1 %), tandis que l'hydrocèle et la varicocèle représentaient 19 cas (24,3 %) et 9 cas (11,5 %) respectivement. La microlithiasis a été observée dans 7 cas (9 %) tandis qu'un diagnostic de tumeur testiculaire a été posé dans 5 cas (6,4 %). Trois (3) des 5 tumeurs testiculaires ont été confirmées histologiquement.

CONCLUSION: L'infertilité était la principale indication de SUSS et l'hydrocèle la constatation la plus fréquente. L'échographie est recommandée comme modalité d'imagerie de première ligne dans l'investigation des lésions scrotales. **WAJM 2023; 40(4): 445–451.**

Mots-clés: Échographie scrotale, infertilité masculine, hydrocèle, varicocèle.

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