

# Basic Anatomy (Standard Echocardiographic Views) and Physiology

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Cardiology Fellow

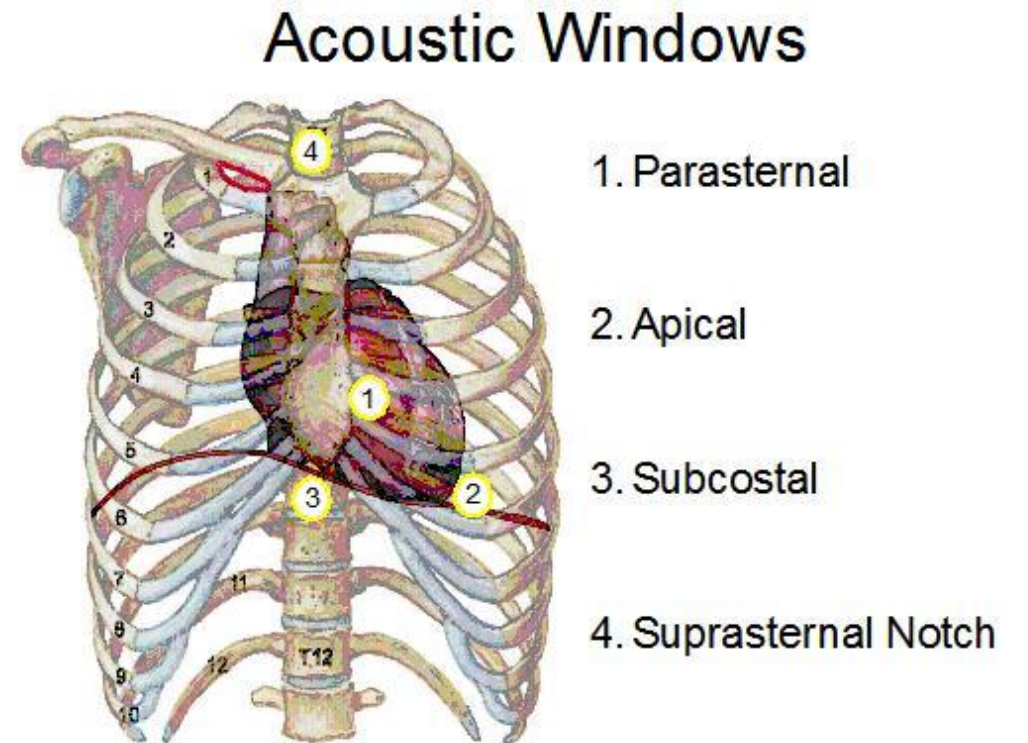
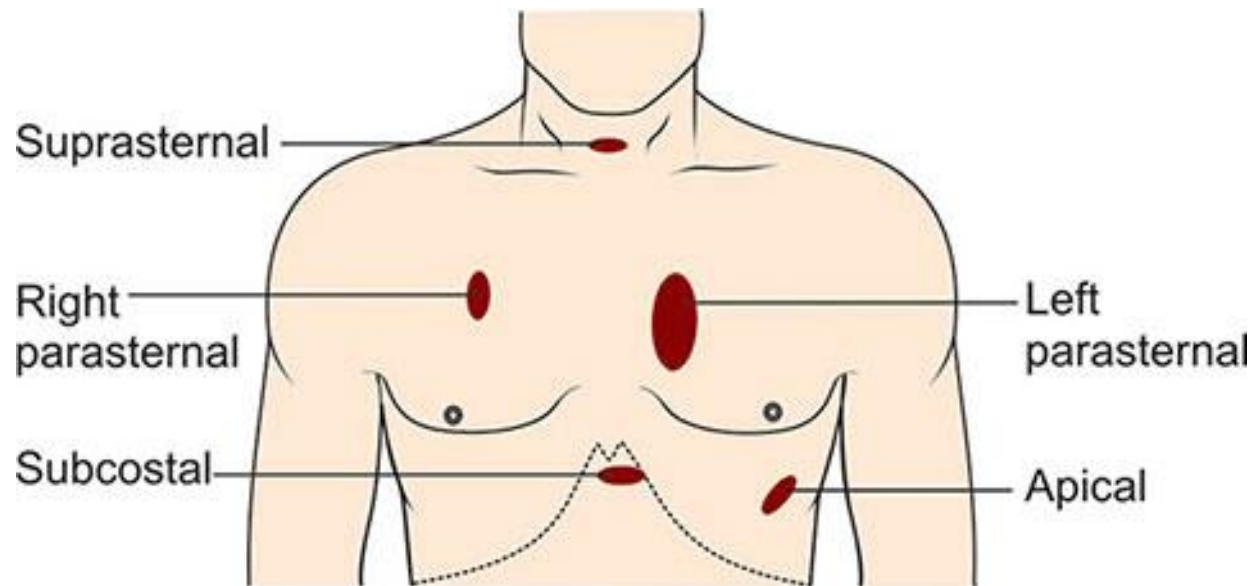
Hospital Sultan Idris Shah, Serdang.

18<sup>th</sup> April 2025

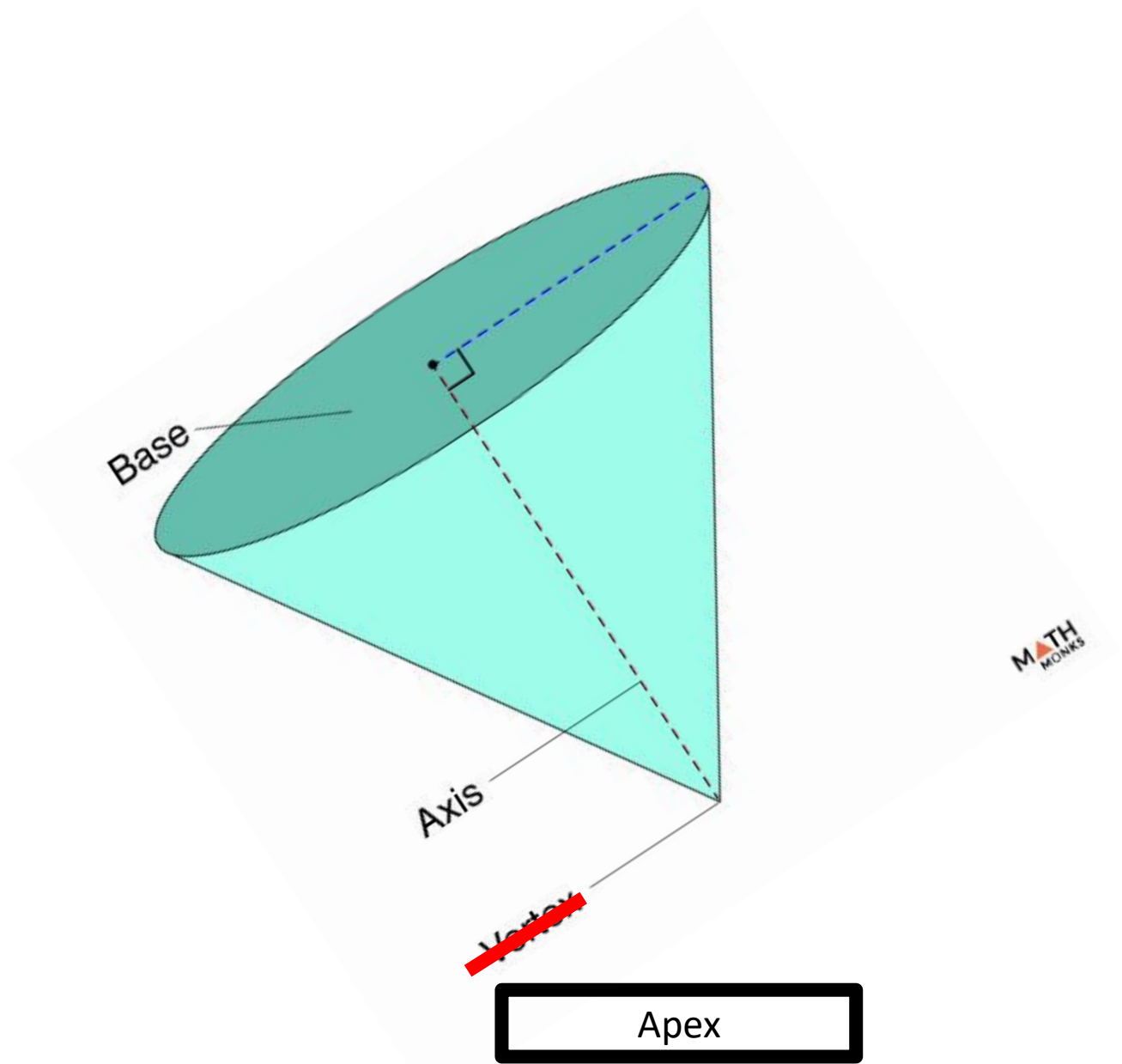
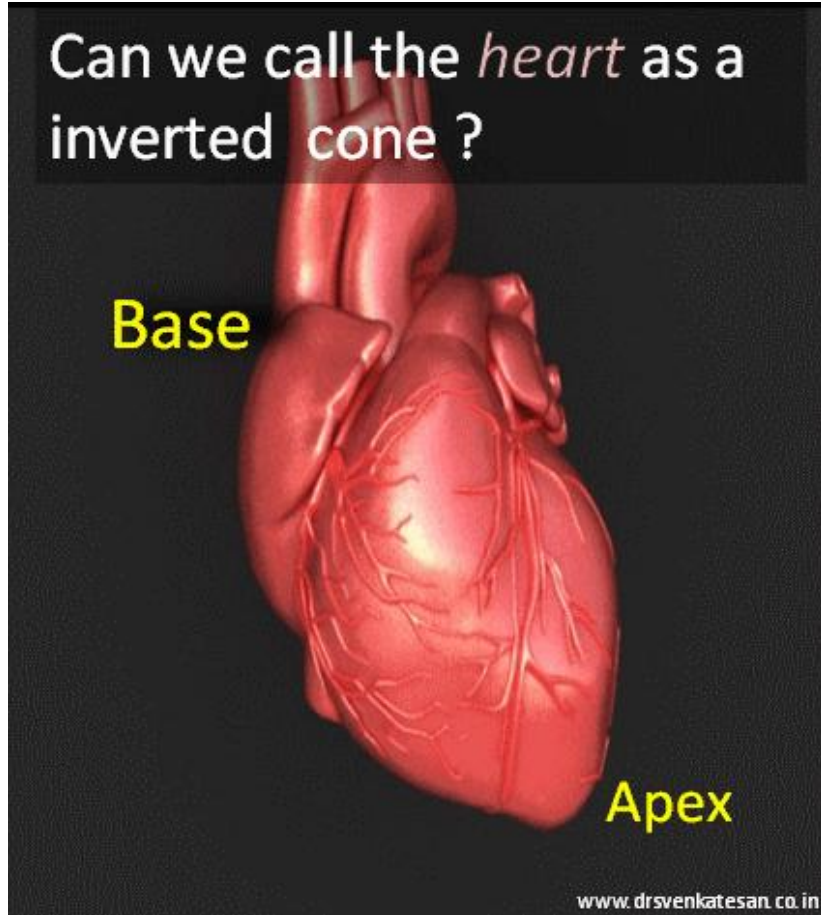
# Content

- Location of the heart in thoracic cavity
- Orientation of the heart
- Basic anatomy of the heart
- Standard Echocardiographic Views
- Standard Echocardiographic Windows
- Basic physiology of the heart
- Cardiac cycle of the heart

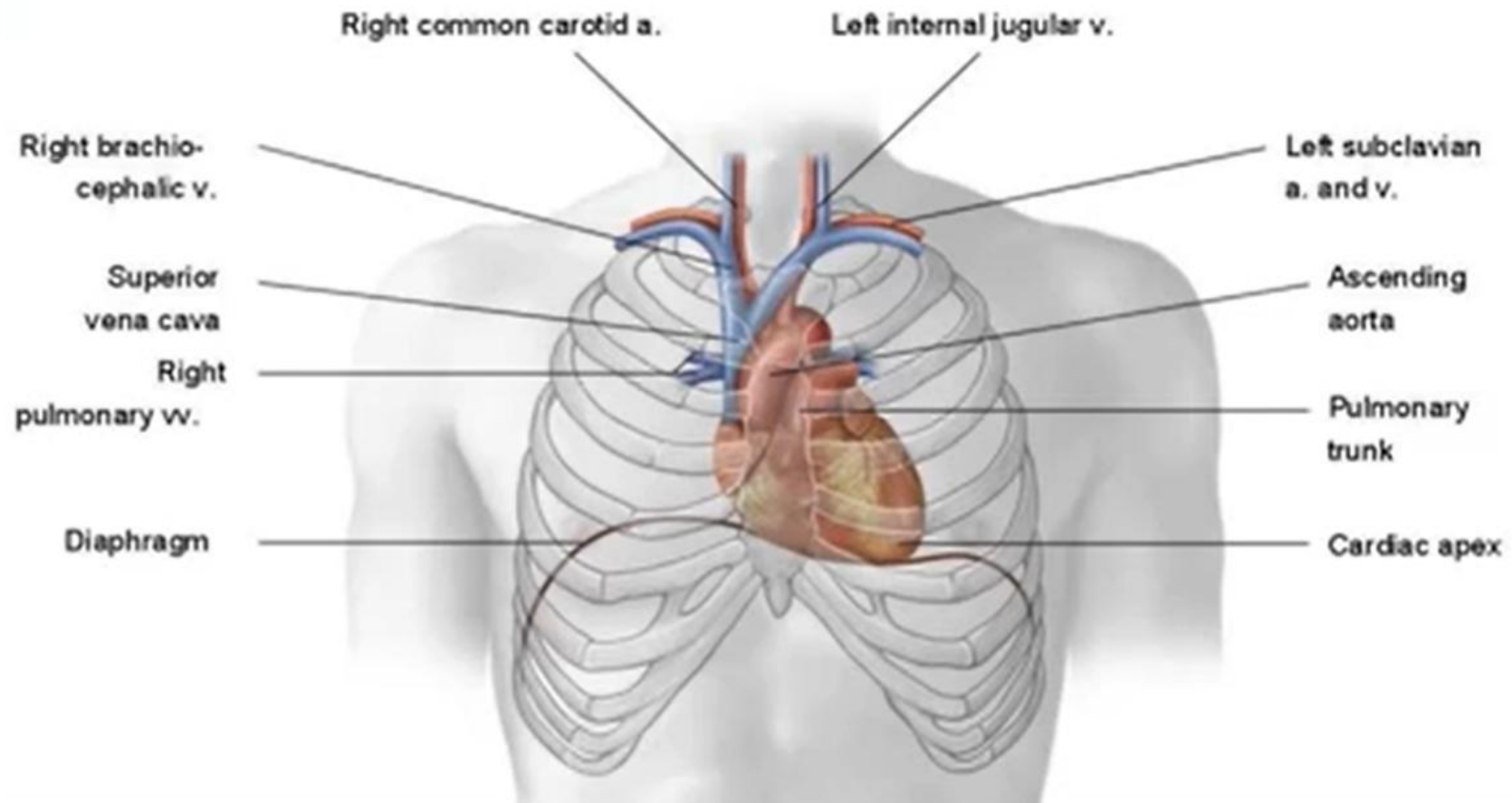
# Standard Echocardiographic Windows



# Heart – cone shaped

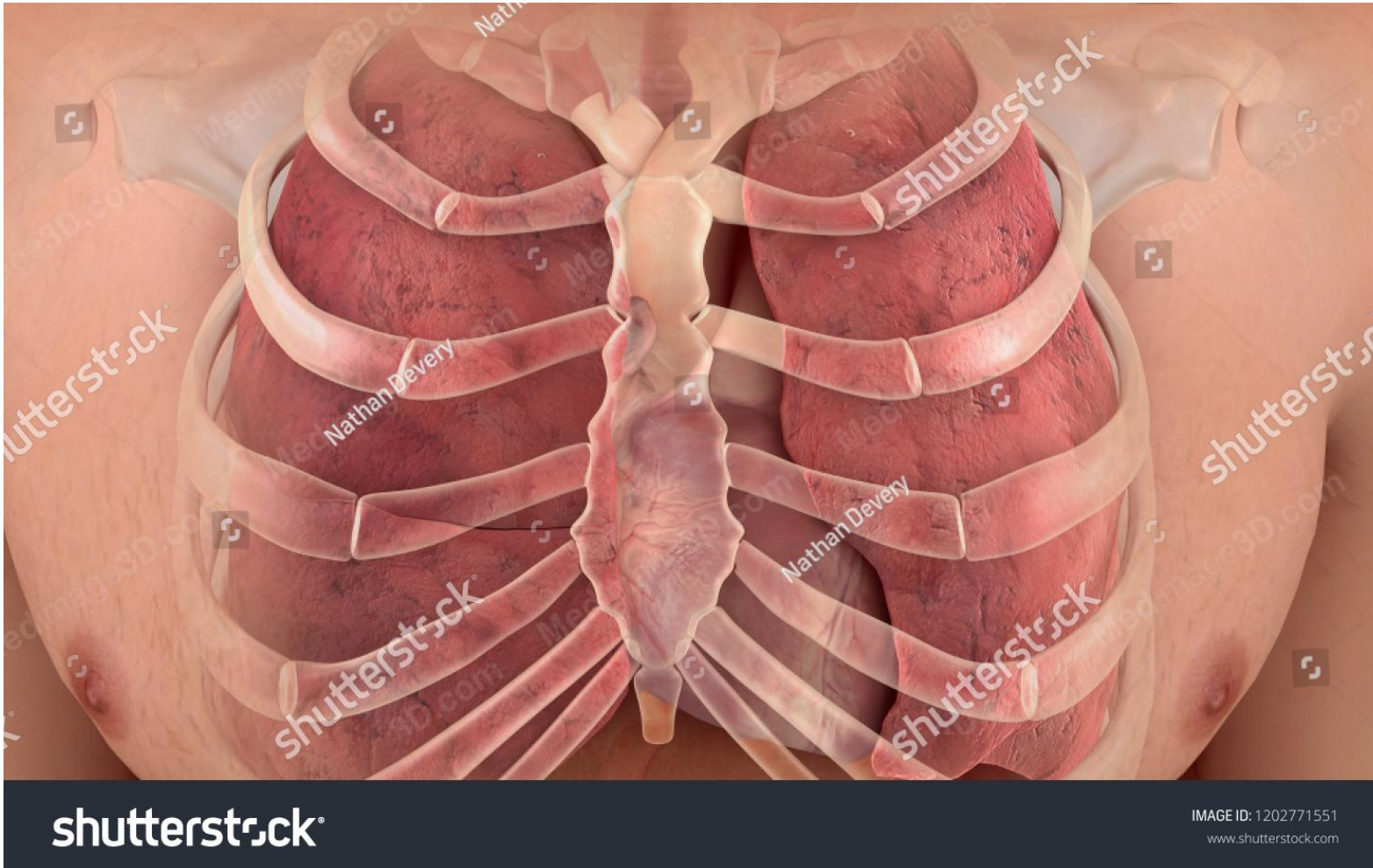


It is not exposed...

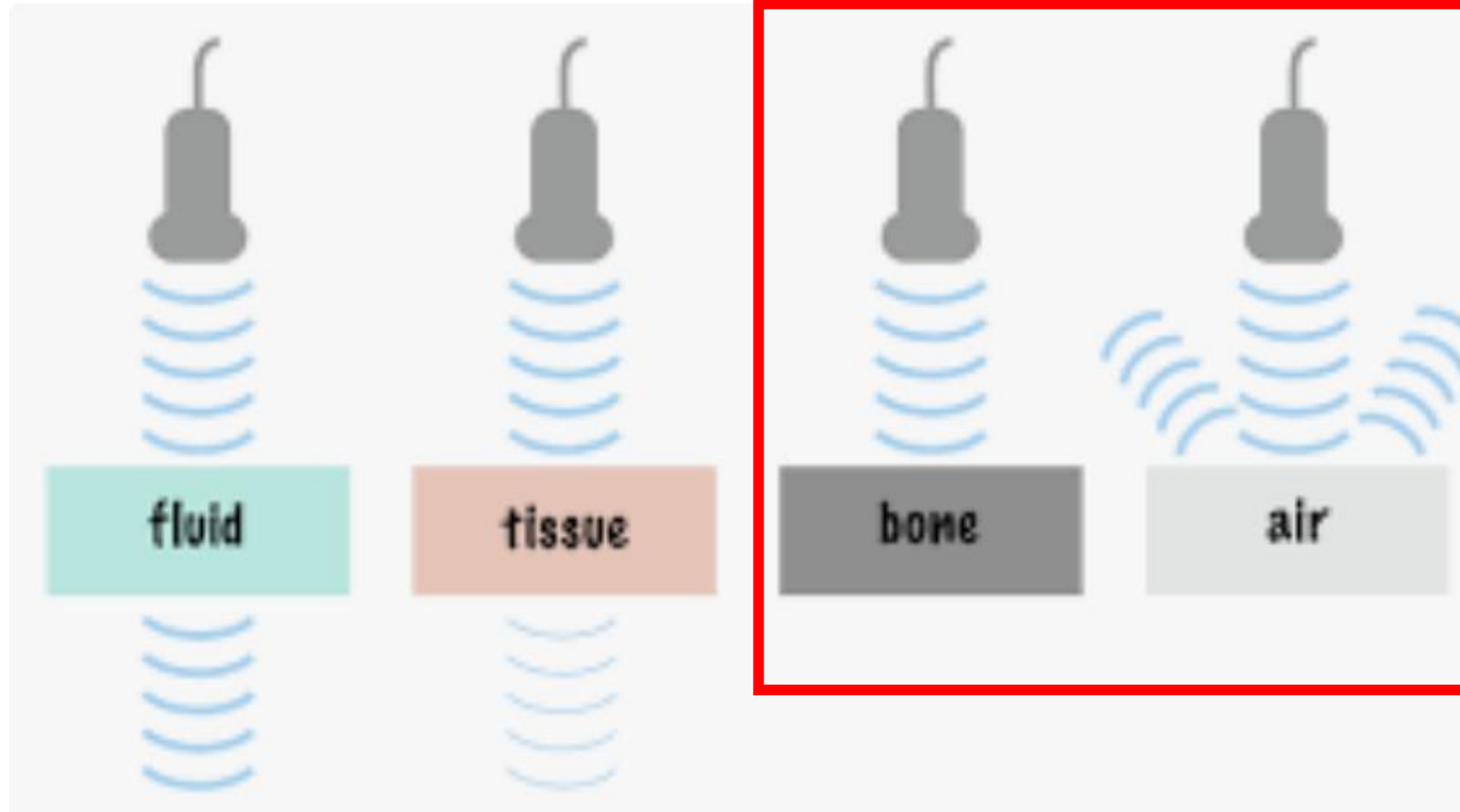




# Hidden behind bones and lung tissues



# Ultrasound conduction through different medium.

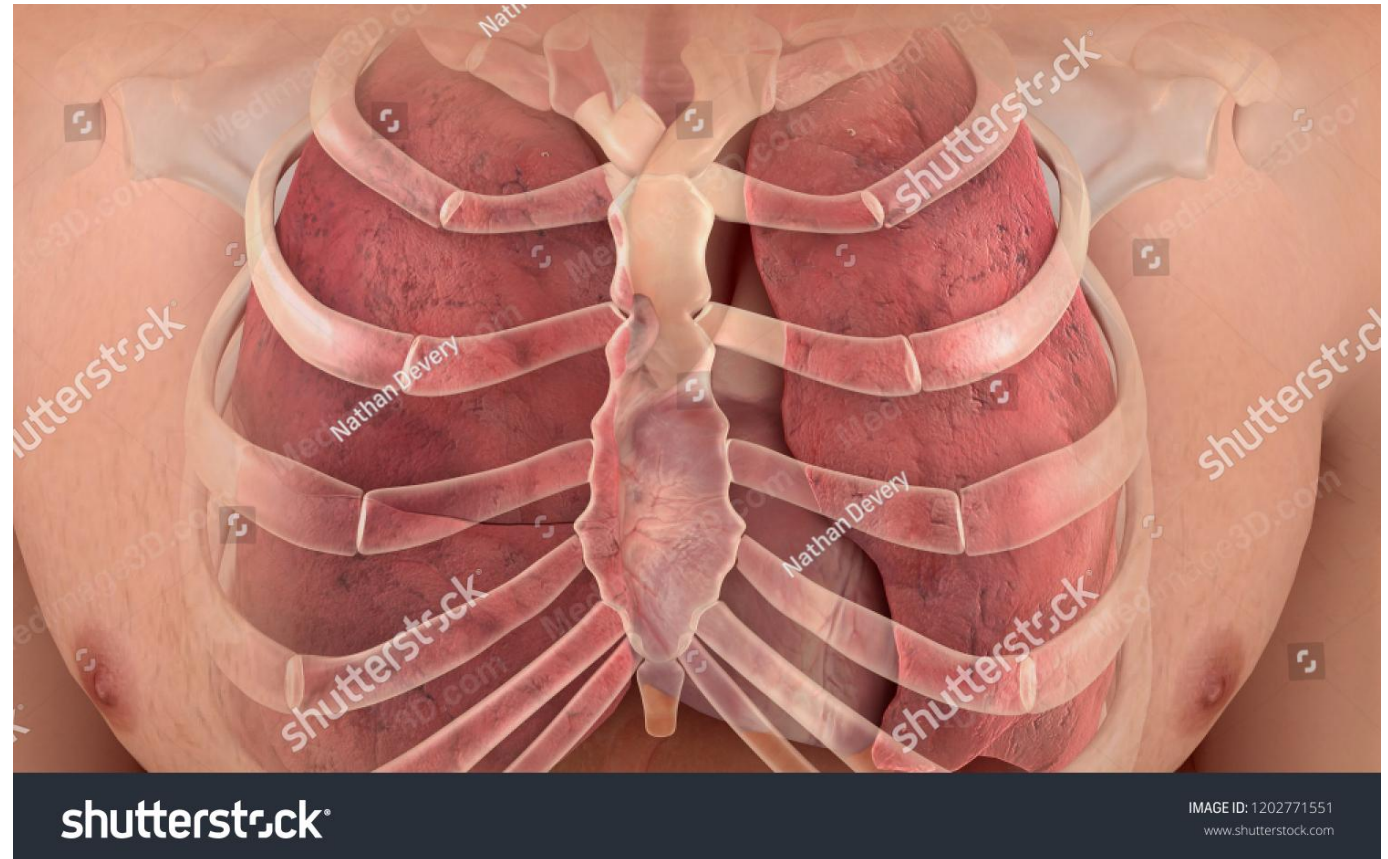
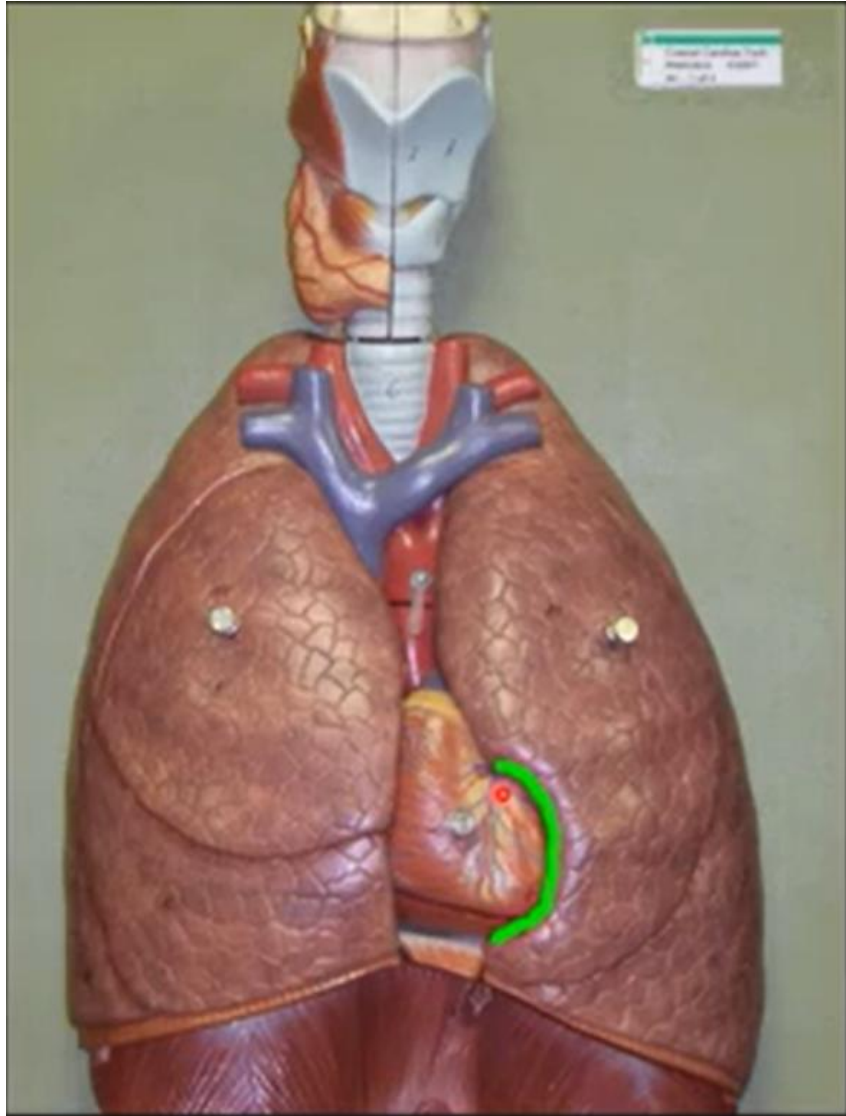


# Ultrasound through air and bone

- Bone will result in
  - almost complete reflection
  - making it impossible to image structures under it.
- Air
  - poor conductor of sound
  - will result in artifacts and failure to obtain a quality image.

