

Career Impact Case Studies

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Historically, accessing training in ultrasound for the Obstetrics and Gynaecology specialist training curriculum has been at best difficult. Opportunities for many only cover the basic minimum requirements and with some units there is a struggle to have any advanced training at all.

I had experienced “ScanTrainer’s” transvaginal ultrasound simulator earlier in my training when its benefits’ as a training tool were still under assessment. I was wishing to pursue Advanced Training Modules involving ultrasound components, so I enquired with The Medical and Educational Academy after a recommendation from a colleague. The two types of scan simulators (transabdominal and transvaginal) are incredible machines. They offer realistic, immersive ultrasound practice, which is at your convenience, not at a patients’ inconvenience. By spending unpressured time with the simulated scenarios, familiarity and confidence can be learned from scratch or built upon.

Having completed the diploma I was able to demonstrate and justify my skills clinically and go on to complete Advanced Training Skills Modules involving obstetric and early pregnancy scanning and I also completed the RCOG module 5 for early pregnancy scanning. This has improved my effectiveness as a clinician and clinical teacher. I believe the completion of the Diploma has optimised my use of the otherwise limited hands-on training opportunities and has arguably assisted in completion of my CCT. I would urge any trainee who is looking to develop and enhance their skills to consider this Diploma as an adjunct to their curriculum.

Johanne Kitt- Gynaecology Nurse

On beginning the course, apart from very basic knowledge from watching others scan, I had no background in ultrasound. I was keen to learn to scan so that I could help my patients in the emergency gynaecology unit. Many of my patients were required to wait for up to a week to have an early pregnancy or mid trimester emergency scan, in the case of bleeding/miscarriage etc. Sometimes the patients were required to wait two or more weeks if a cyst or fibroids were in question for a non-urgent scan.

As a result of completing this course I am now able to scan ladies that present to the unit there and then enabling us to diagnose ectopic pregnancies at an earlier time. Being able to scan sooner than before also allows us to reassure the patients that their pregnancy is progressing well or letting them know that unfortunately the pregnancy is not developing as we would like. This enables the patient to know this information, although heart breaking, sooner rather than having to wait for a later date to confirm this.

Although occasionally I still need to refer patients to ultrasound experts for a formal report, I am also able to prevent unnecessary referrals where I can identify a normal ultrasound. Due to this, the flow through the unit will continue to improve as I continue to gain experience.

The Ultrasound course at AMSO has given me the confidence I need to correctly scan and also help colleagues, who have not under gone simulation structured training, to benefit from my newly acquired skills and follow up to date methods of scanning.

I would recommend the course to complete beginners as well as those who have been scanning for a long time to refresh their knowledge and skills.

Hassan Ali Hussein- Radiologist, Kurdistan Iraq

I've really enjoyed studying this amazing course with Professor Amso and his team. Regardless of how good your qualifications are and how much experience you have, you'll end up a better sonographer and sonologist with more confidence in your practice. This is an uncommon and remarkable opportunity for any health professional interested in studying medical ultrasound, especially those who cannot afford traveling overseas or are unable to leave her/his country for whatever reason. Being an online course available for non-UK based practitioners, Professor Amso and his team keep their quality standards as high as possible by taking full advantage of a variety of technological tools and online resources. They use multiple strategies and integrate the best educational practices all in an online environment. I would recommend this course to all my friends and colleagues and anyone interested in medical ultrasound.