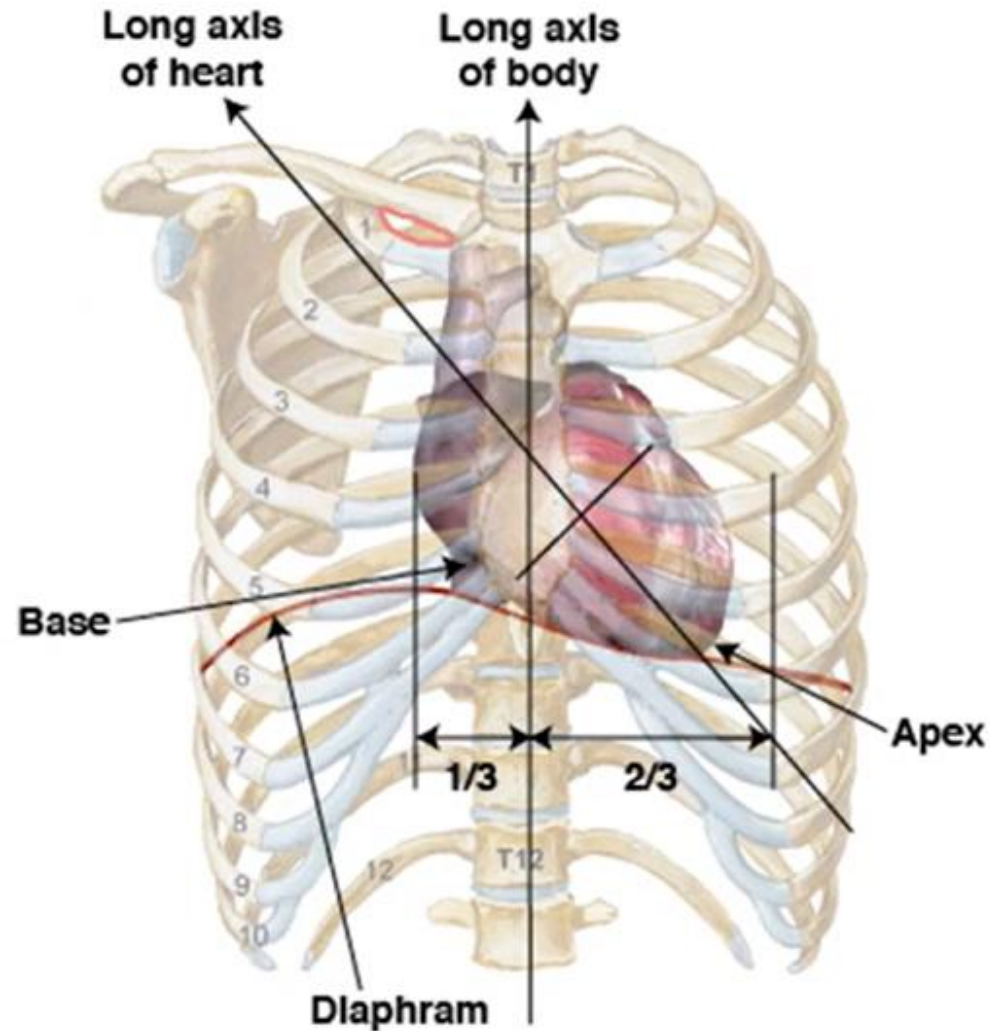


# Cardiac Notch



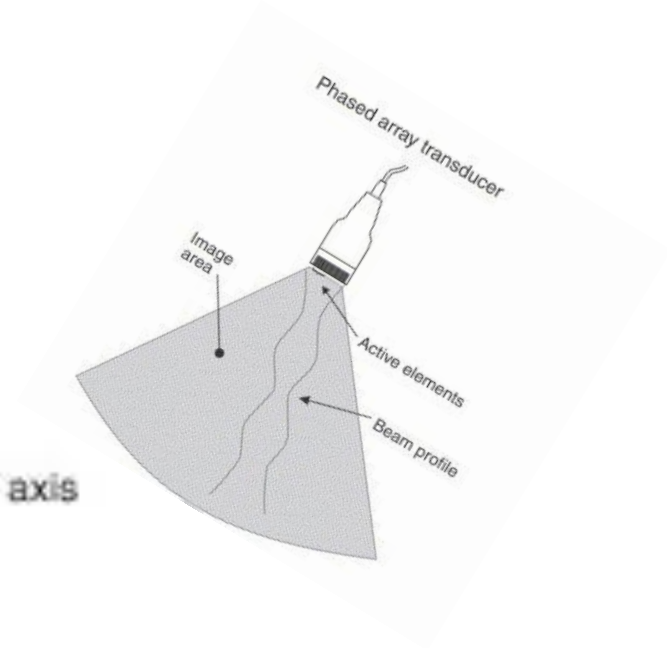
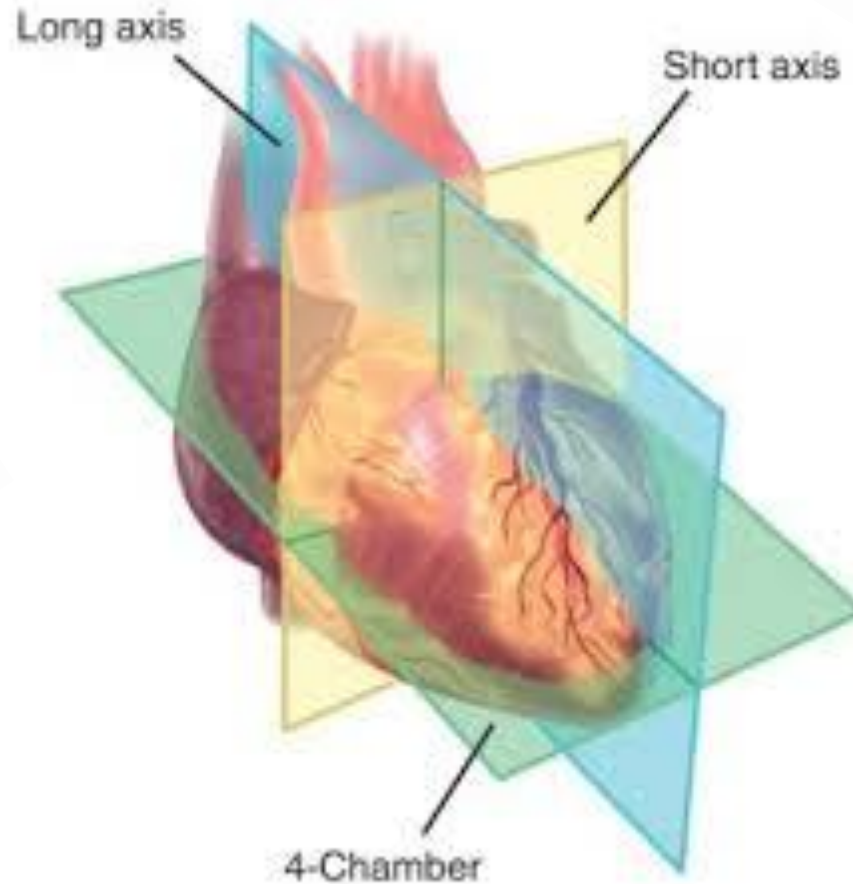
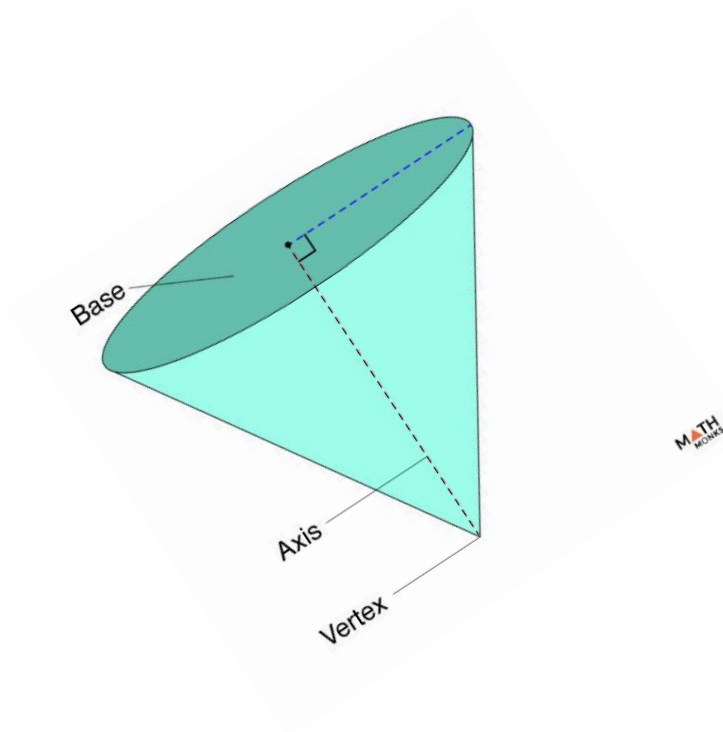
- There is still some window for us to see the heart

# Location of the heart in the thoracic cavity.



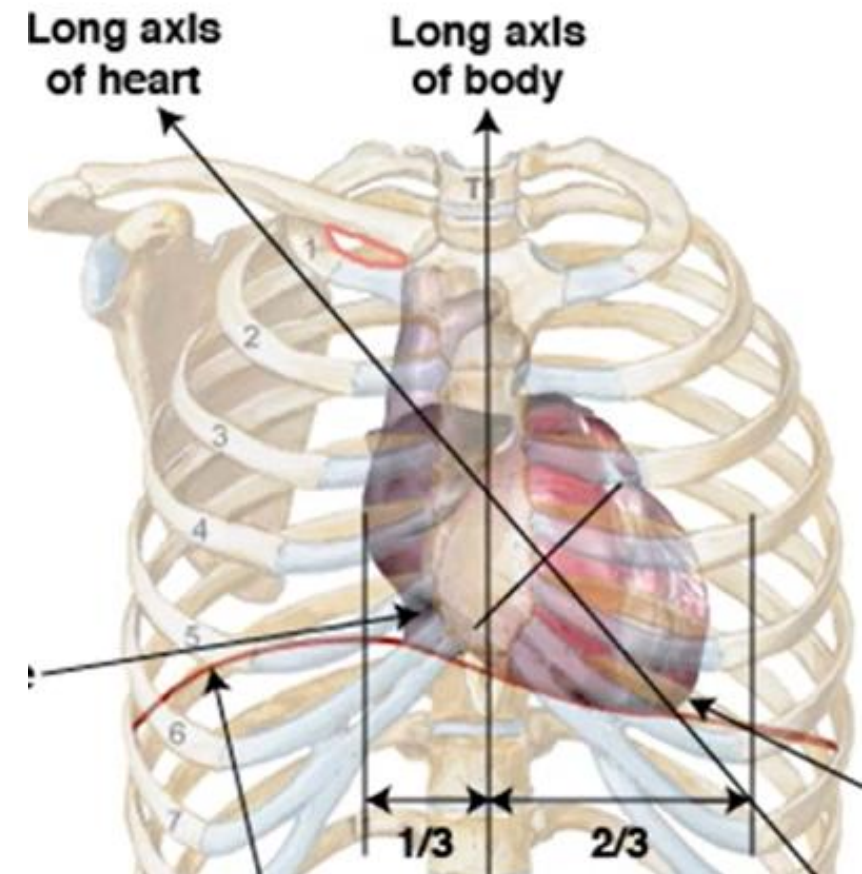
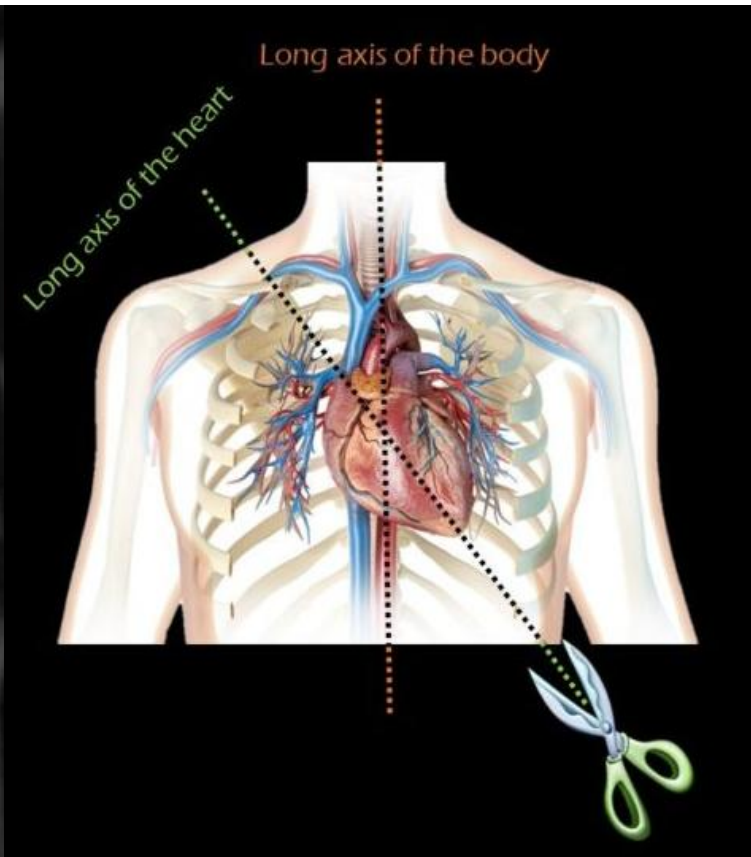
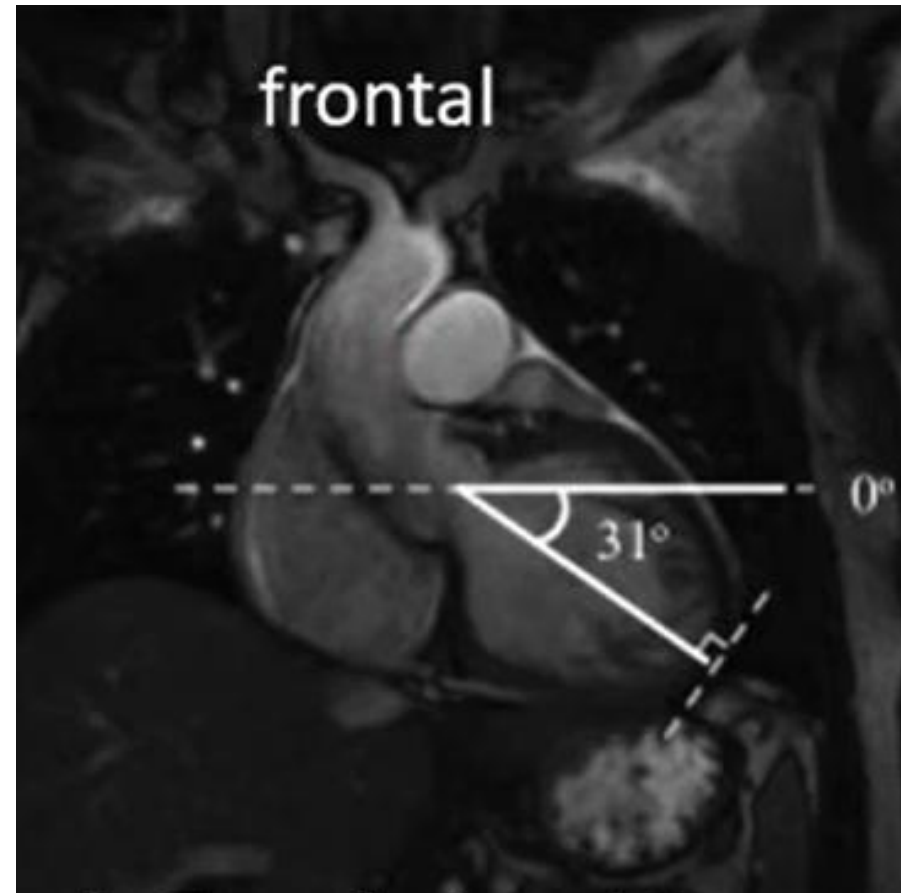
# Axis of the heart

- Orientation of the heart..

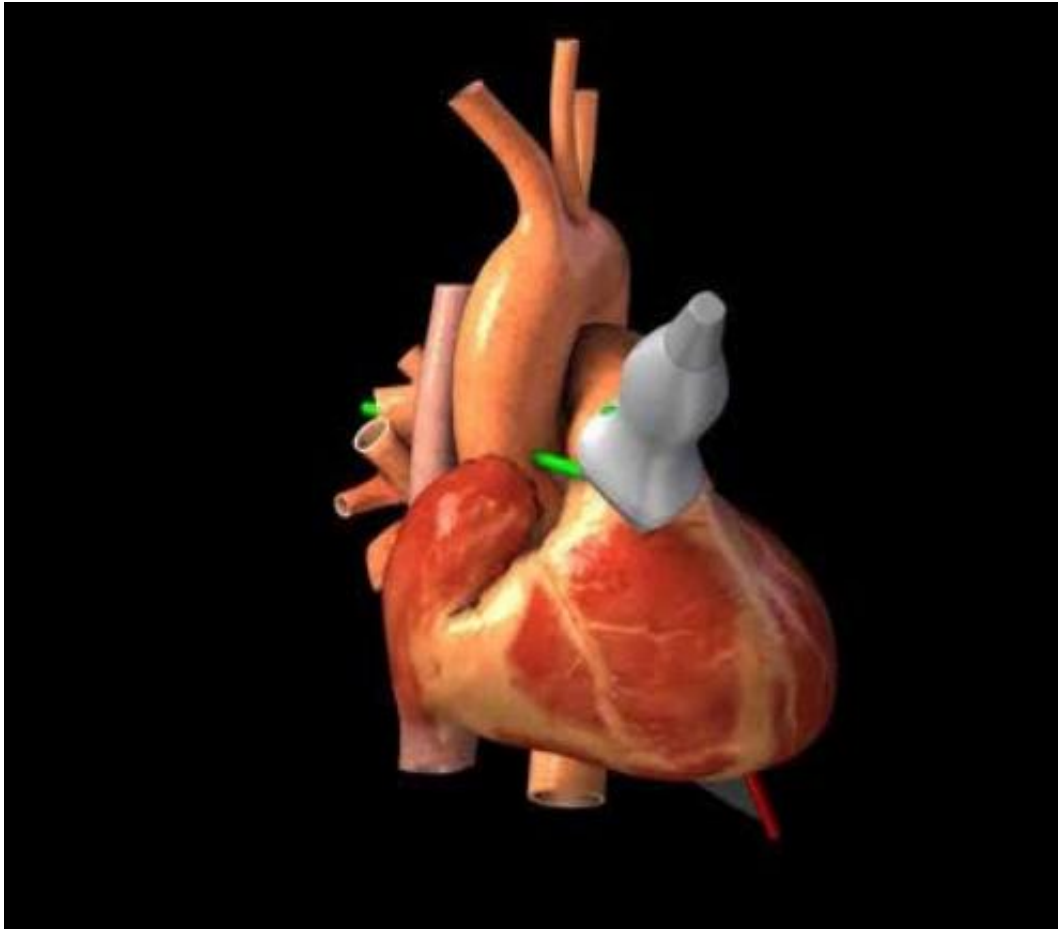




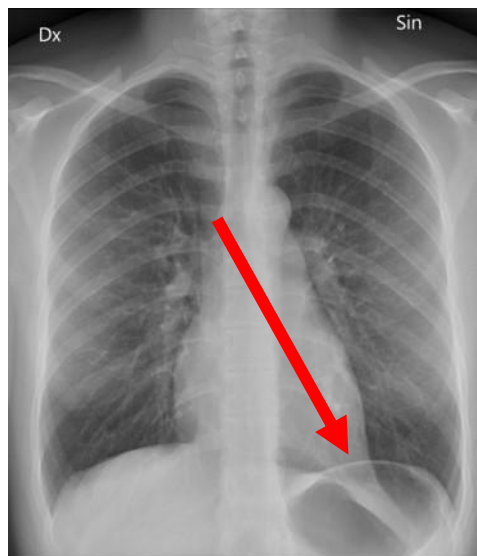
Anatomical axis (Long axis) of the heart –  $30 - 35^\circ$   
(10 – 4 o'clock)



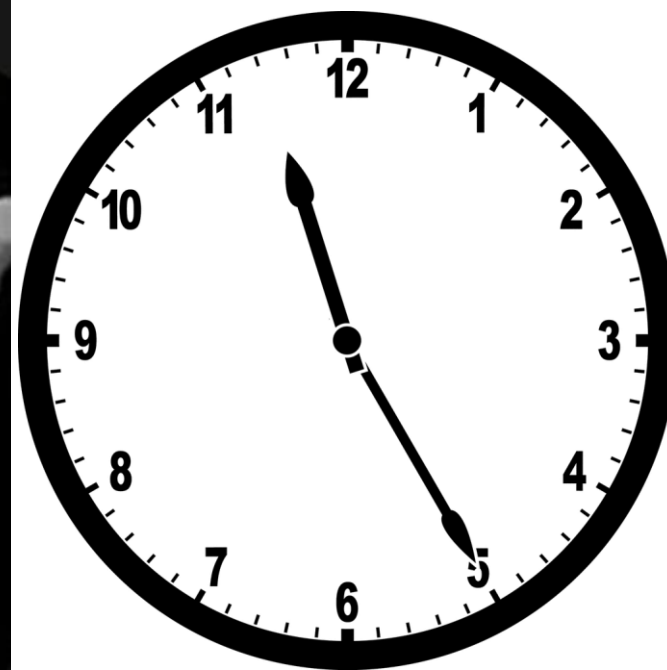
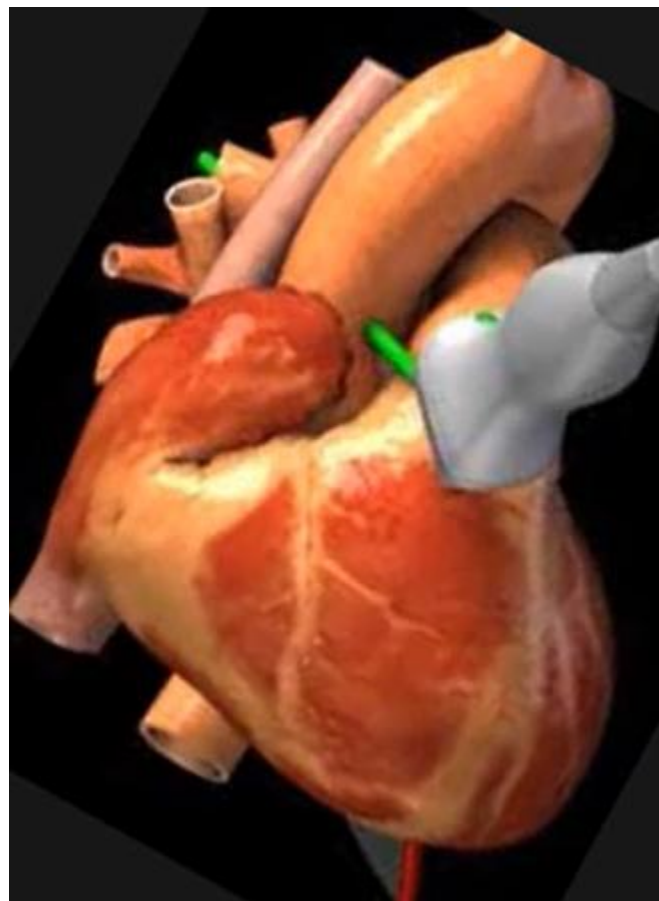
# Why is this information relevant in echocardiography?



# Tall and skinny... More vertical heart

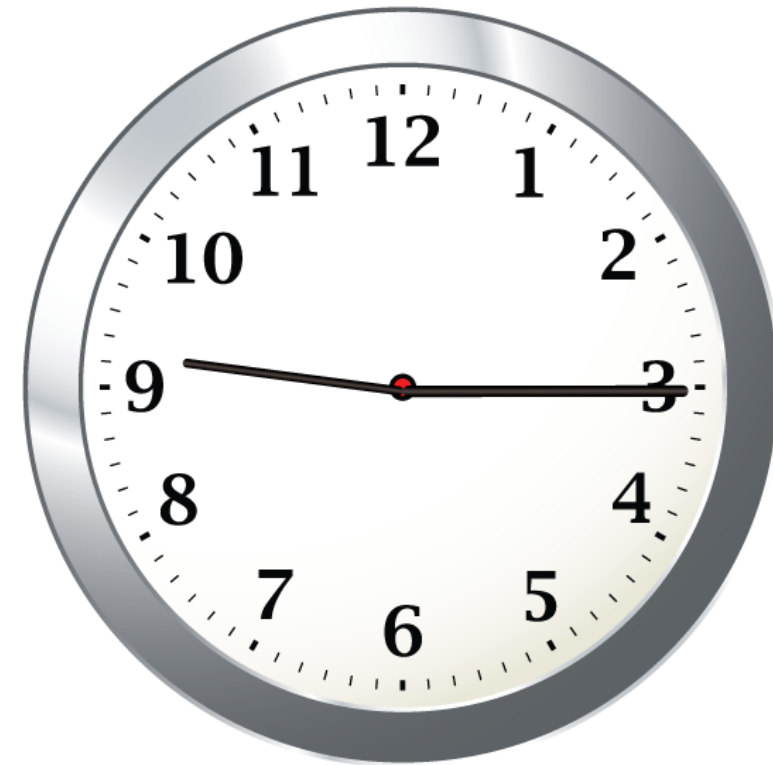


Normal Size Heart on Chest X-ray





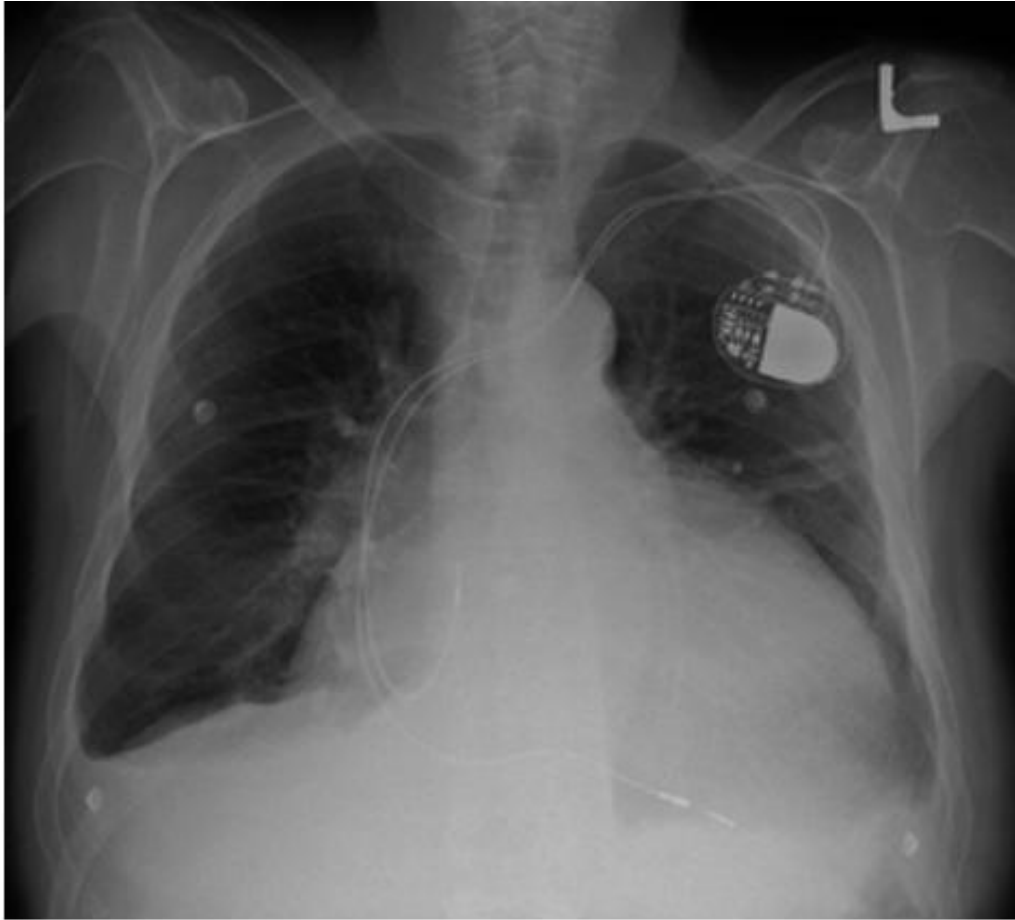
Short and overweight... More horizontal heart



COPD..



# Cardiomegaly..



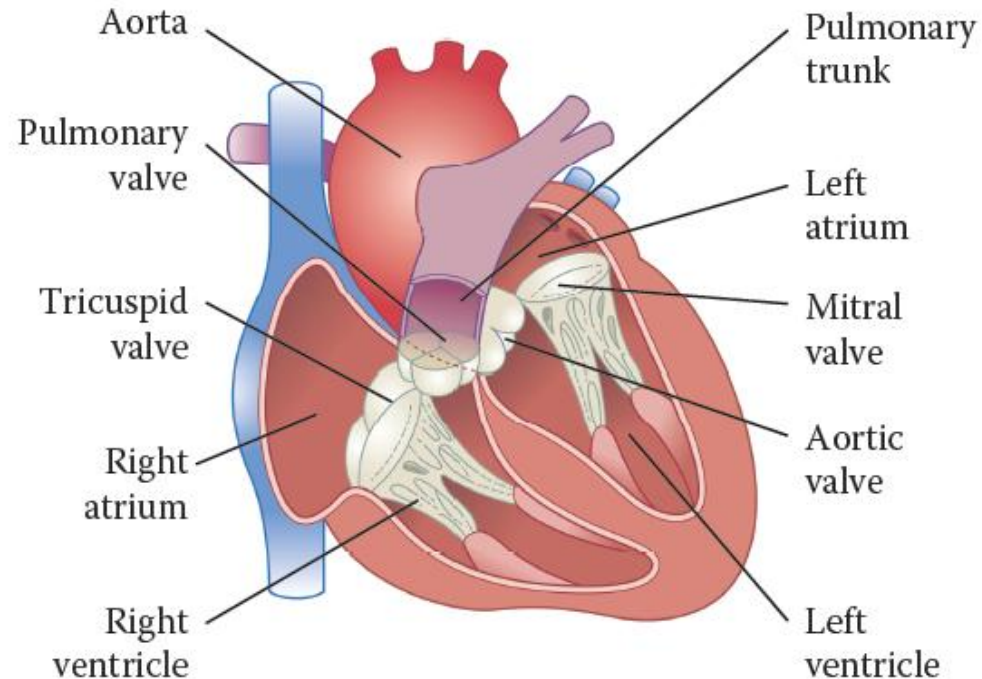
Cardiomegaly on Chest x-ray



# Why we put the probe on the

- Left
- Parasternal 2<sup>nd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> intercostal space
- Pointer at 10 – 4 o'clock (usually) for long axis
- Pointer at 2 – 8 o'clock (usually) for short axis
- For apical views, the location of the apex can vary as well

# Heart valves and chambers



## Atrioventricular Valves (AV Valves)

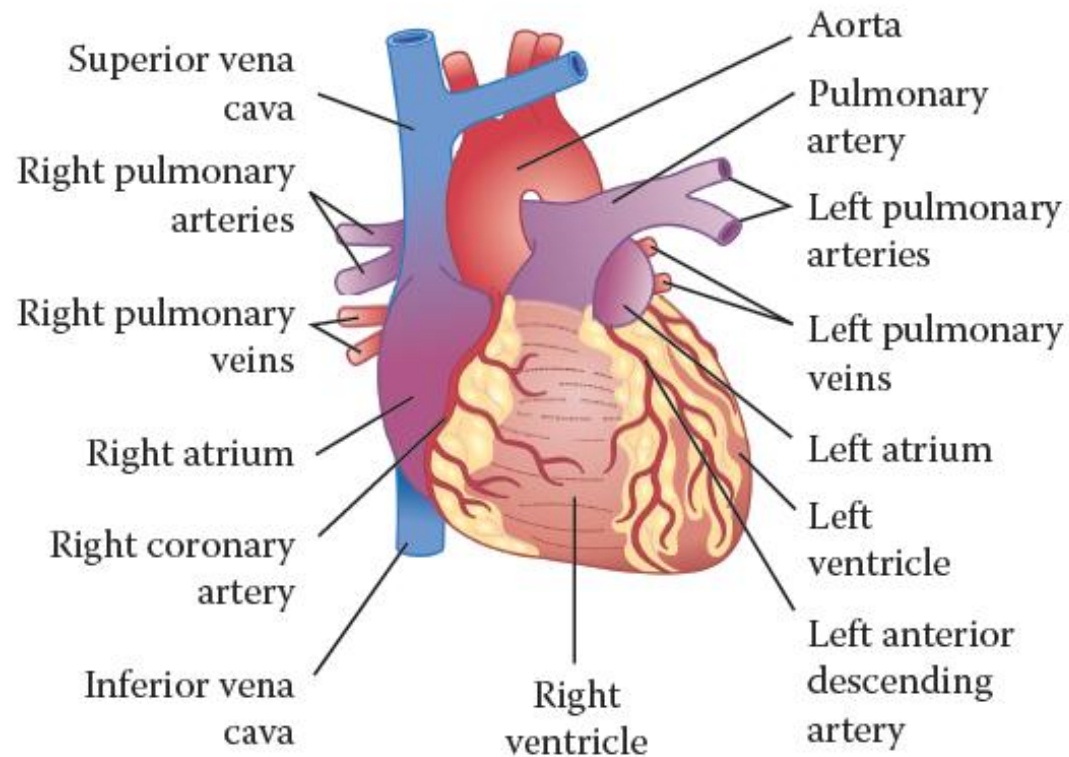
- Tricuspid valve
- Mitral valve

## Semilunar valves

- Aortic valve
- Pulmonic valve



# Basic Anatomy – Major vessels and Chambers



- Superior Vena Cava
- Inferior Vena Cava
- Pulmonary artery
- Pulmonary vein
- Aorta

Basic concept:

Artery :

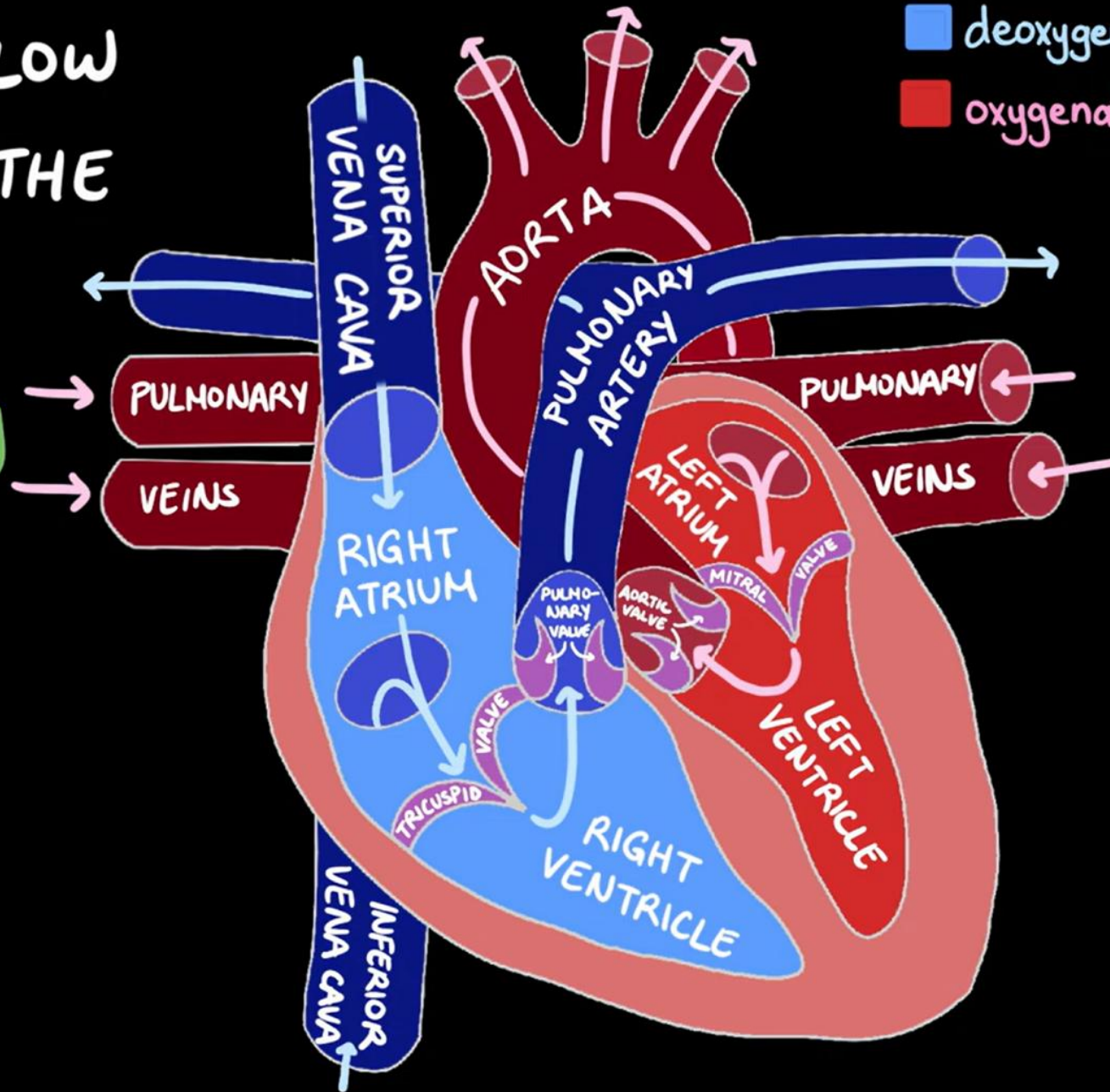
- Carries blood away from the heart
- Usually carry oxygenated blood, except, pulmonary artery

Vein:

- Carries blood towards the heart
- Usually carry deoxygenated blood, except pulmonary vein

# BLOOD FLOW THROUGH THE HEART

Right lung



Left lung

# TORONTO TTE

- Free, public, everyone can access
- Strongly recommended



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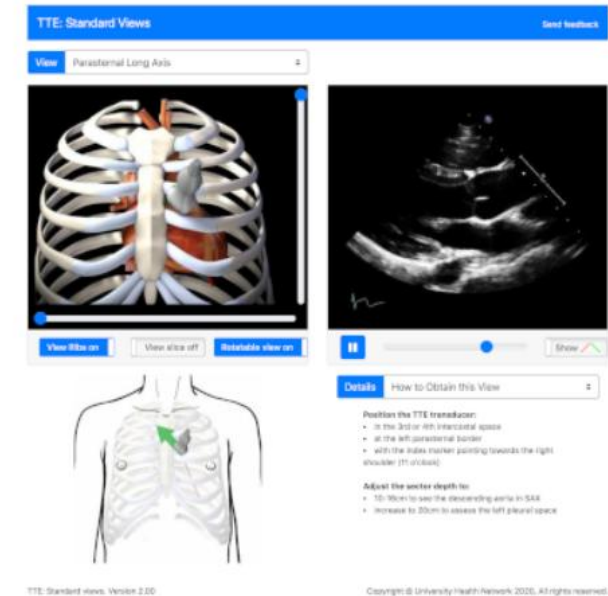
Donate today!

## TTE Standard Views



2020-12-14: This module has been converted from Adobe Flash to HTML5, and is now accessible on tablets and smartphones as well as on desktop computers.

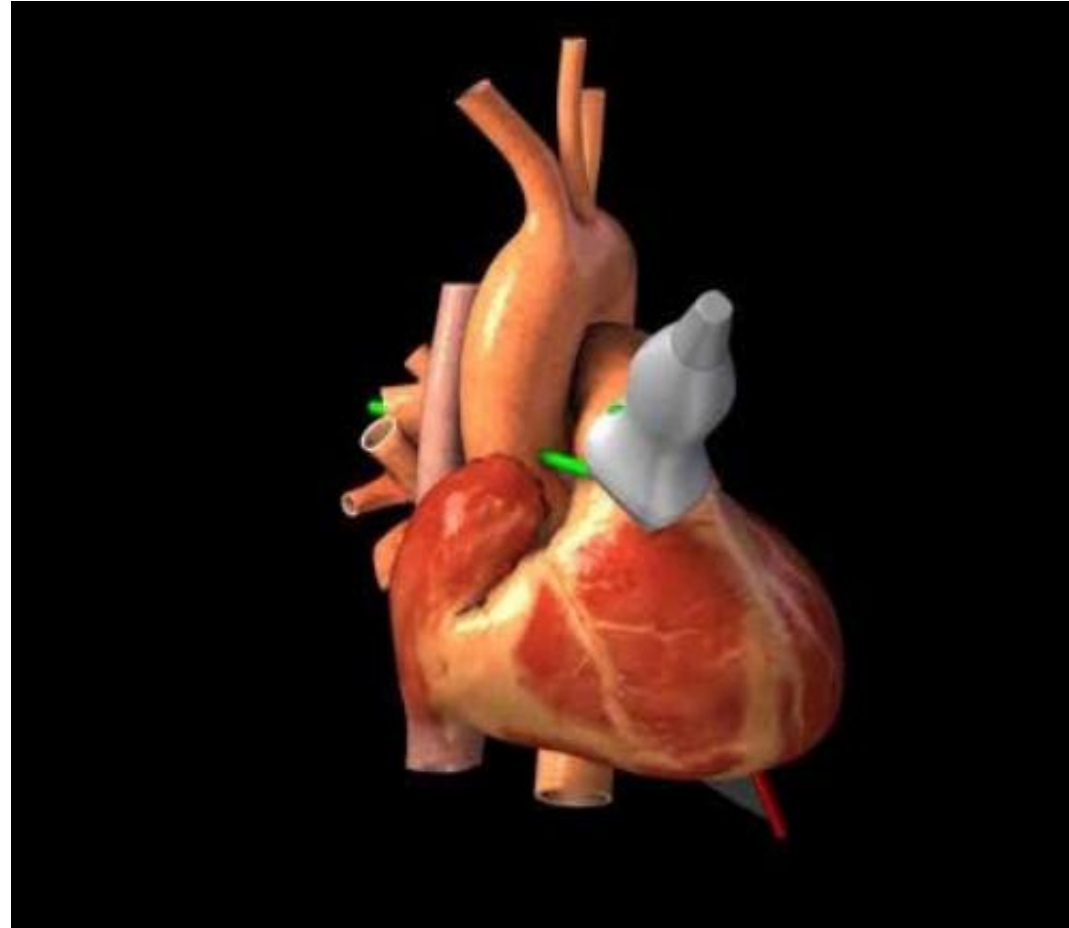
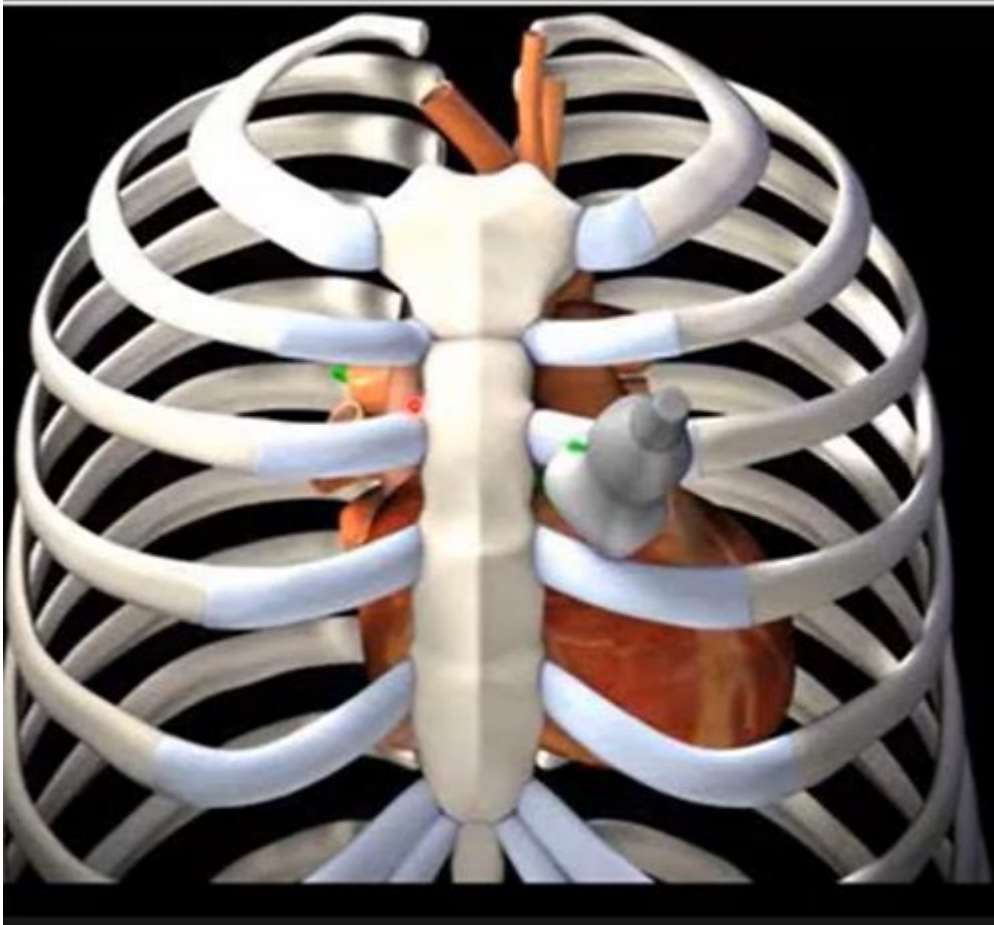
1. [Introduction](#)
2. [How to use the module](#)
3. [Self-assessment](#)



[Click here to open the Standard Views application.](#)

Using an iPad? Click the App Store button below to buy the app.

# Parasternal Long Axis View





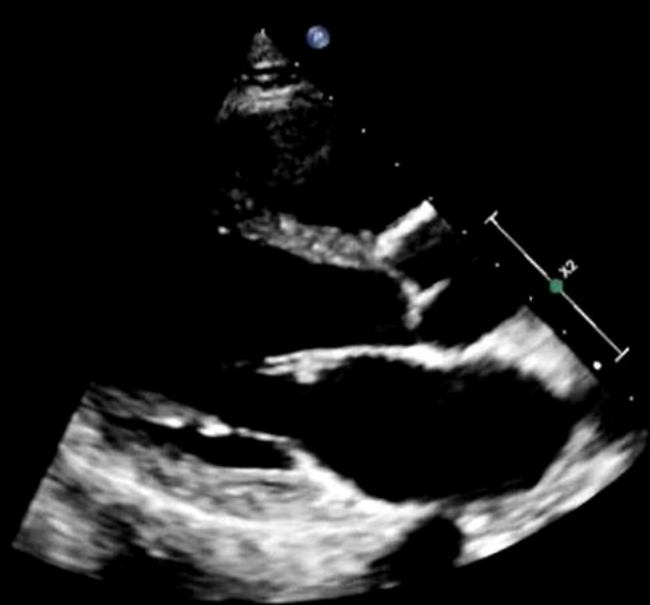
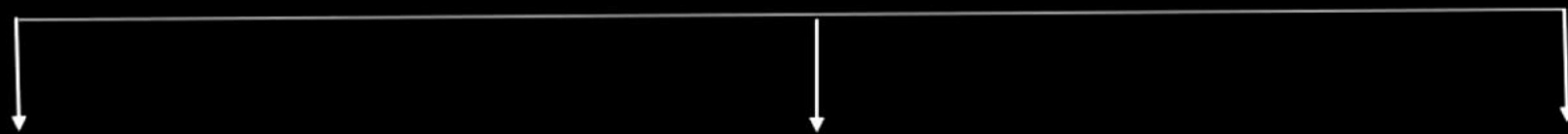
# PARASTERNAL WINDOW



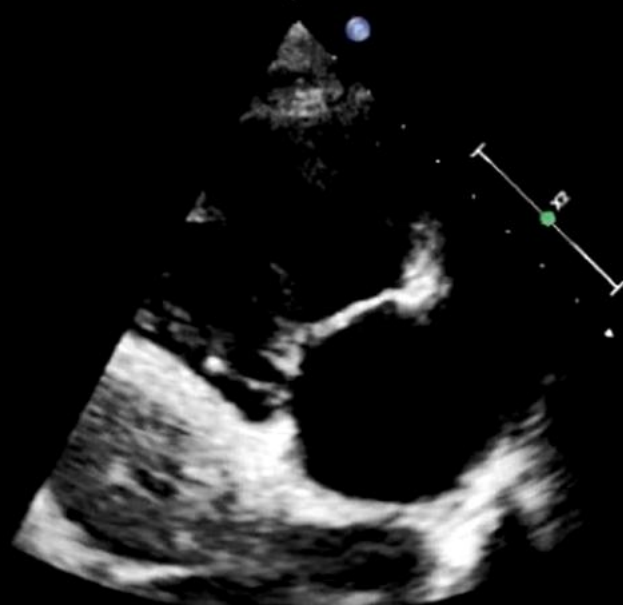
## PARASTERNAL VIEWS



## PARASTERNAL LONG AXIS VIEWS



PARASTERNAL  
LONG AXIS



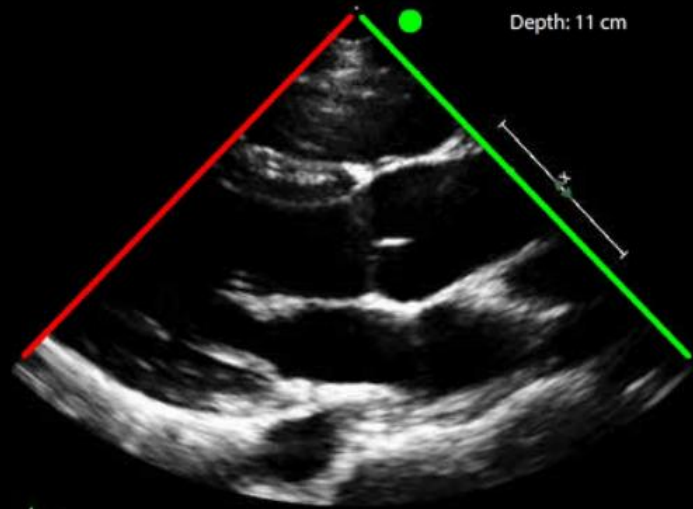
RIGHT VENTRICULAR  
INFLOW



RIGHT VENTRICULAR  
OUTFLOW



# Parasternal Long Axis View

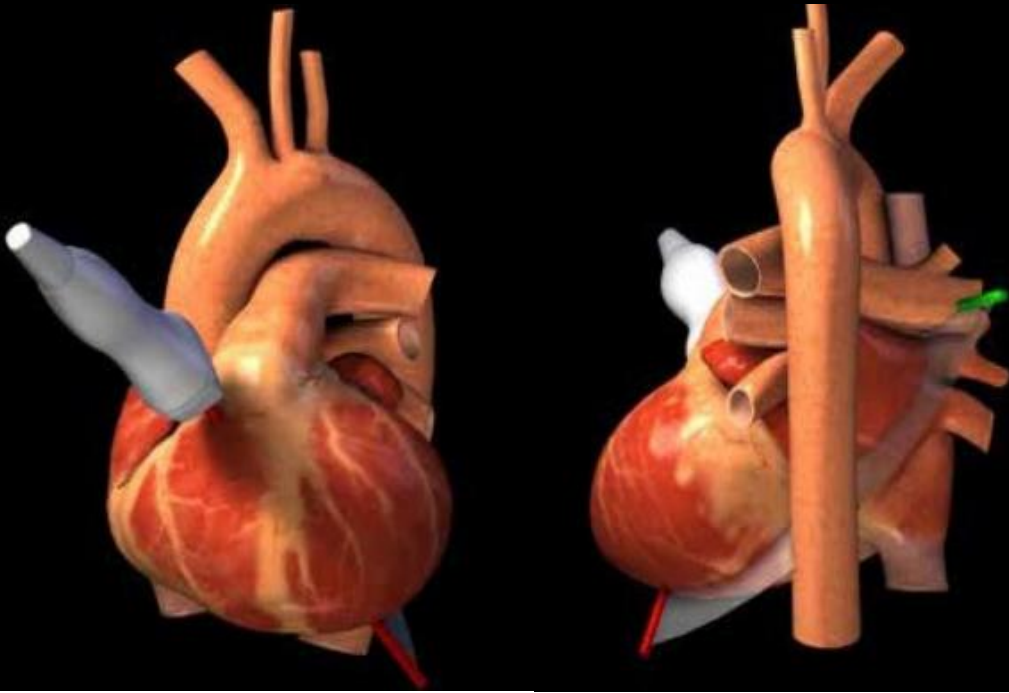


## **Position the TTE transducer:**

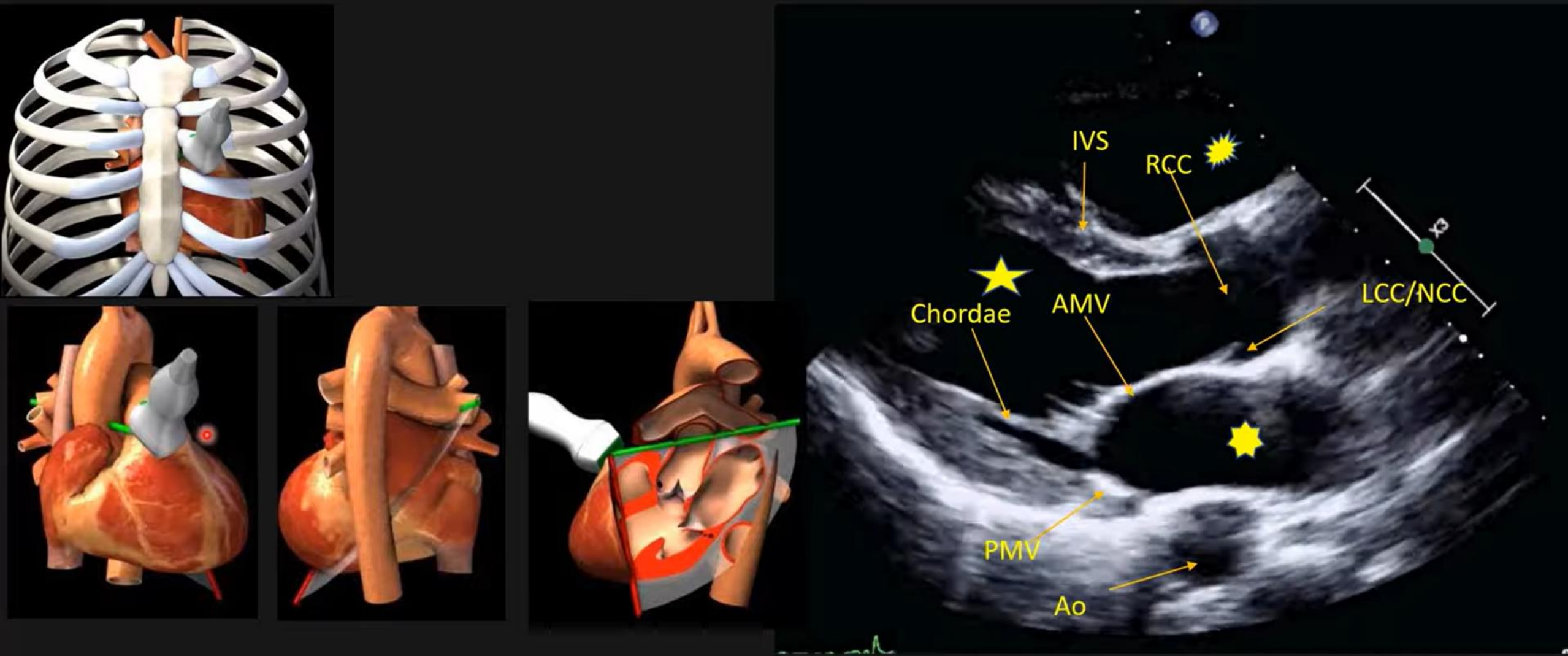
- in the 3rd or 4th intercostal space
- at the left parasternal border
- with the index marker pointing towards the right shoulder (11 o'clock)

## **Adjust the sector depth to:**

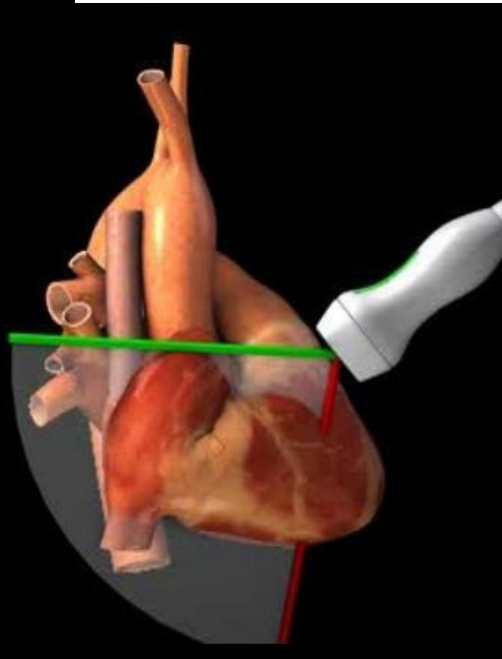
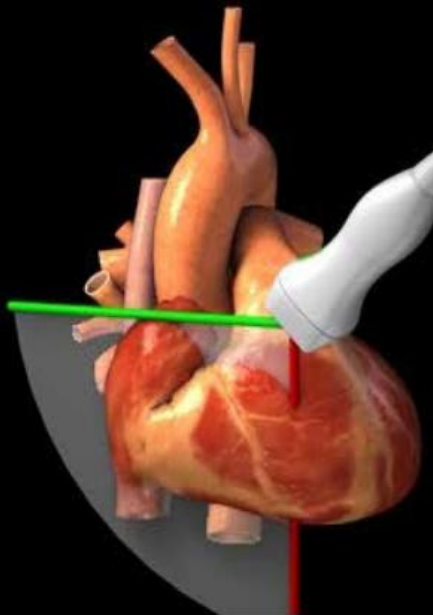
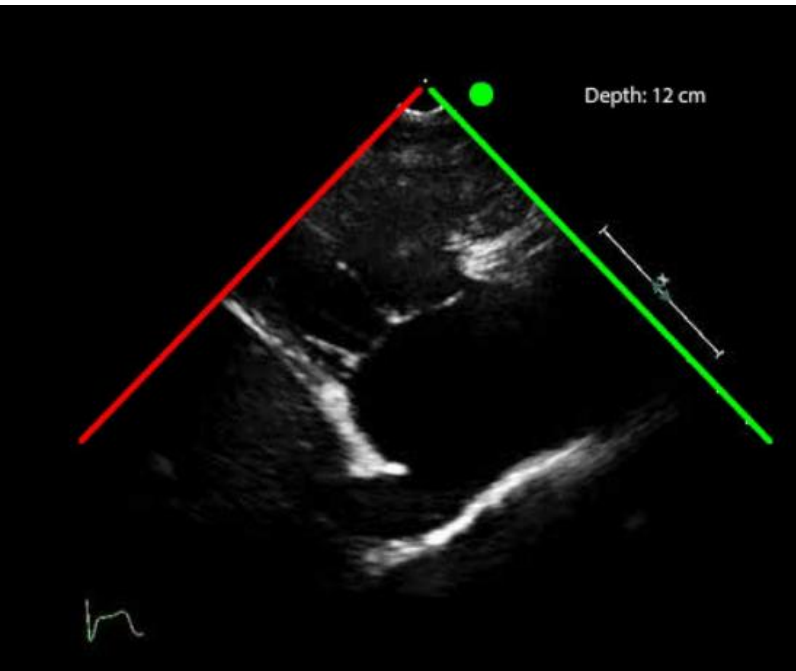
- 10-16cm to see the descending aorta in SAX
- increase to 20cm to assess the left pleural space



# Parasternal Long Axis View



# PLAX – RV Inflow View



## Details

### How to Obtain this View

#### Position the TTE transducer:

- modification of the Parasternal LAX view
- in the 3rd or 4th intercostal space
- at the left parasternal border
- with the index marker pointing towards the right shoulder (11 o'clock)
- tilted inferiorly and medially (towards R hip)

#### Adjust the sector depth to:

- 10-16cm to see the IVC

## Details

### How to Optimize this View

#### Adjust the TTE probe position to:

- visualize only the RV and not the LV
- center the image (slide probe away from sternum)
- make the TV cusps appear symmetric (rotate probe clockwise)
- visualize the RV apex (change one interspace lower)

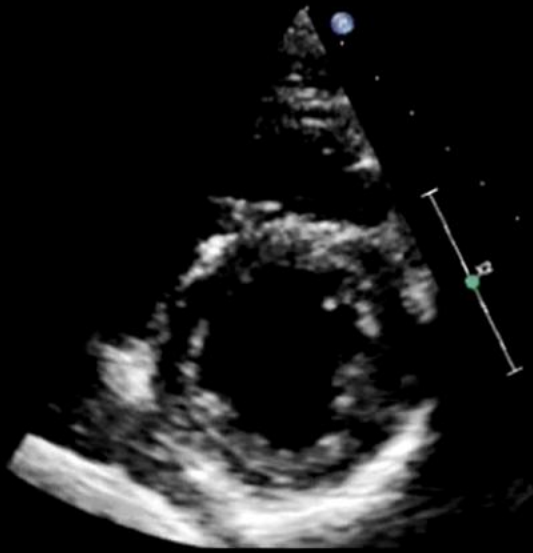
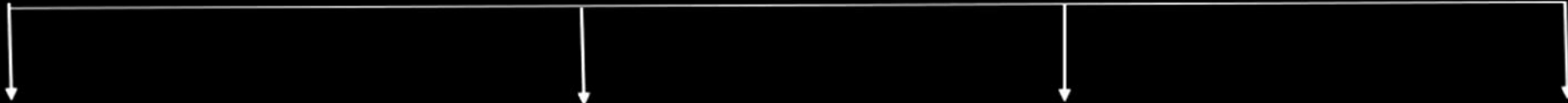
# PARASTERNAL WINDOW



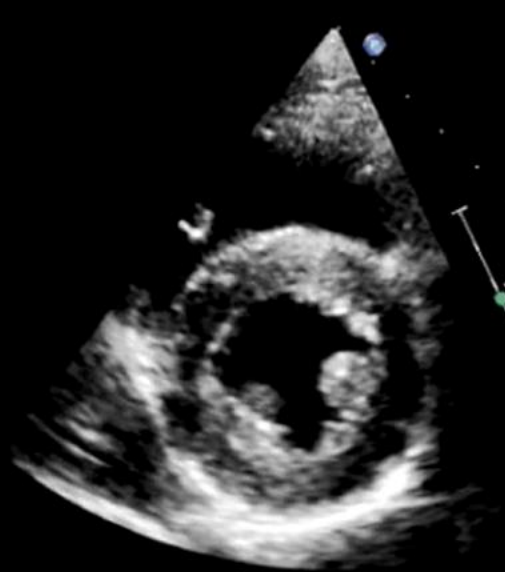
## PARASTERNAL VIEWS



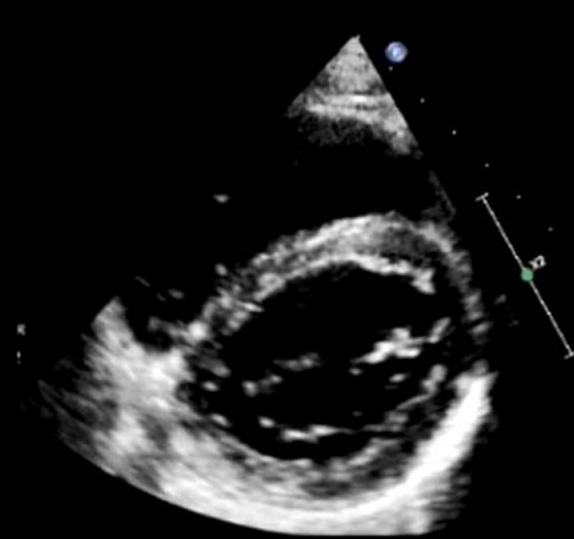
## PARASTERNAL SHORT AXIS VIEWS



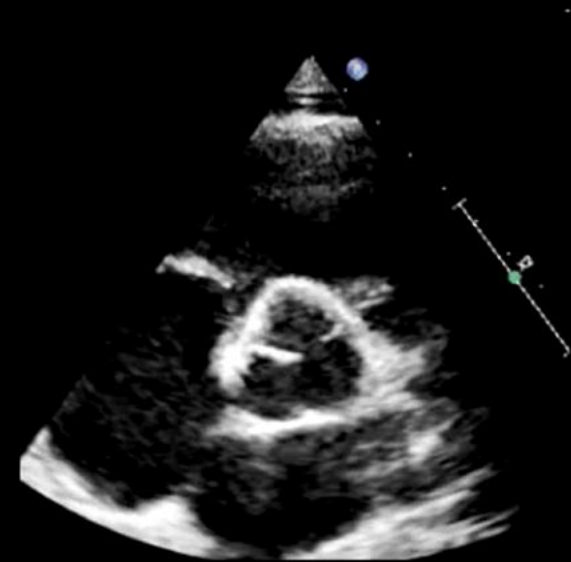
AT LEFT VENTRICULAR  
APEX LEVEL



AT PAPILLARY MUSCLE  
LEVEL

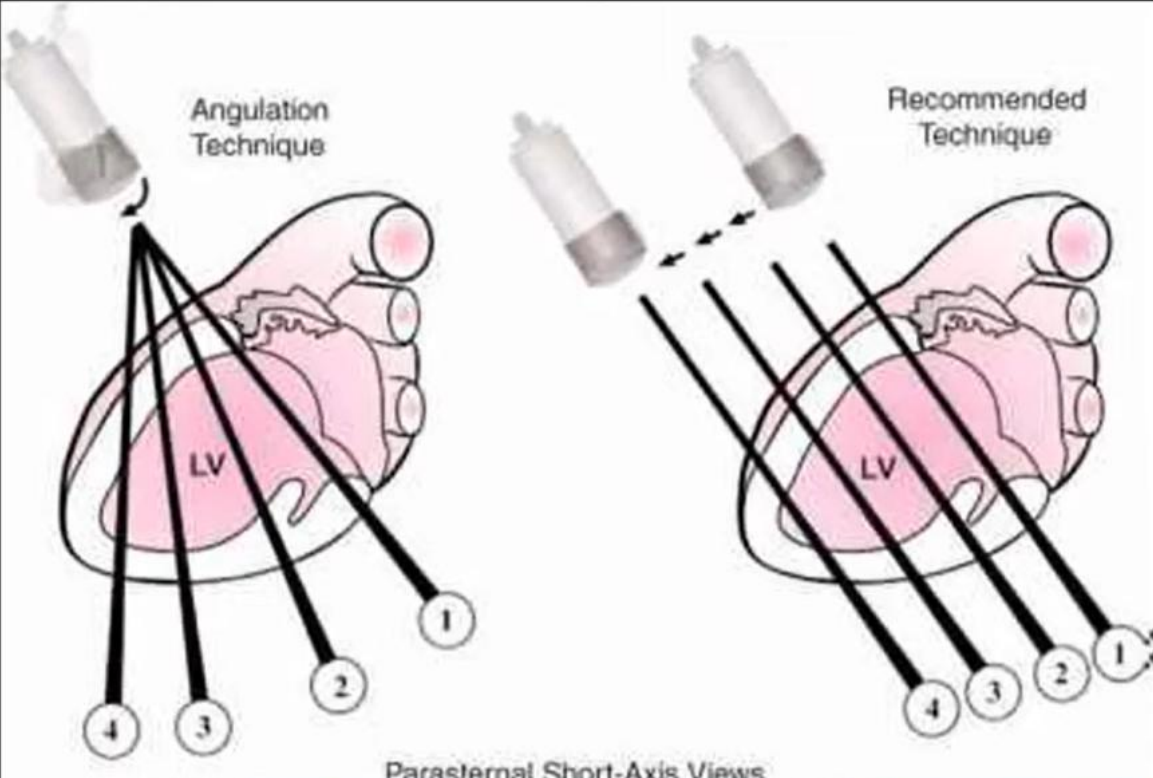


AT MITRAL VALVE  
LEVEL

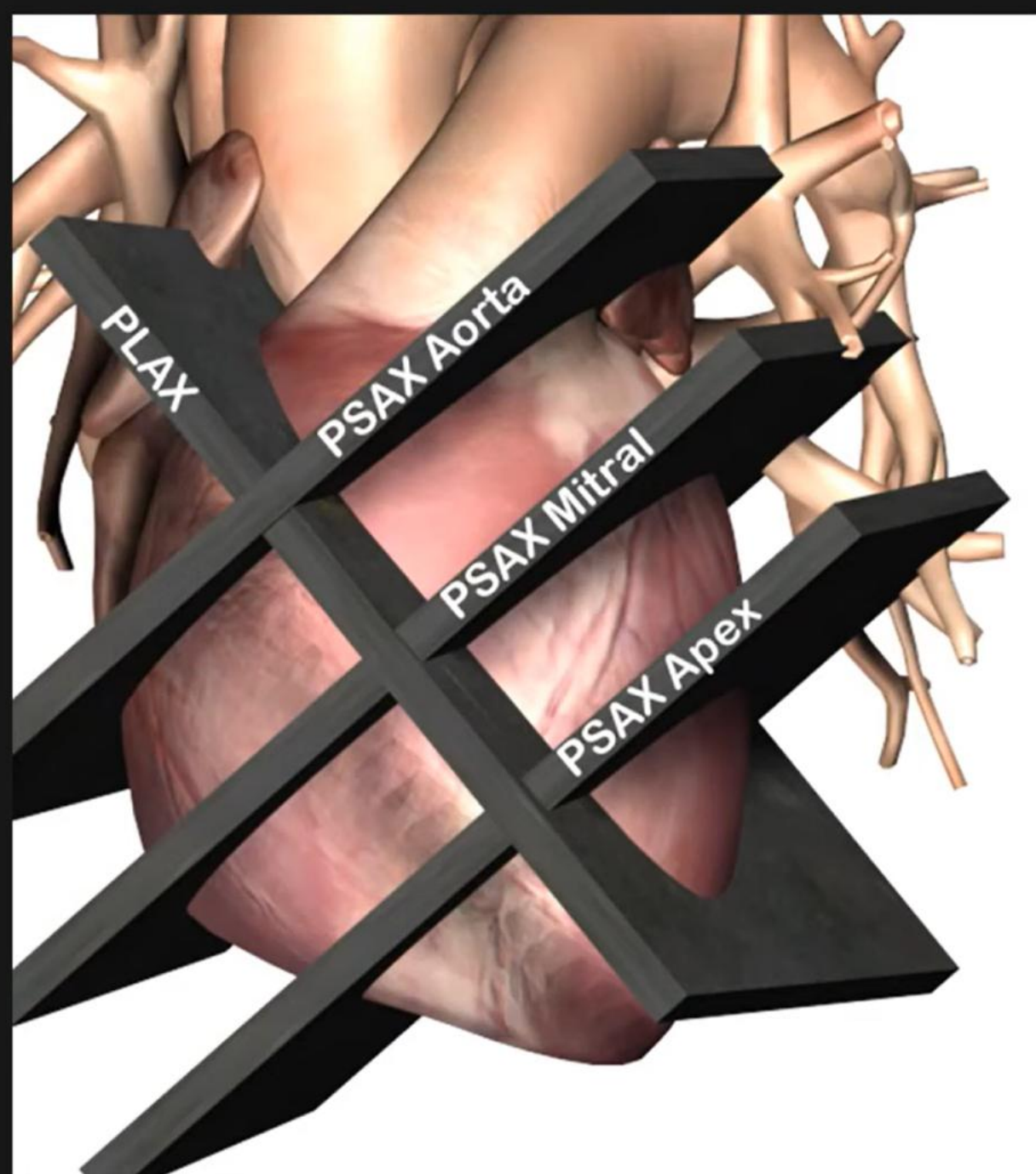


AT GREAT VESSELS  
LEVEL

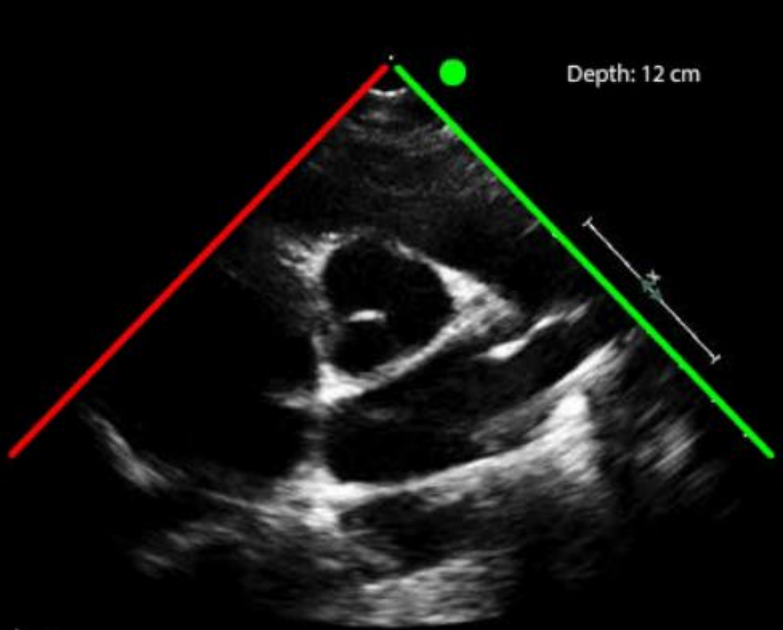




Parasternal Short-Axis Views







# PSAX – Ao View

## Details

### How to Obtain this View

#### Position the TTE transducer:

- modification of the Parasternal LAX view in which the AV is in the center of the screen
- in the 3rd or 4th intercostal space
- at the left parasternal border
- rotate the probe 90° clockwise from the right shoulder (marker at 11 o'clock) so the index marker now points towards the left shoulder (2 o'clock)

#### Adjust the sector depth to:

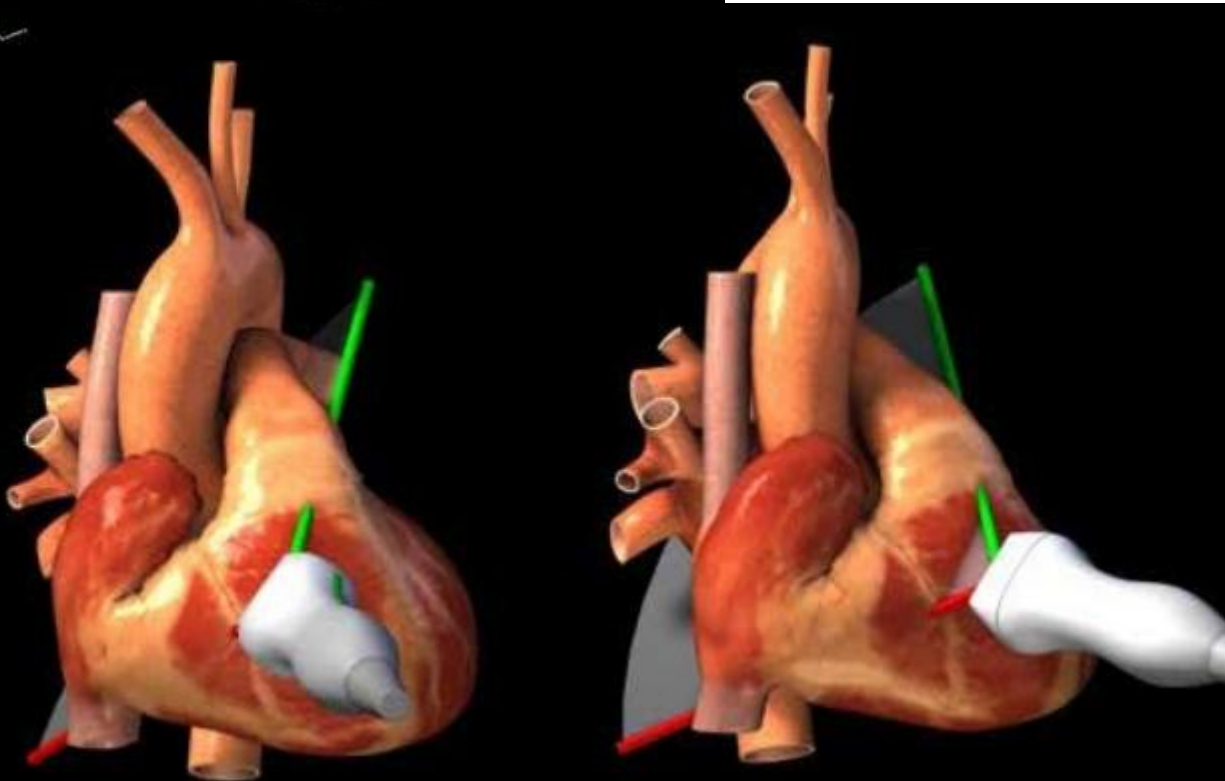
- 10-16cm to see the descending aorta

## Details

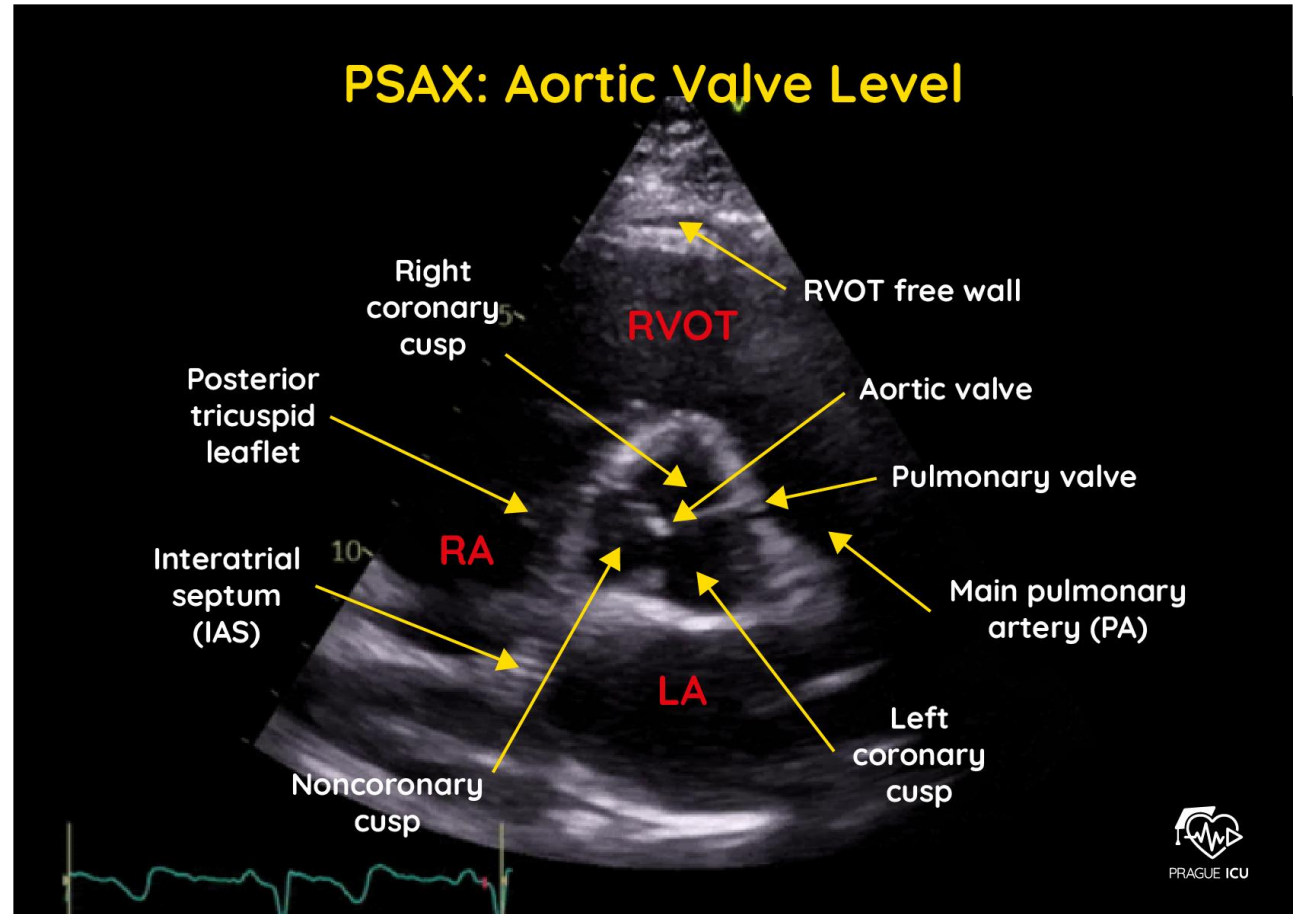
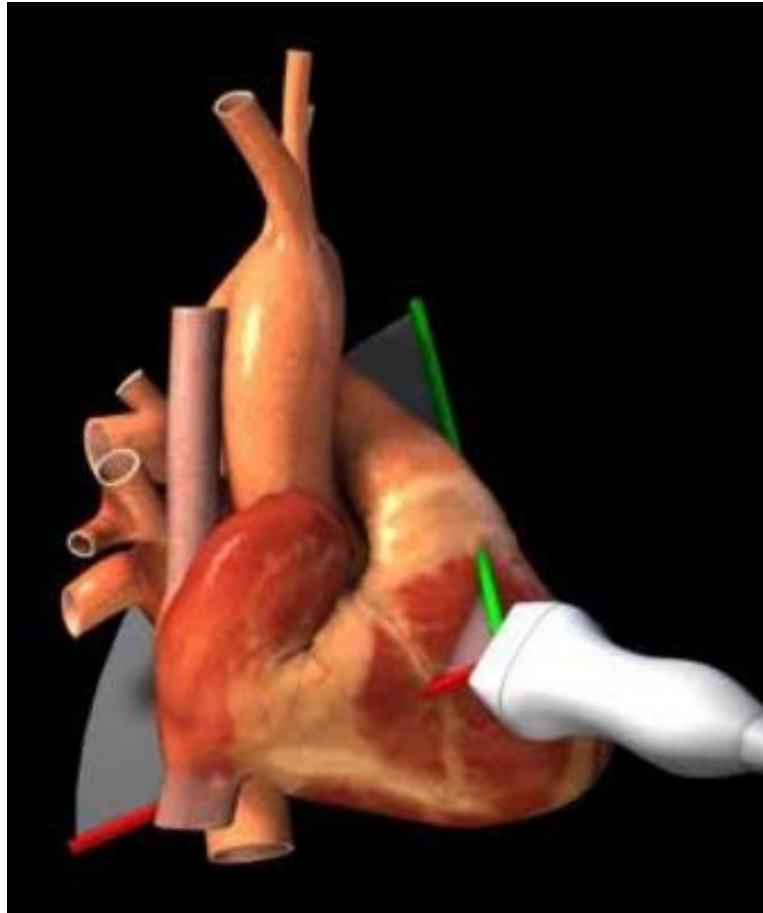
### How to Optimize this View

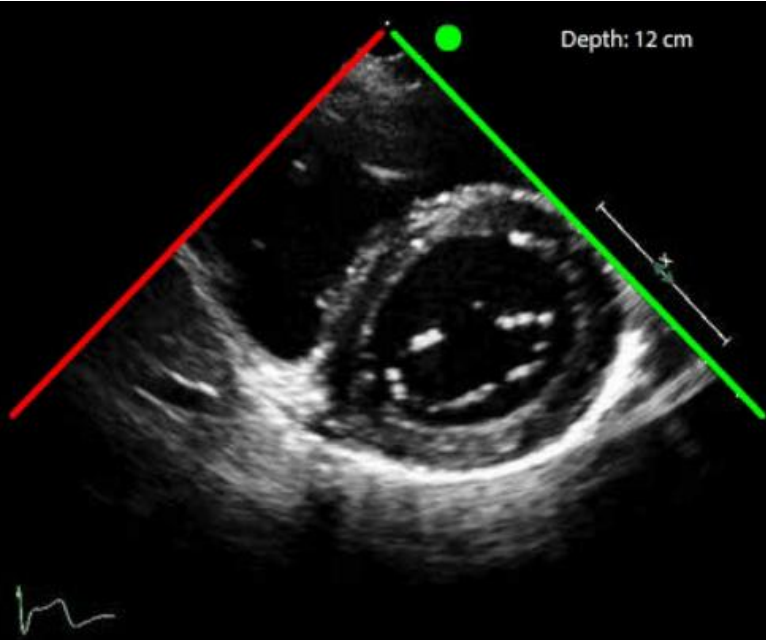
#### Adjust the TTE probe position to:

- center the image (slide probe away from sternum)
- make the AV cusps appear symmetric (rotate probe)
- visualize the RV outflow tract (change one interspace higher)



# PSAX – Ao View





# PSAX – Mitral valve (Basal) level

## Details

### How to Obtain this View

#### Position the TTE transducer:

- modification of the Parasternal SAX AV and RVOT Level view
- in the 3rd or 4th intercostal space
- at the left parasternal border
- with the index marker pointing towards the left shoulder (2 o'clock)
- slightly tilted inferiorly towards LV apex

#### Adjust the sector depth to:

- 10-16cm to see the entire LV

## Details

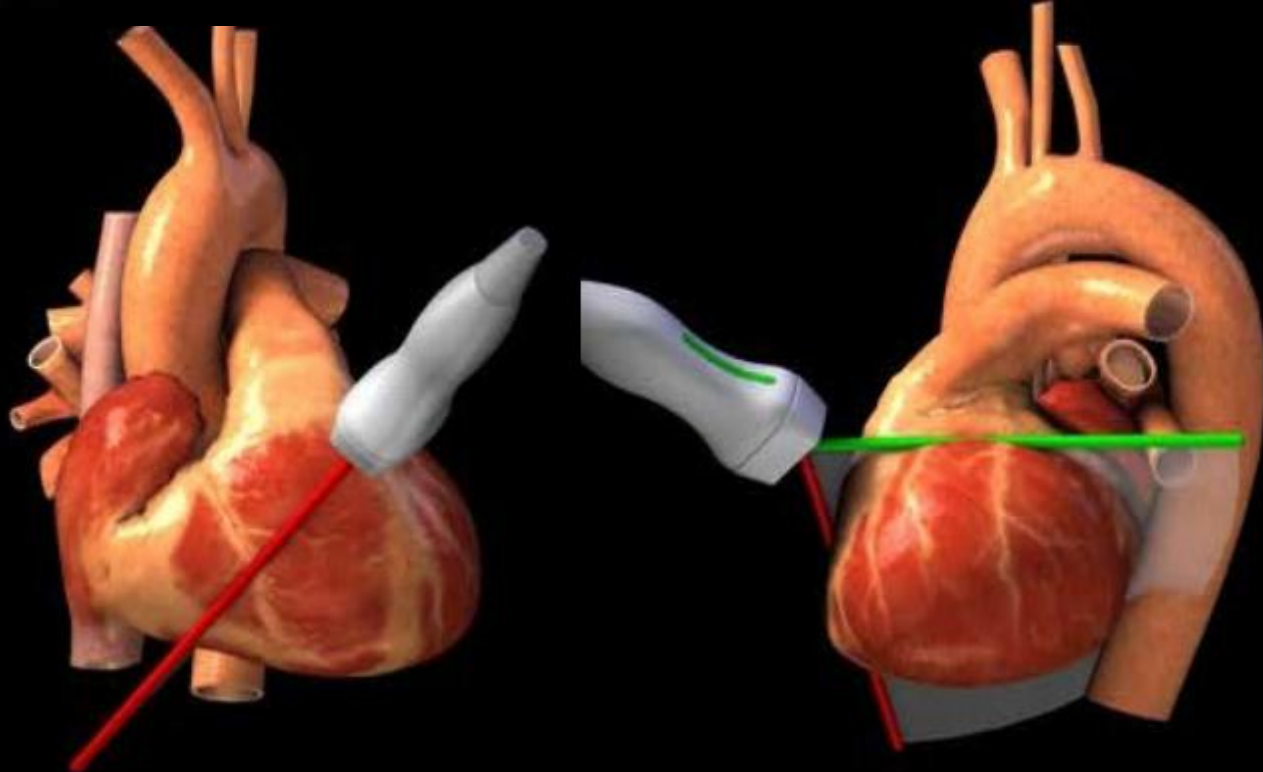
### How to Optimize this View

#### Adjust the TTE probe position to:

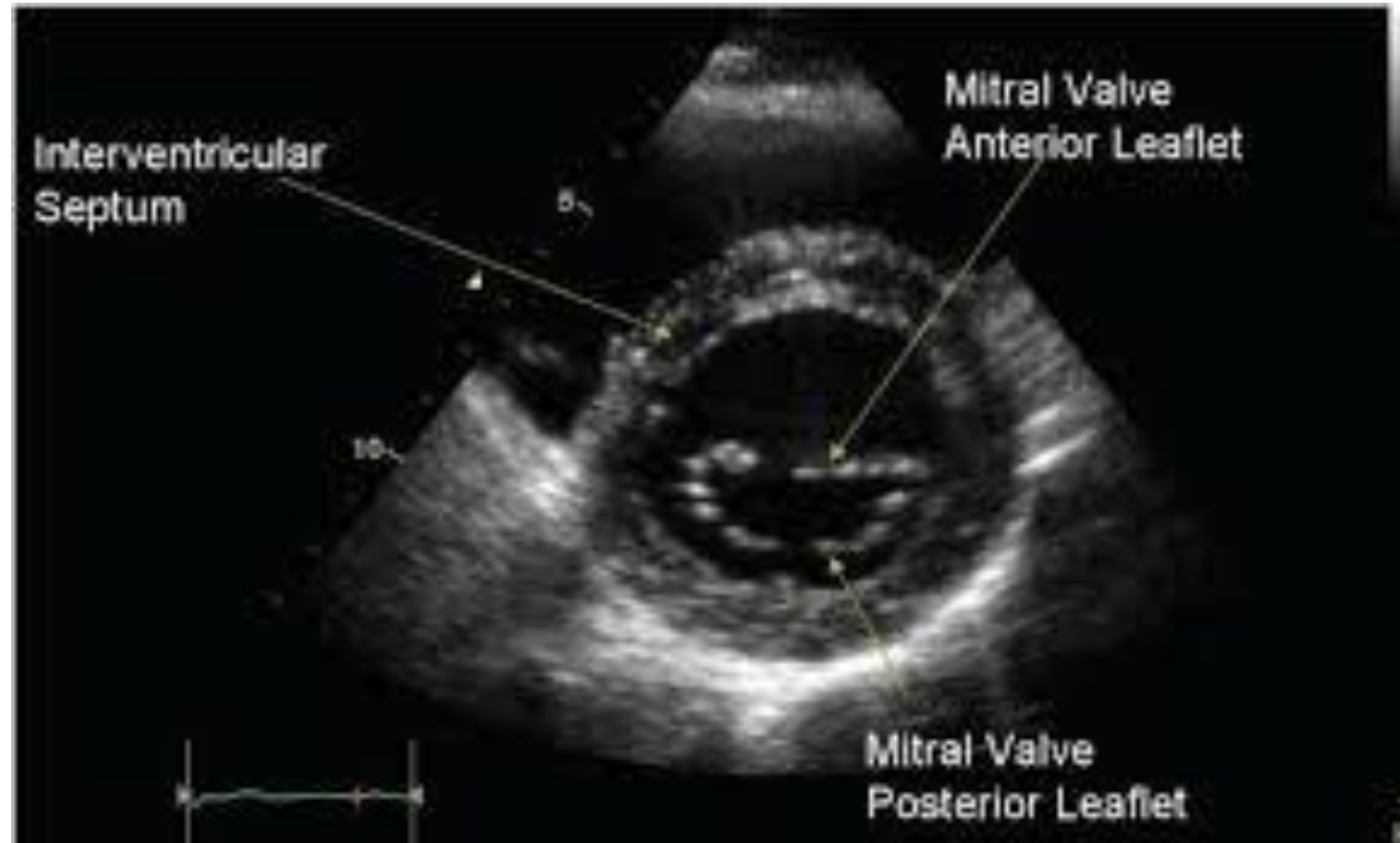
- place the LV in the center of the image (rotate probe)
- make the LV appear round in shape and the RV crescent shaped (change interspace)
- visualize both mitral valve leaflets (tilt or slide probe inferior)

#### Adjust the image gain to:

- visualize the endocardium

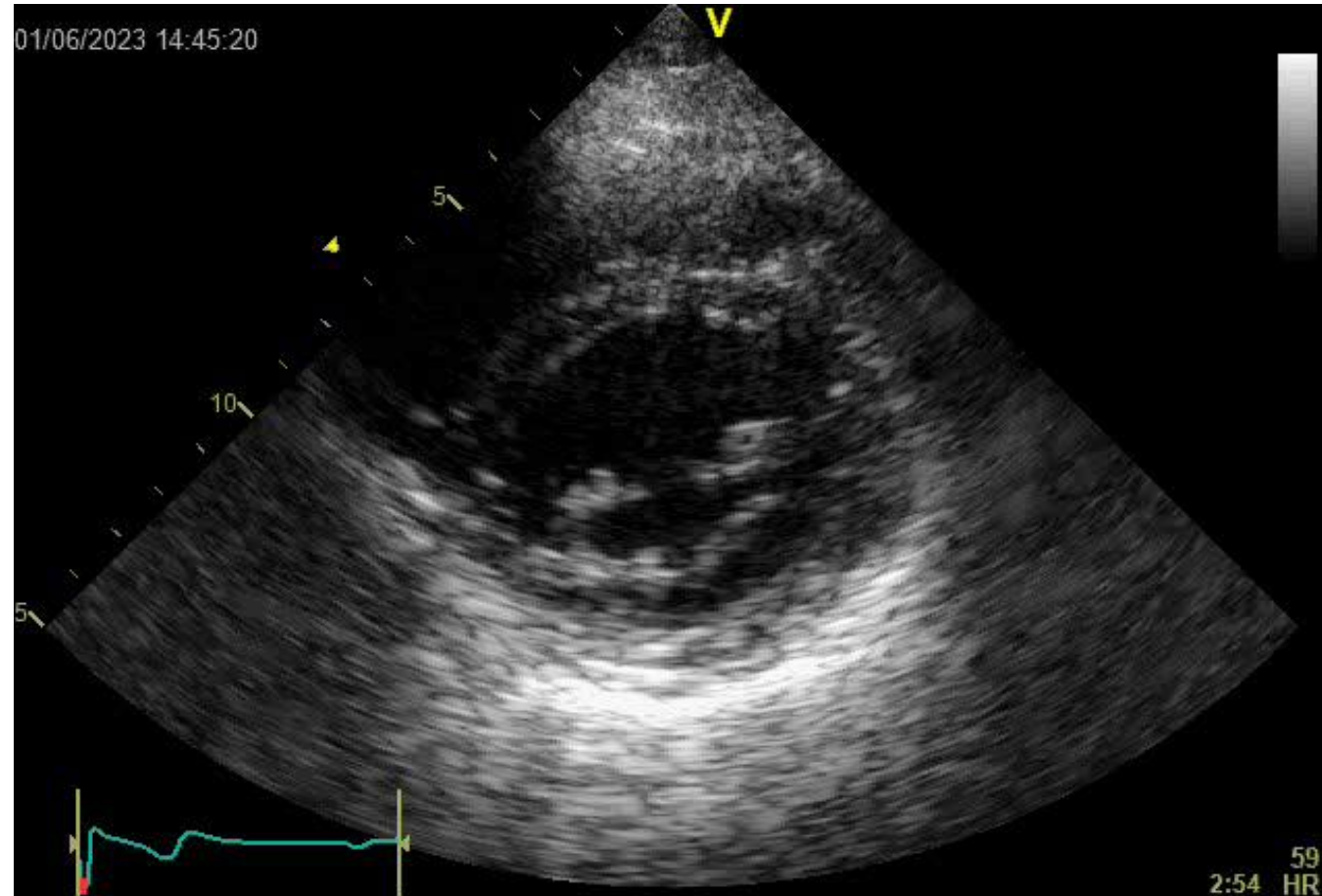


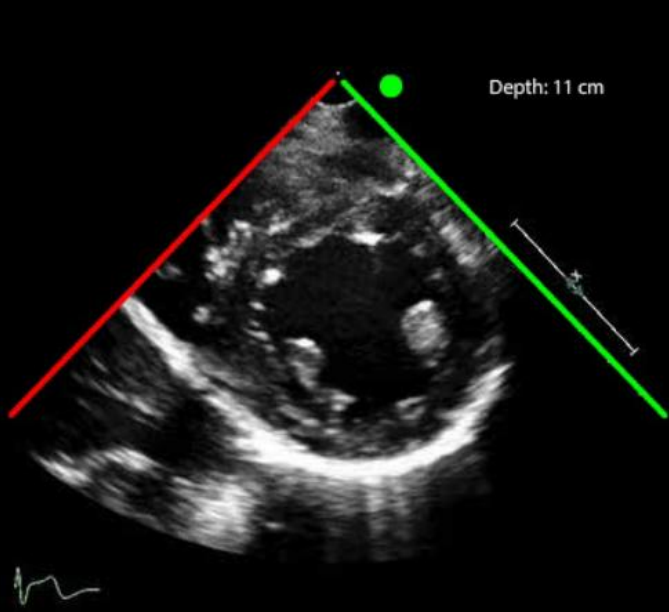
# PSAX – Mitral valve (Basal) level





# Fish mouth in Rheumatic mitral stenosis





# PSAX – Mid Papillary level

## Details

### How to Obtain this View

#### Position the TTE transducer:

- modification of the Parasternal SAX AV and RVOT Level view
- in the 3rd or 4th intercostal space
- at the left parasternal border
- with the index marker pointing towards the left shoulder (2 o'clock)
- tilt or slide inferiorly towards LV apex

#### Adjust the sector depth to:

- 10-16cm to see the entire LV

## Details

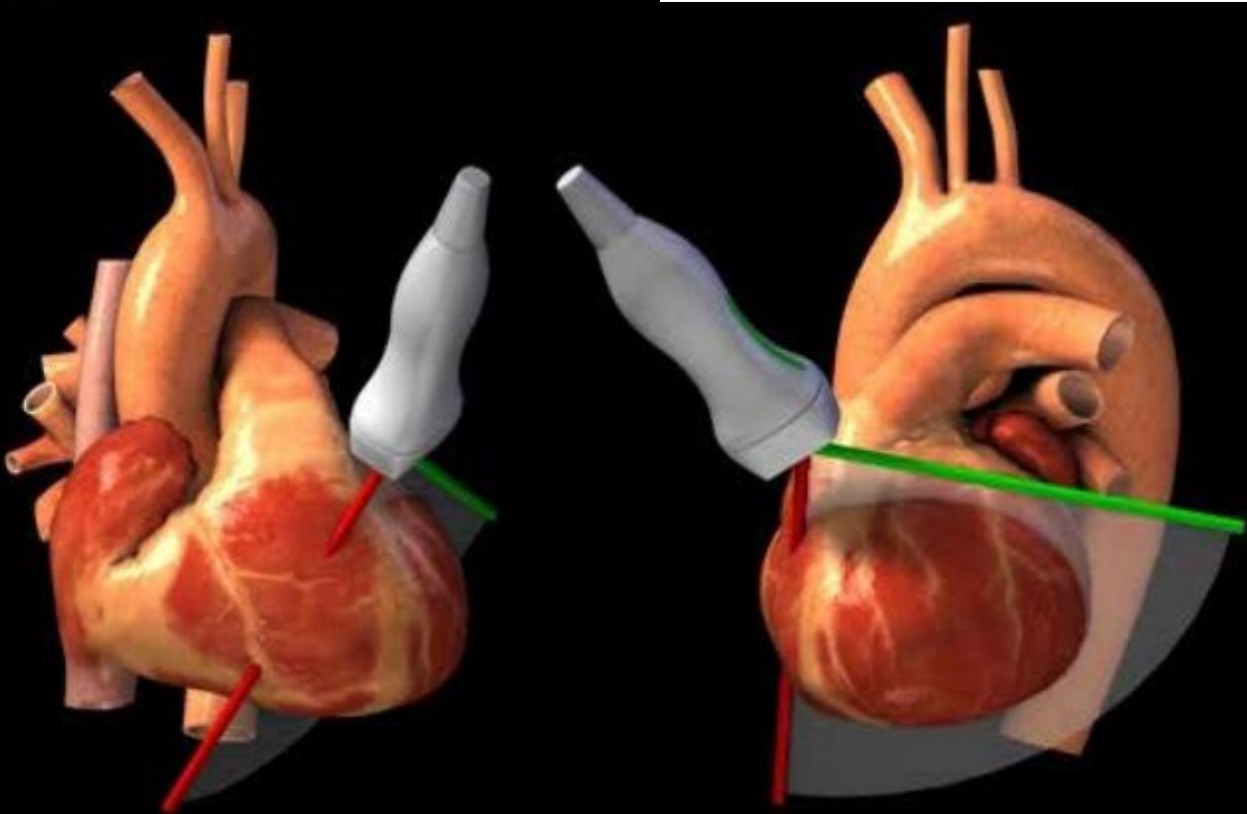
### How to Optimize this View

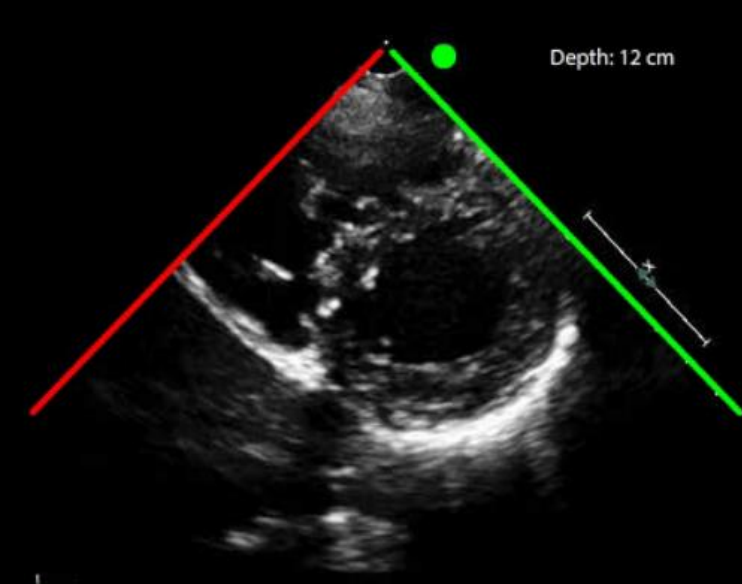
#### Adjust the TTE probe position to:

- place the LV in the center of the image (rotate probe)
- make the LV appear round in shape and the RV crescent shaped (change one interspace lower)
- visualize both papillary muscles attached to the LV wall (change one interspace lower)
- not visualize the mitral valve (tilt more inferior or change one interspace lower)

#### Adjust the image gain to:

- visualize the endocardium





# PSAX – Apical level

## Details

### How to Obtain this View

#### Position the TTE transducer:

- modification of the Parasternal SAX AV and RVOT Level view
- in the 3rd or 4th intercostal space
- at the left parasternal border
- with the index marker pointing towards the left shoulder (2 o'clock)
- tilt or slide inferiorly towards LV apex

#### Adjust the sector depth to:

- 10-14cm to see the entire LV and pericardium

## Details

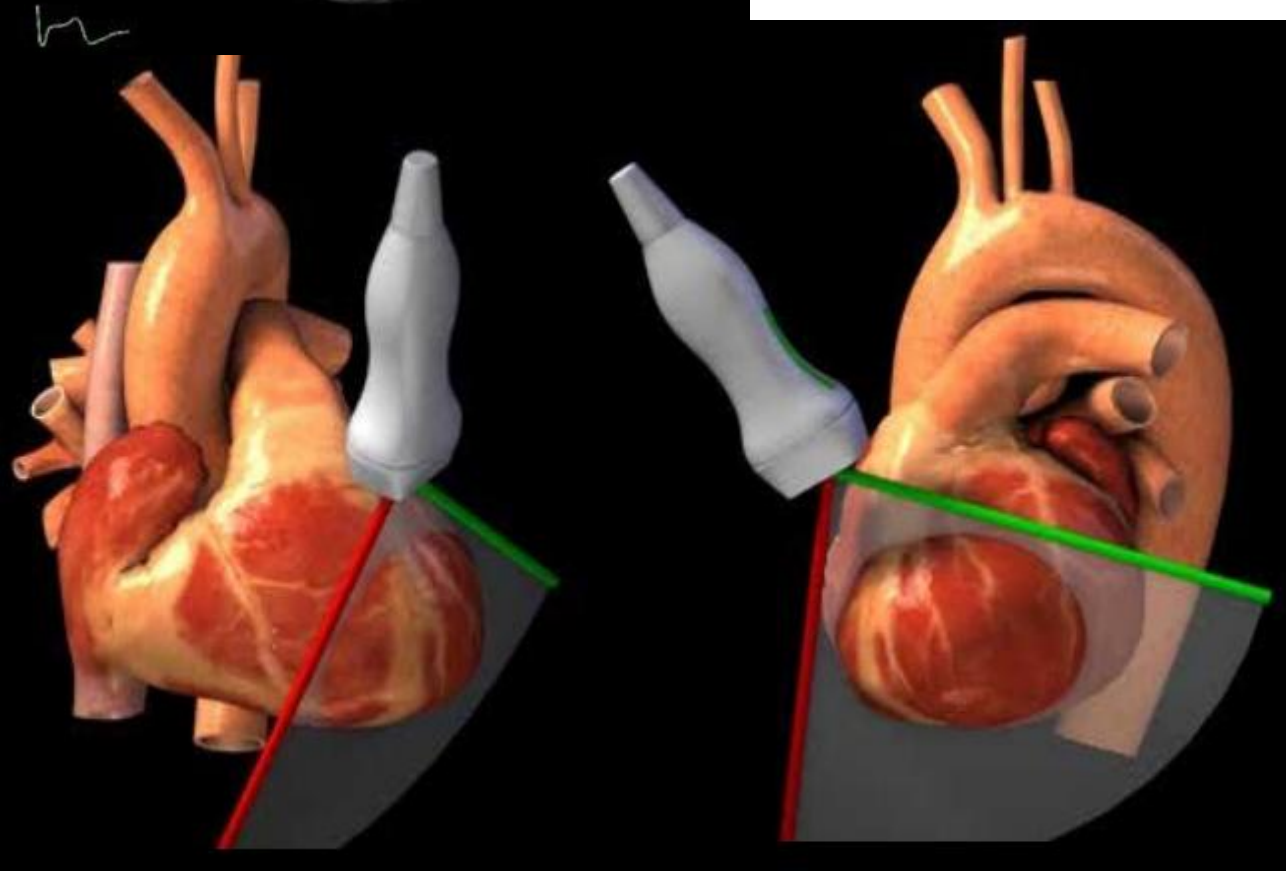
### How to Optimize this View

#### Adjust the TTE probe position to:

- place the LV in the center of the image (slide probe)
- make the LV appear round in shape (change one interspace lower)
- no papillary muscles should be seen (tilt or slide inferior)
- a small portion of the RV apex may be seen

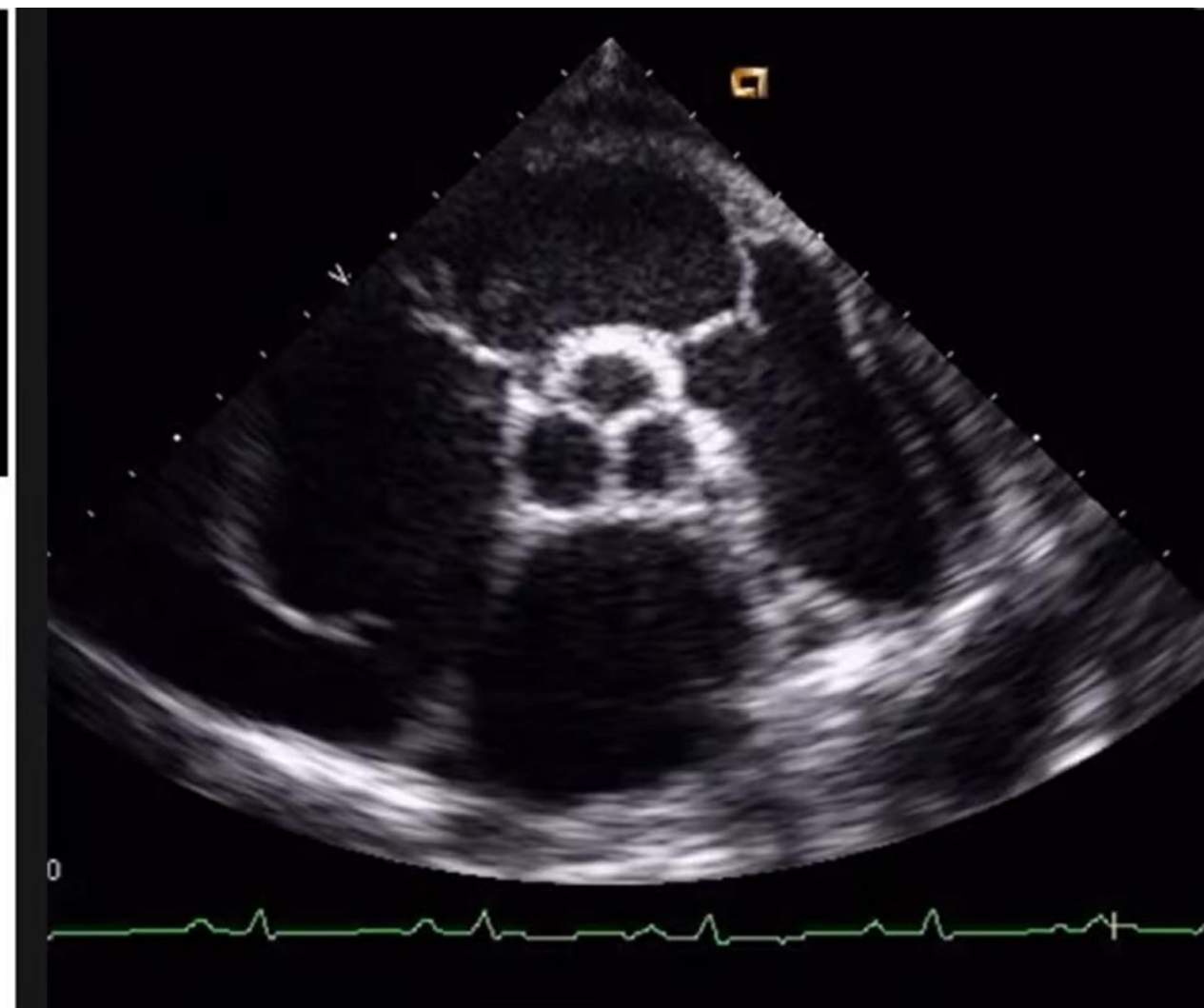
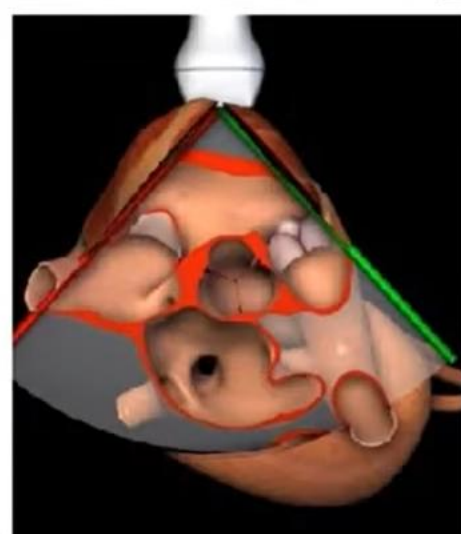
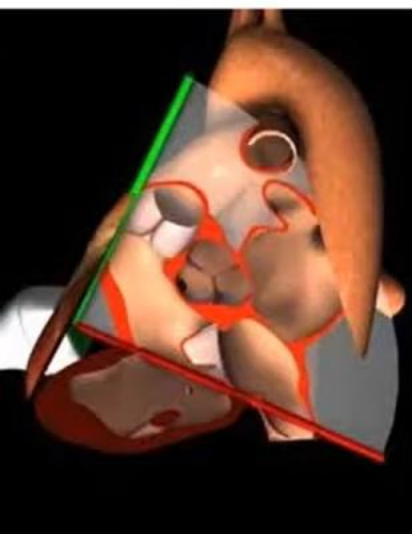
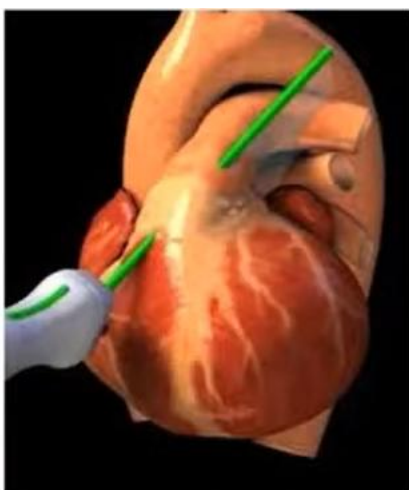
#### Adjust the image gain to:

- visualize the endocardium

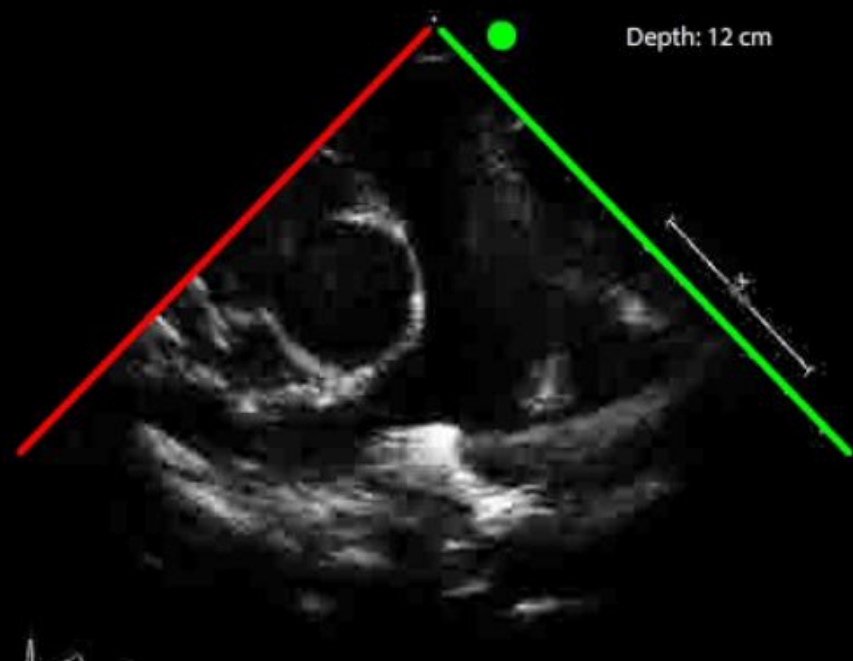




# PSAX – Ao PA view







# PSAX – Ao PA View

## Details

### How to Obtain this View

#### Position the TTE transducer:

- modification of the Parasternal SAX AV and RVOT Level view
- in the 3rd or 4th intercostal space
- at the left parasternal border
- with the index marker pointing towards the left shoulder (1-2 o'clock)
- tilted superiorly and medially

#### Adjust the sector depth to:

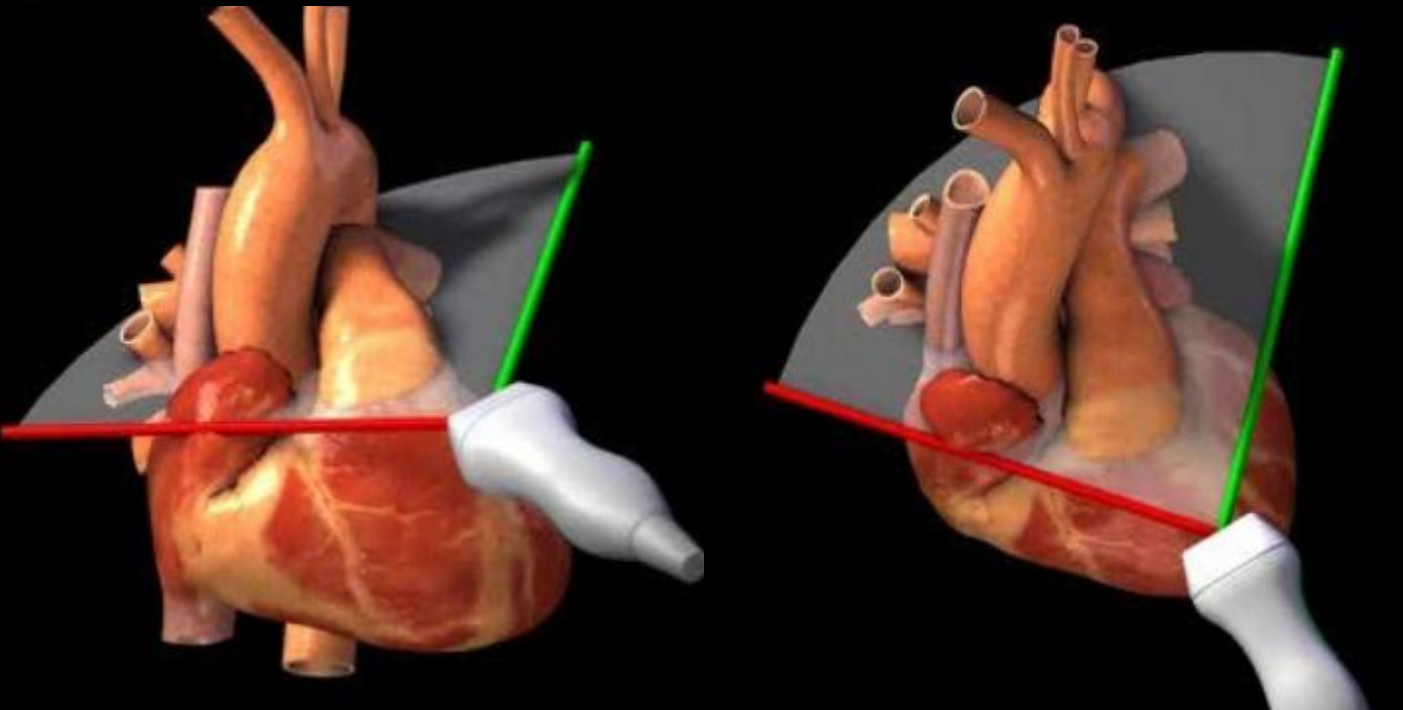
- 10-16cm to see the PA bifurcation

## Details

### How to Optimize this View

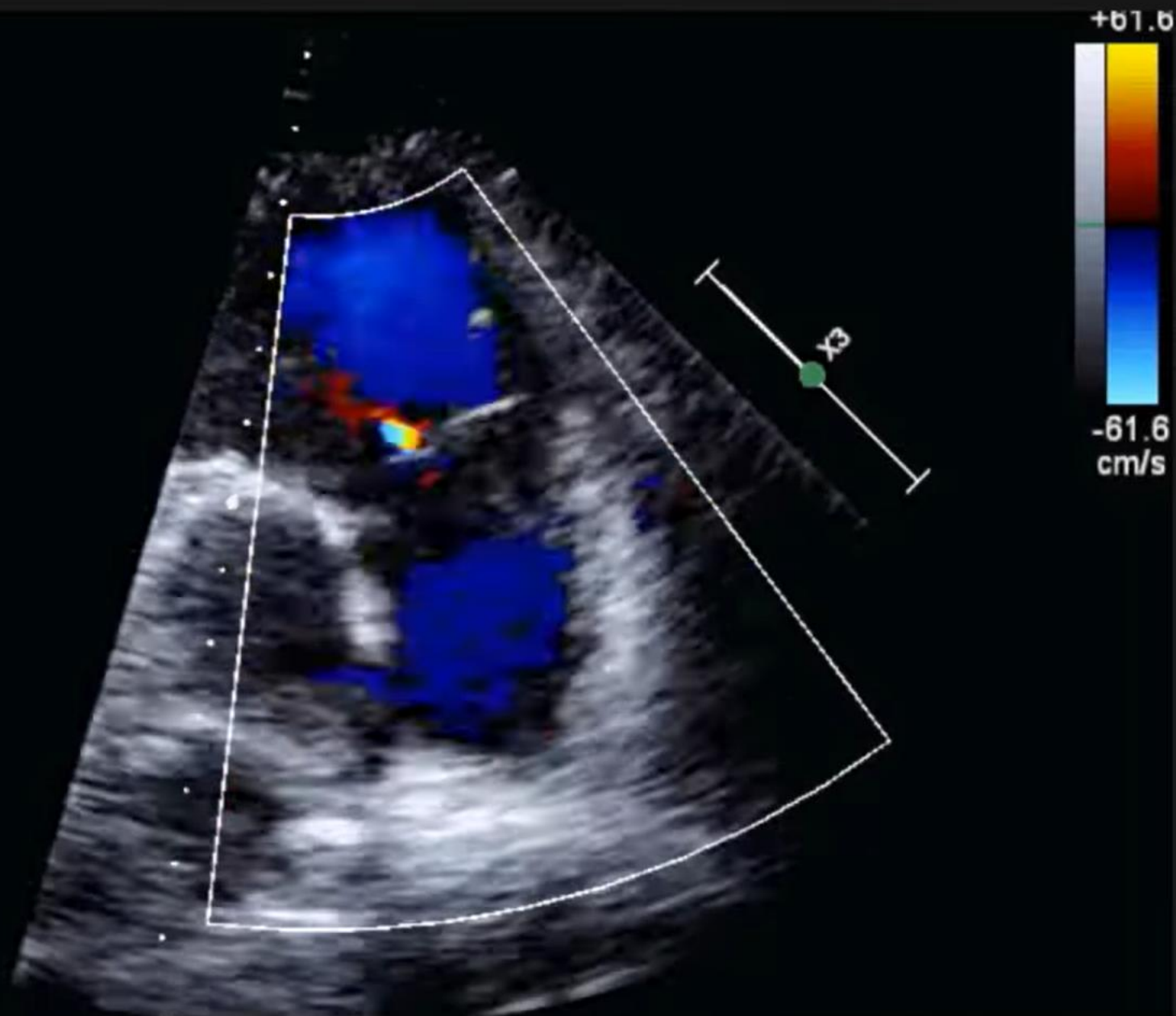
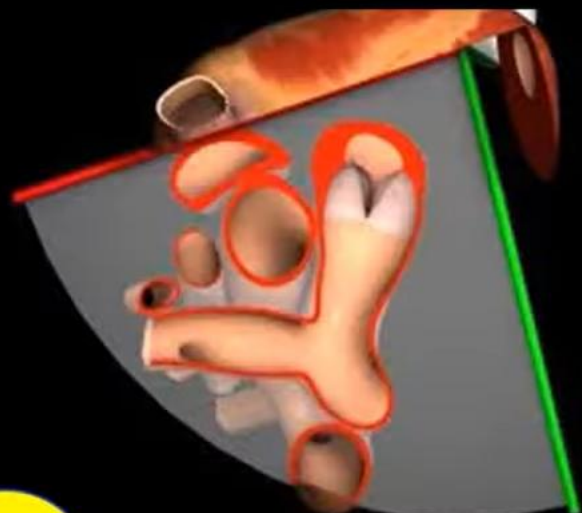
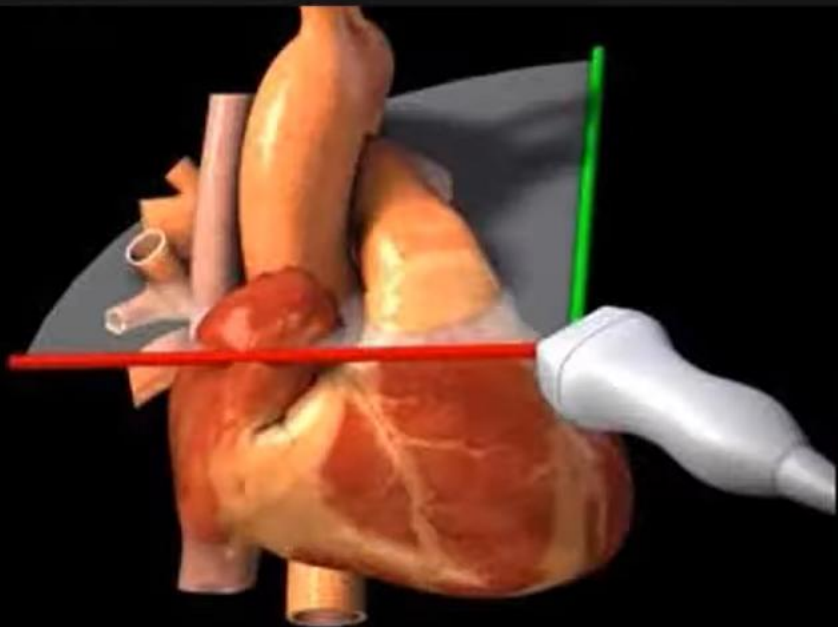
#### Adjust the TTE probe position to:

- center the image (slide probe away from sternum)
- make the main pulmonary artery walls appear symmetric (rotate probe)
- visualize the RV outflow tract (change one interspace higher)
- AV should not be seen only aorta (tilt probe superior)



# PSAX – Ao PA View

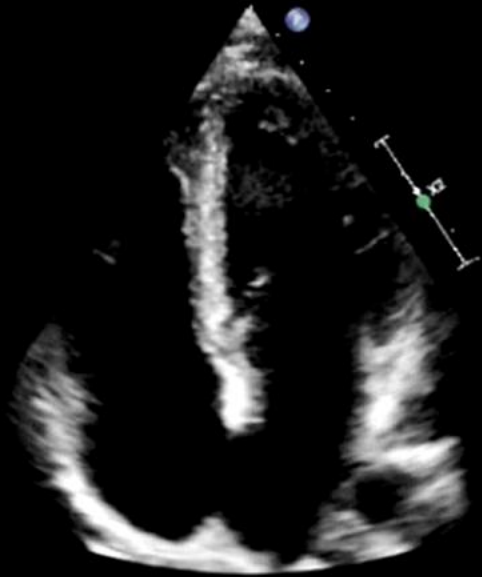




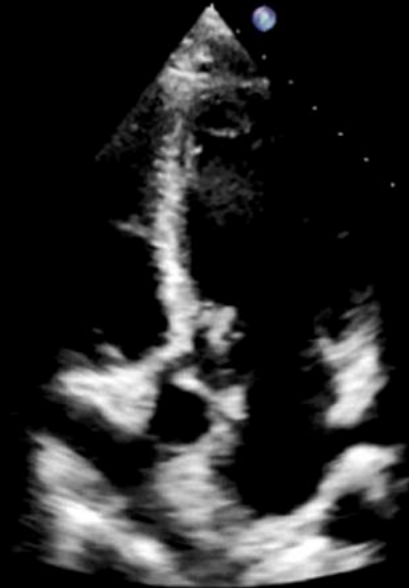
## APICAL WINDOW



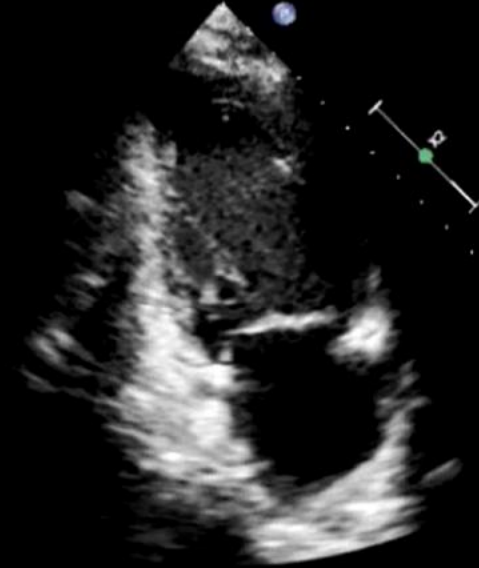
## APICAL VIEWS



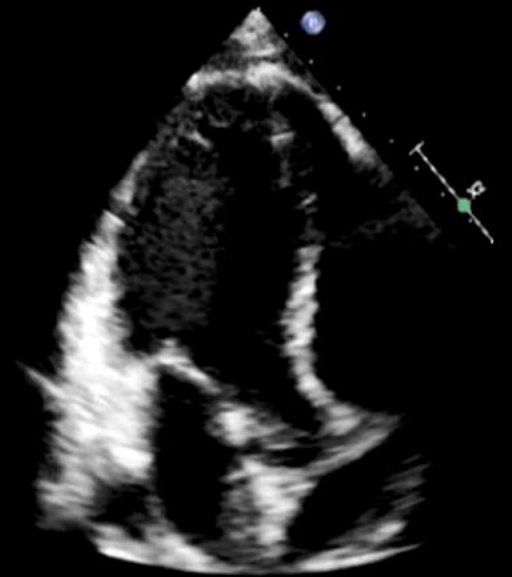
4 CHAMBER  
VIEW



5 CHAMBER  
VIEW

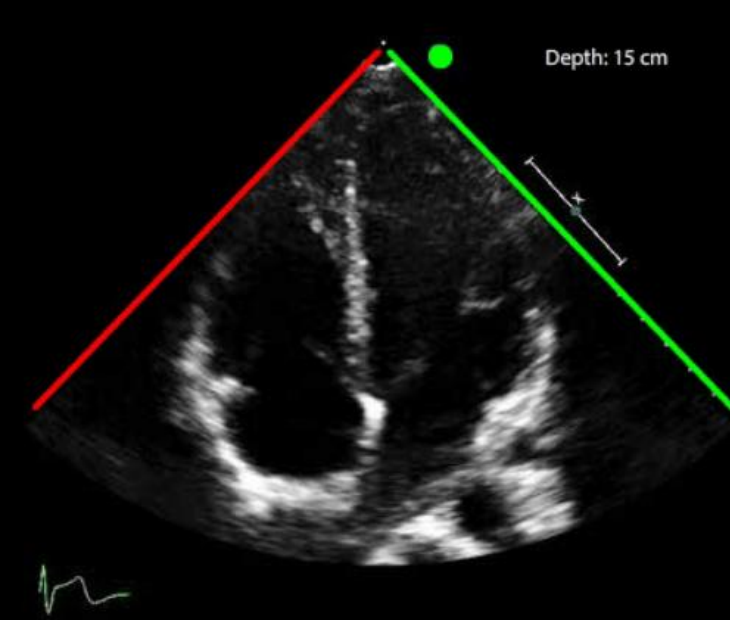


2 CHAMBER  
VIEW



3 CHAMBER  
VIEW





# Apical 4 Chamber

Details

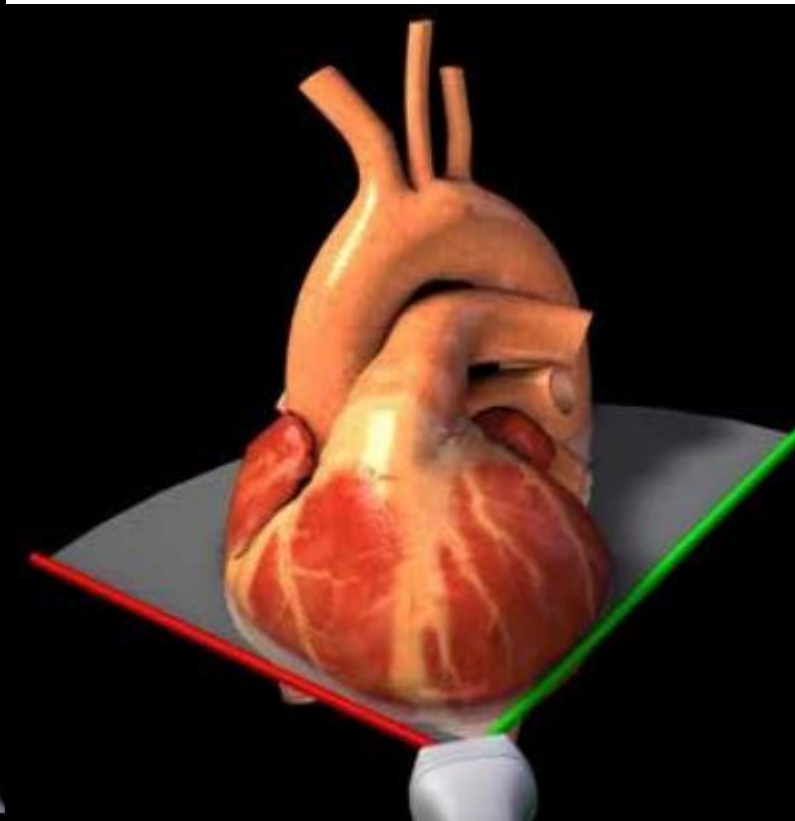
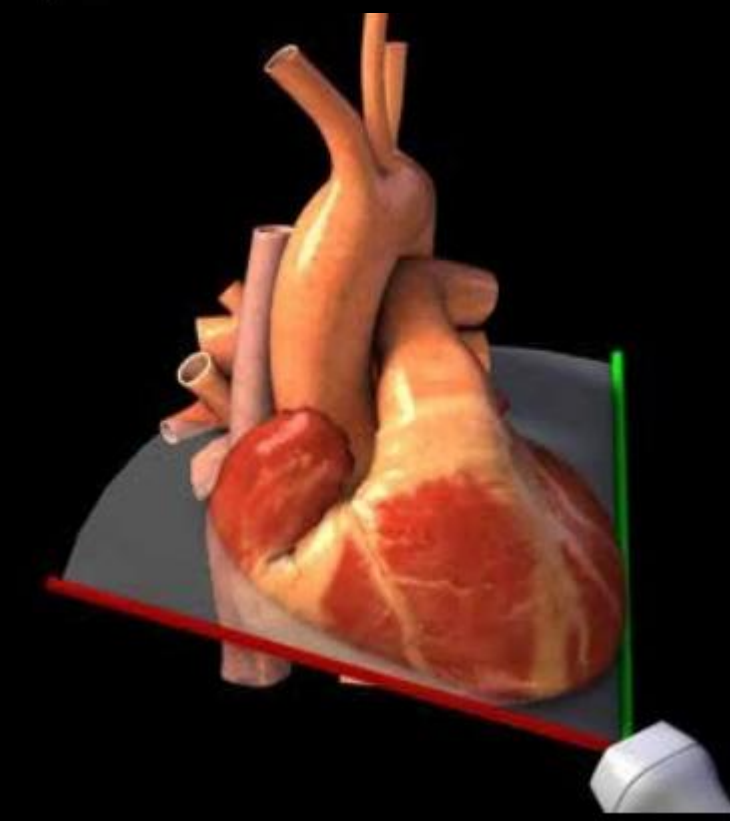
How to Obtain this View

## Position the TTE transducer:

- in the 4th or 5th intercostal space
- in the midclavicular line or at the point of apical pulsation
- with the index marker pointing towards the left (3 o'clock)

## Adjust the sector depth to:

- 14-18cm to image the atria
- 6-10cm to assess the LV apex



Details

How to Optimize this View

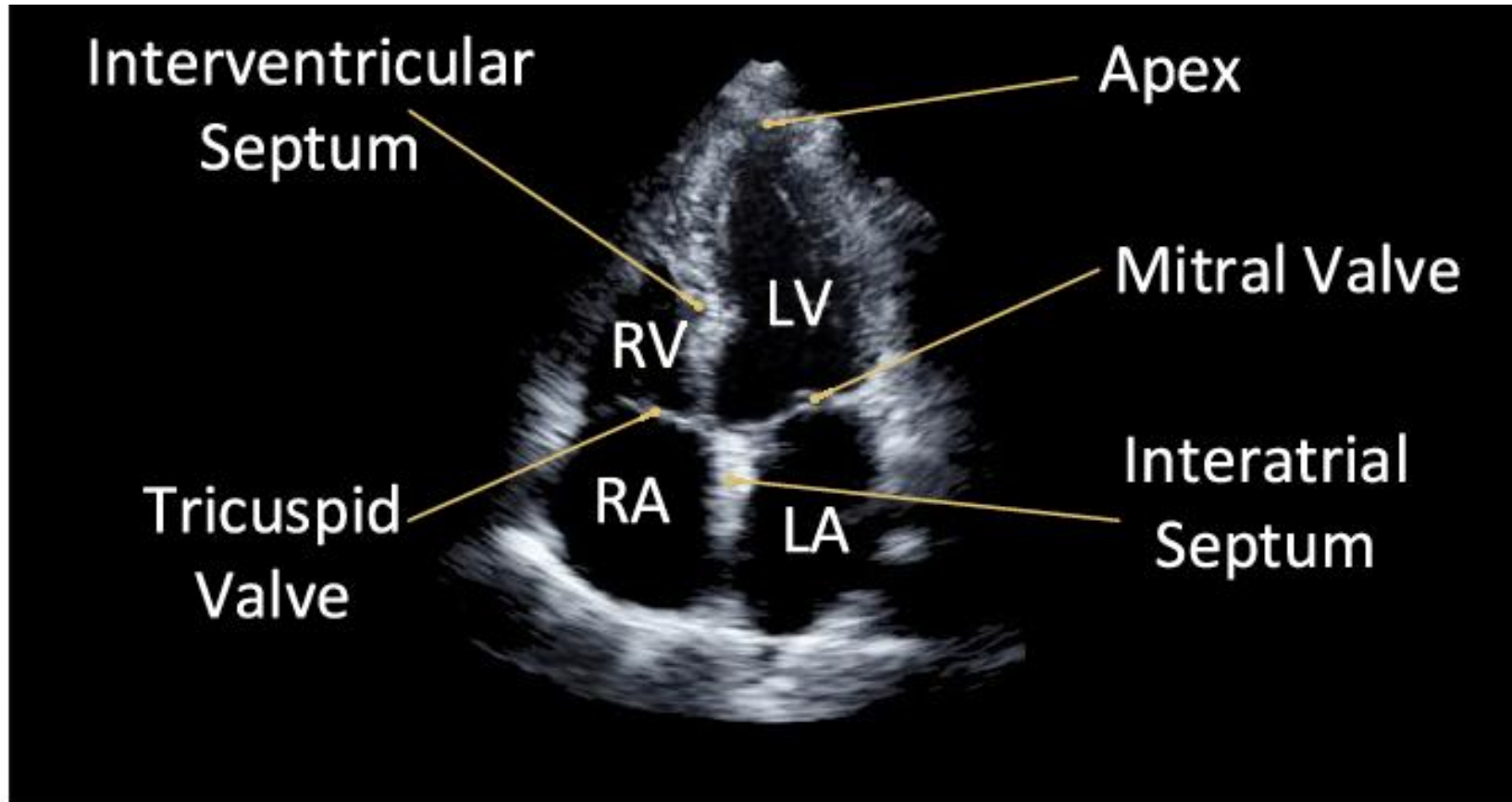
## Adjust the TTE probe position to:

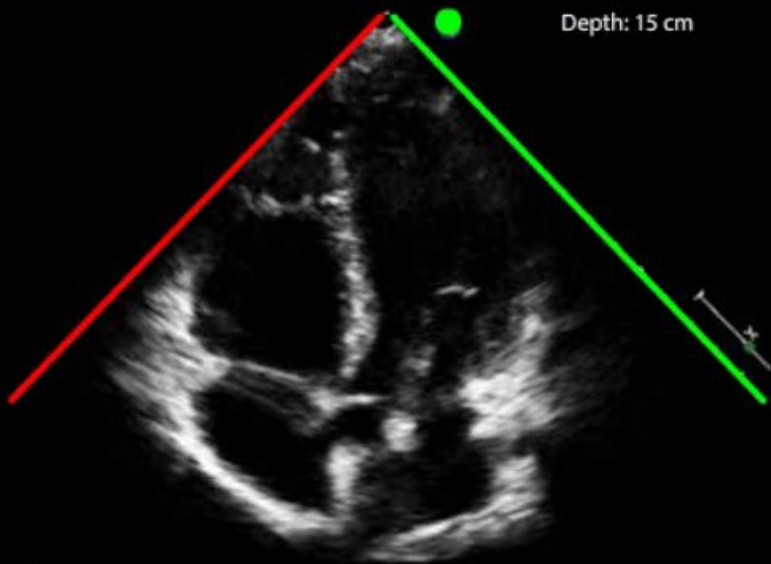
- ensure all four cardiac chambers are seen
- if the atria are not seen, tilt the probe anterior
- if the ventricles are too spherical, move probe down one interspace
- make the IVS appear vertical and in the center of the image (move probe laterally)
- if LV tilted to right (move probe laterally)
- if LV tilted to the left (move probe medially)
- not visualize the AV (if AV is seen the probe is too anterior, tilt probe posterior)
- not foreshorten the LV apex (slide probe to apex)
- LV apex is thinner than the other LV walls and does not contract

## Adjust the image gain to:

- visualize the endocardium
- visualize valvular leaflets

# Apical 4 Chamber View





# Apical 5 Chamber

## Details

### How to Obtain this View

#### Position the TTE transducer:

- modification of the Apical 4 Chamber view
- in the 4th or 5th intercostal space
- in the midclavicular line or at the point of apical pulsation
- with the index marker pointing towards the left (3 o'clock)
- tilt anterior to see the aortic valve

#### Adjust the sector depth to:

- 14-18cm to image both atria

## Details

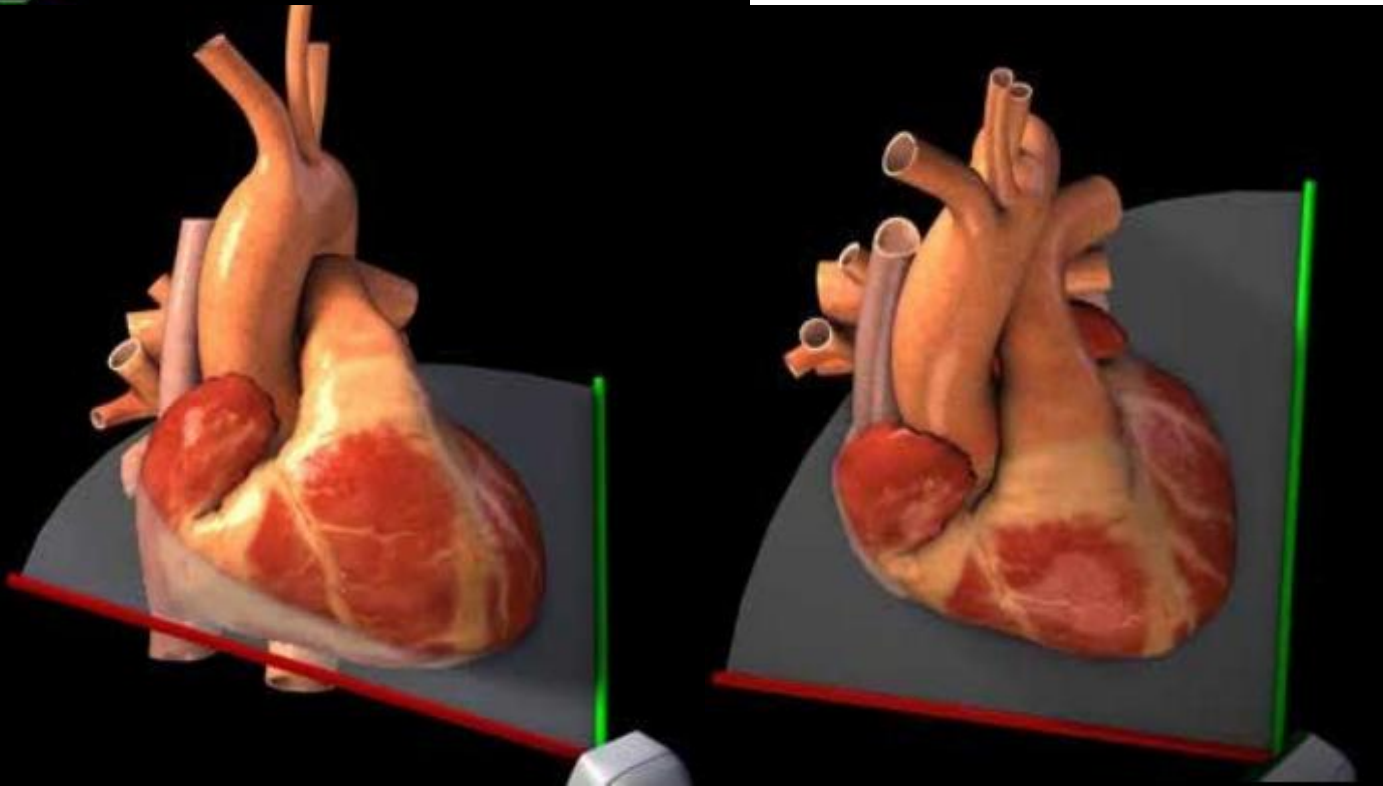
### How to Optimize this View

#### Adjust the TTE probe position to:

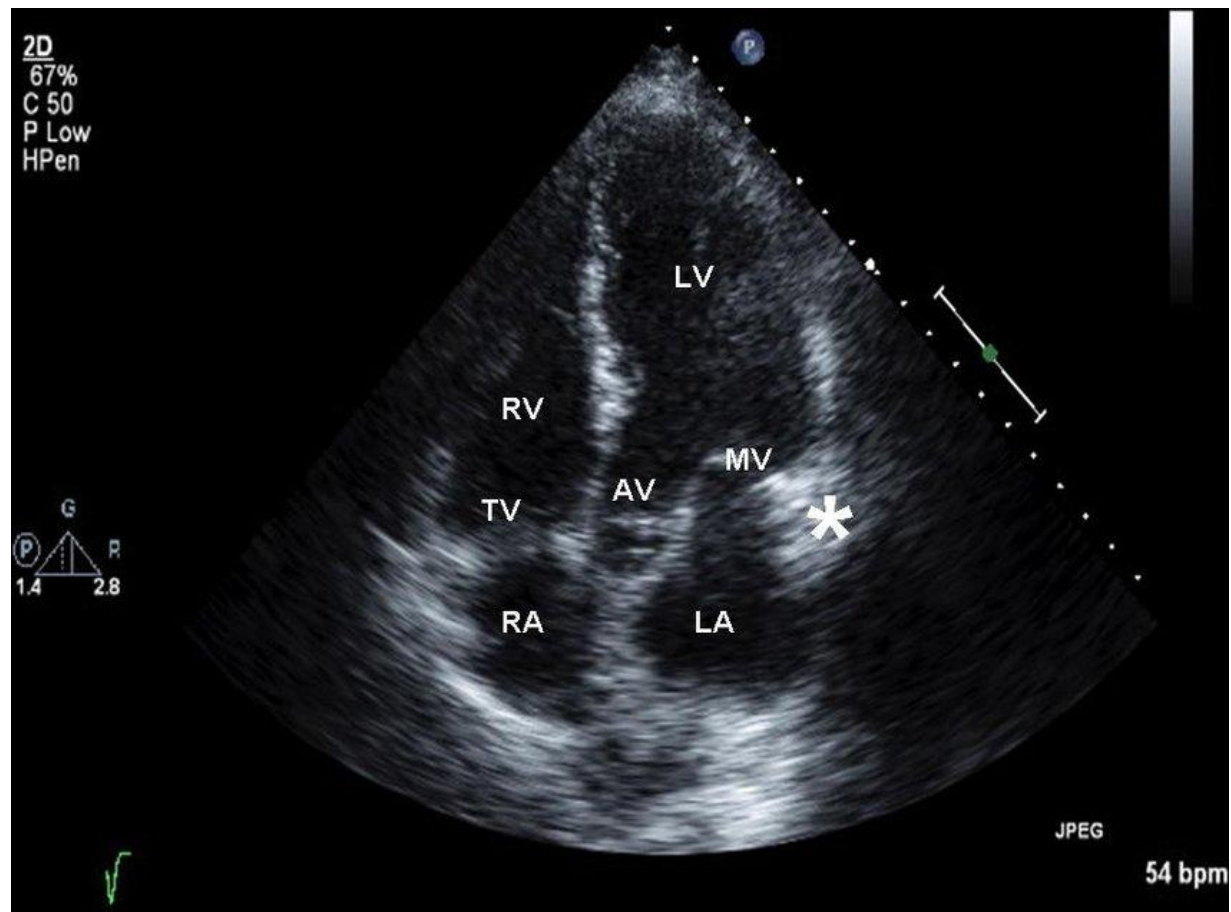
- visualize the AV and LVOT (tilt probe anterior)
- LVOT alignment (higher interspace and slide probe lateral)
- make the IVS appear vertical and in the center of the image
- if LV tilted to right (slide probe lateral)
- if LV tilted to the left (slide probe medial)
- atria and IAS should be incompletely seen

#### Adjust the image gain to:

- visualize the endocardium
- visualize aortic valve cusps



# Apical 5 chamber view







# Apical 2 Chamber

## Details

### How to Obtain this View

#### Position the TTE transducer:

- modification of the Apical 4 Chamber view
- in the 4th or 5th intercostal space
- in the midclavicular line or at the point of apical pulsation
- from the Apical 4 Chamber view, rotate the probe 60-90 degrees counterclockwise
- with the index marker now pointing towards the left axilla (1 o'clock)

#### Adjust the sector depth to:

- 14-18cm to image the LA

## Details

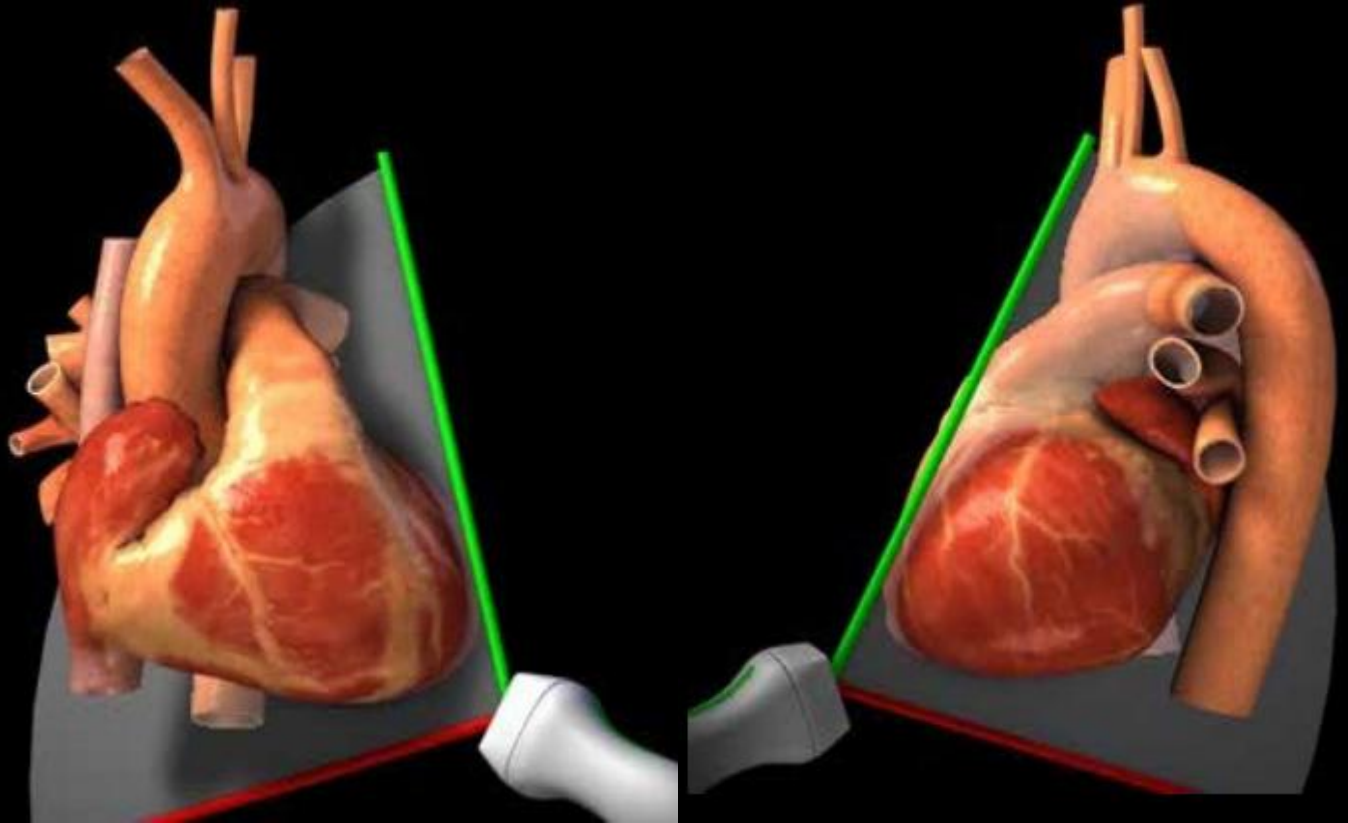
### How to Optimize this View

#### Adjust the TTE probe position to:

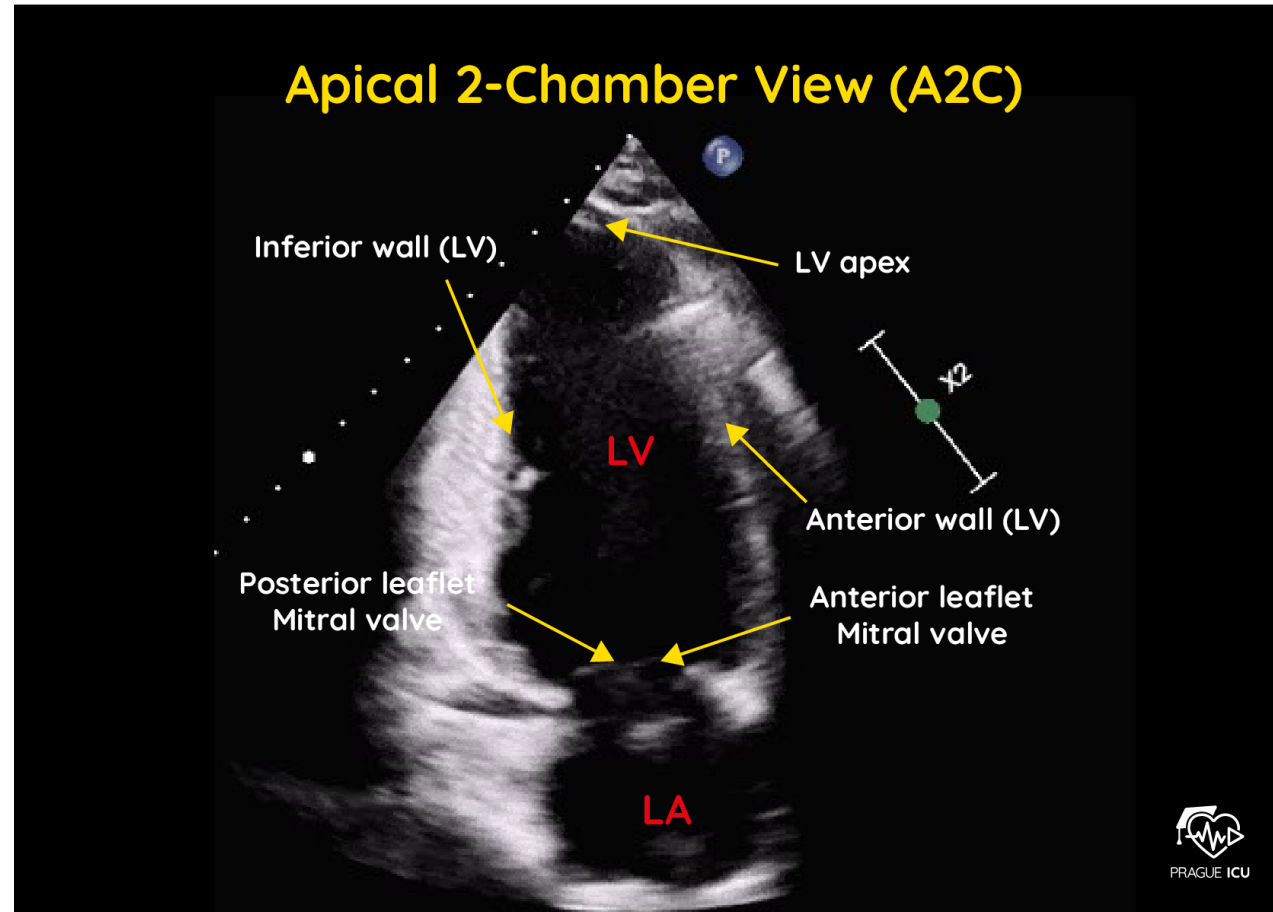
- ensure the LV, LA and MV are seen
- LV apex at the top of the display (slide probe)
- Right heart should not be seen (not enough probe rotation)
- AV and LVOT should not be seen (too much probe rotation)
- Descending aorta can be seen by tilting probe posterior and medial
- Descending aorta in LAX rotate probe clockwise

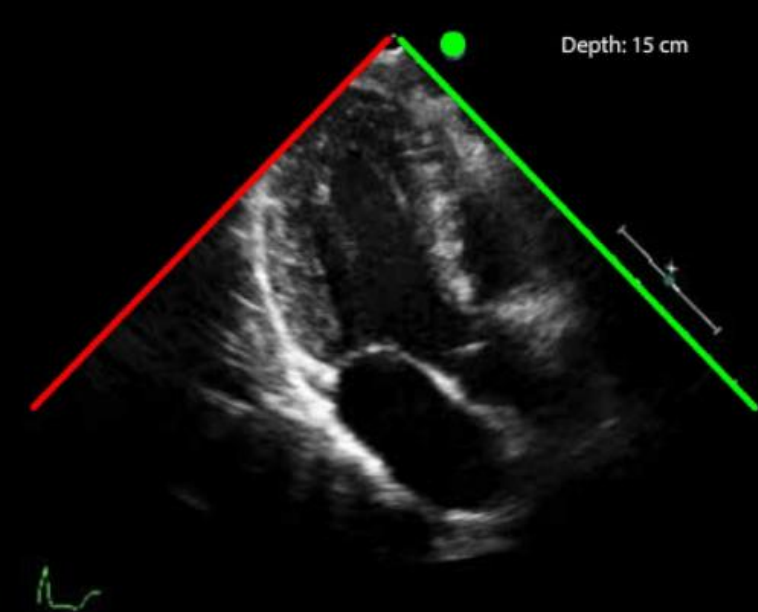
#### Adjust the image gain to:

- visualize the endocardium



# Apical 2 Chamber View





# Apical 3 Chamber view

## Details

### How to Obtain this View

#### Position the TTE transducer:

- modification of the Apical 2 Chamber view
- in the 4th or 5th intercostal space
- in the midclavicular line or at the point of apical pulsation
- from the Apical 2 Chamber view, rotate 45 degrees counterclockwise and tilt anterior
- with the index marker now pointing towards the right shoulder (11 o'clock)

#### Adjust the sector depth to:

- 14-18cm to image the LA

## Details

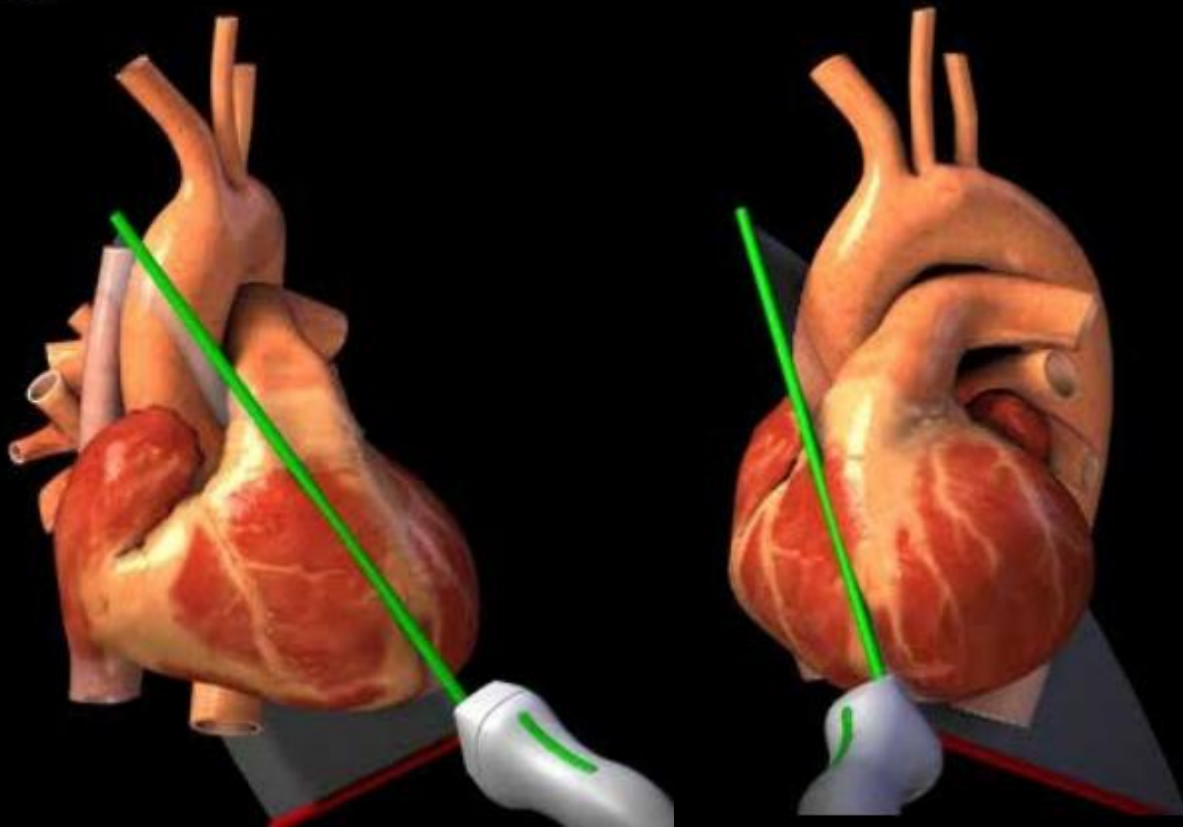
### How to Optimize this View

#### Adjust the TTE probe position to:

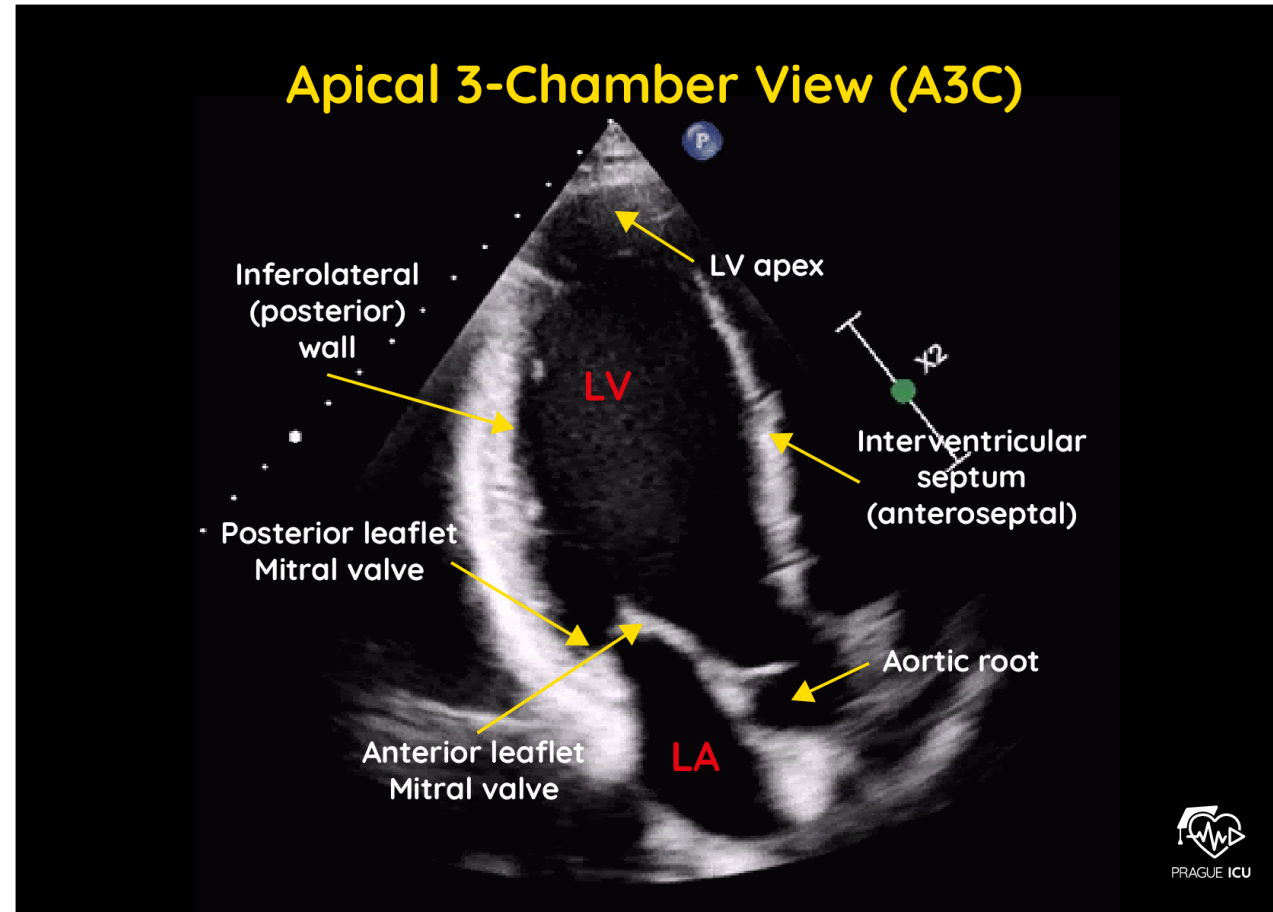
- ensure cardiac chambers are centered (slide probe lateral)
- make the IVS appear vertical
- visualize the AV and LVOT (rotate probe)

#### Adjust the image gain to:

- visualize the endocardium



# Apical 3 Chamber View





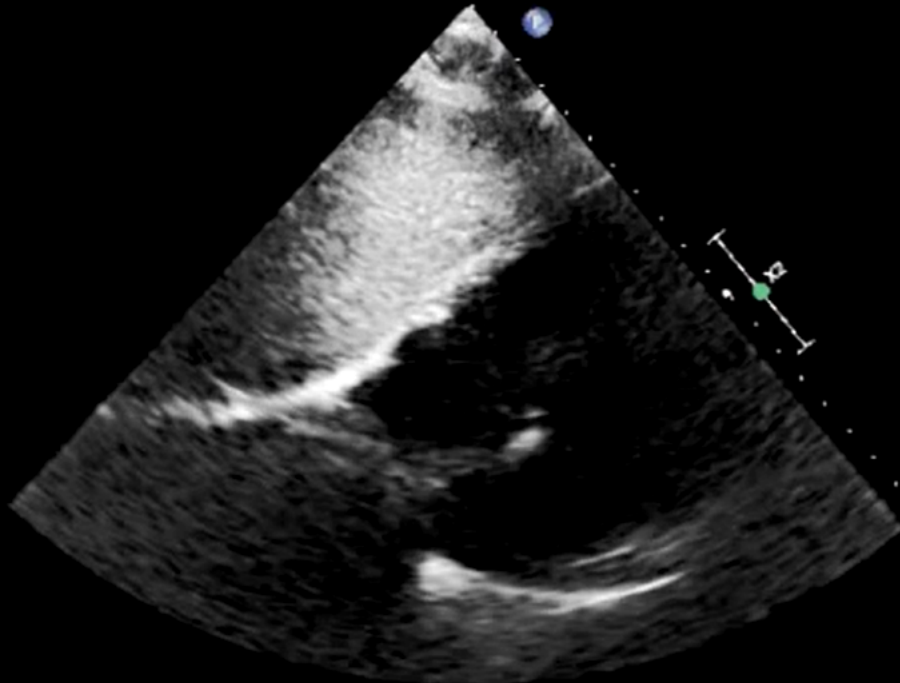
SUB-COSTAL WINDOW



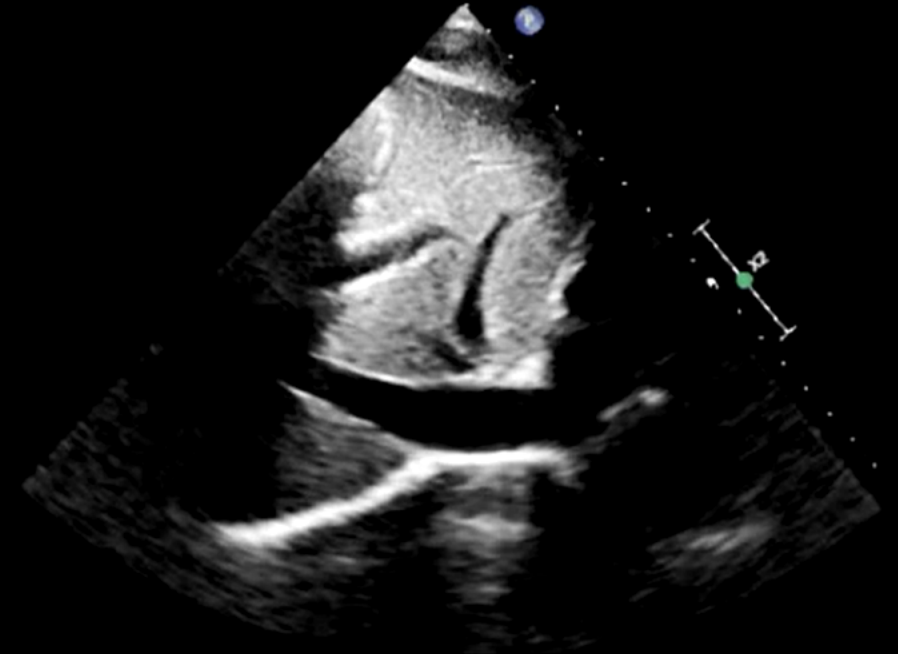
SUB-COSTAL VIEWS



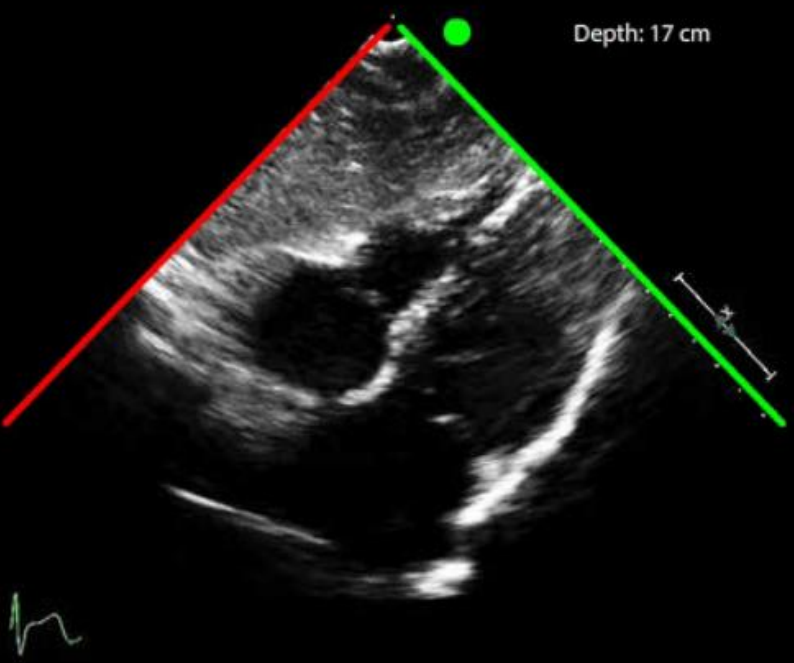
CLASSIC SUB-COSTAL VIEW



PERICARDIAL VIEW



INFERIOR VENA CAVA VIEW



# Subcoastal 4 chamber view

## Details

### How to Obtain this View

#### Position the TTE transducer:

- in the subxiphoid region of the abdomen
- flat and push down with a slight tilt to the patient's right
- with the index marker pointing towards the left (3 o'clock)

#### Adjust the sector depth to:

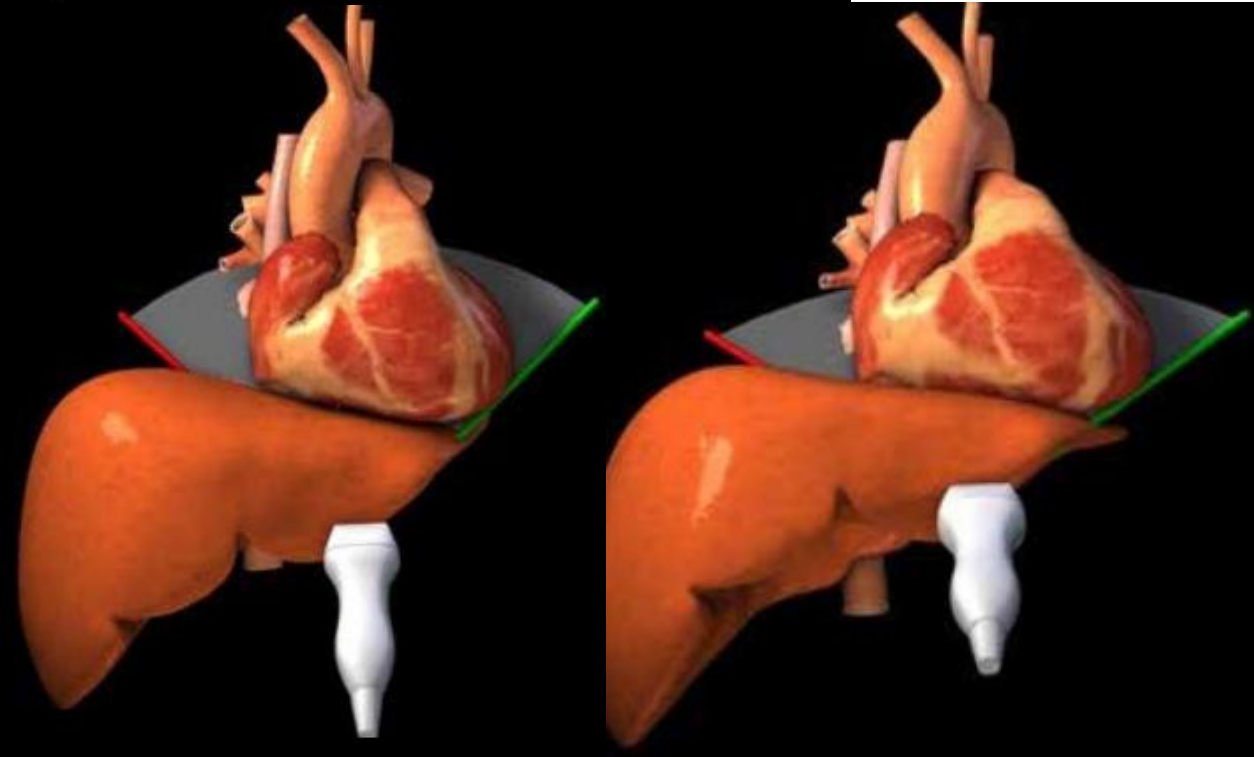
- 16-24cm to image the entire LA and LV

## Details

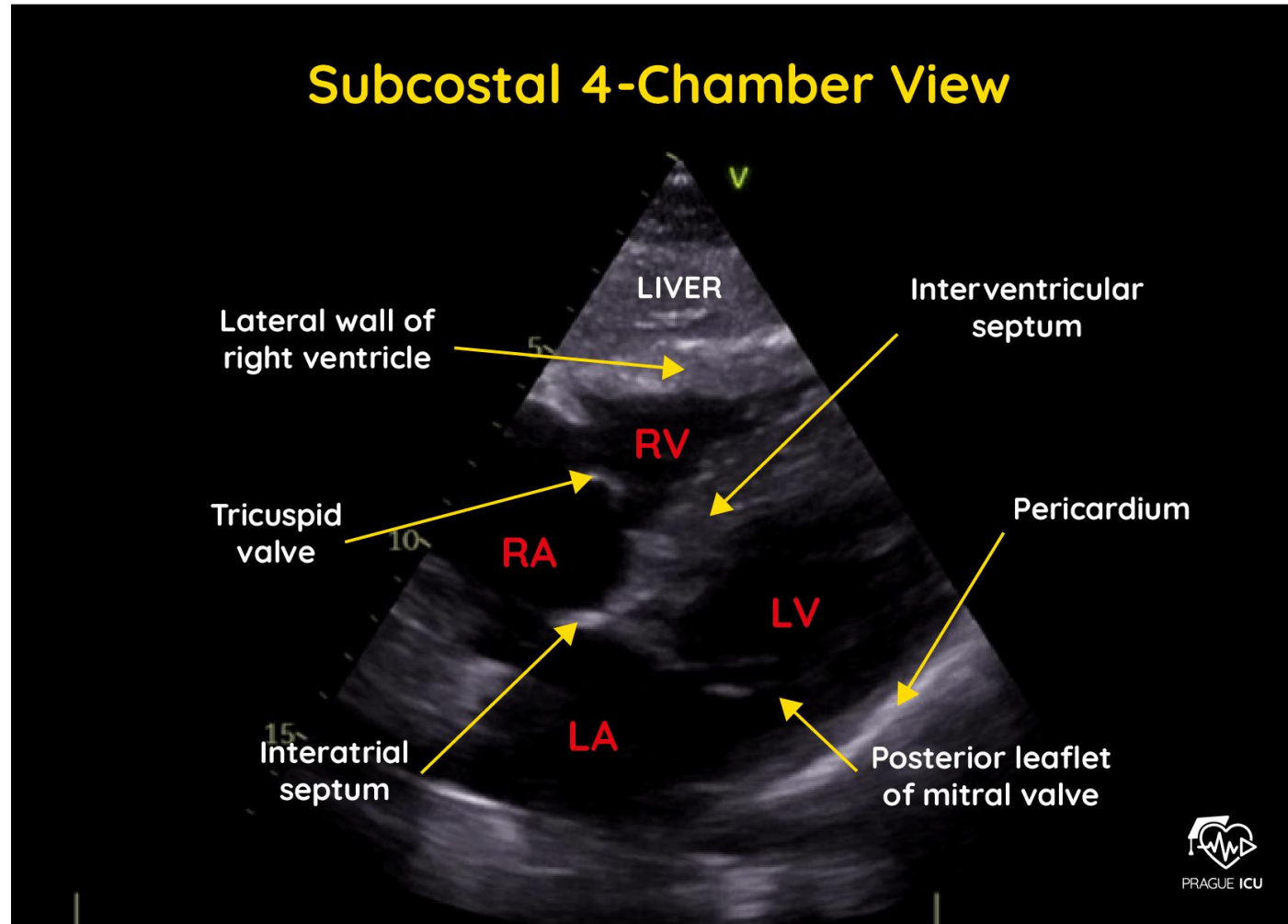
### How to Optimize this View

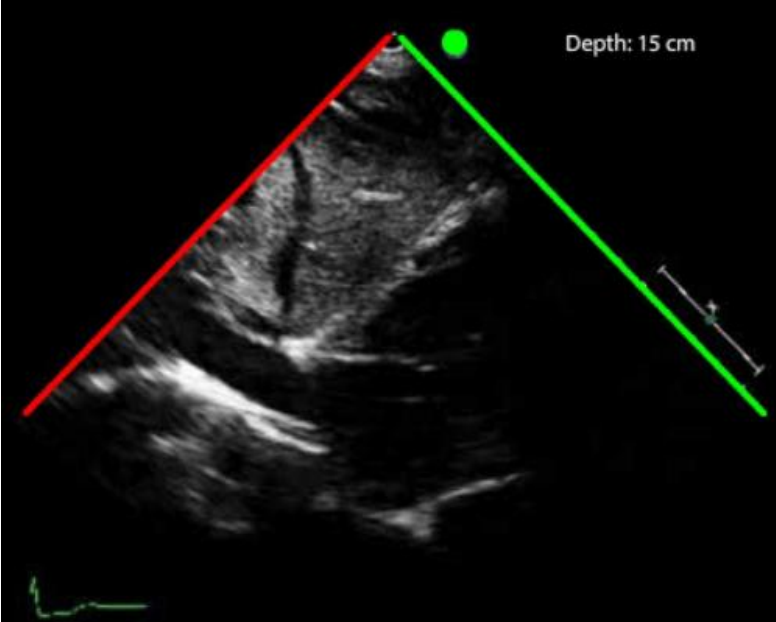
#### Adjust the TTE probe position to:

- view all four cardiac chambers
- see entire LV including apex (slide probe)
- not visualize the AV (if AV seen then tilt probe posterior or rotate the probe)
- lengthen the IVS (rotate probe so marker at 2-3 o'clock)



# Subcoastal 4 chamber view





# Subcoastal - IVC

## Details

### How to Obtain this View

#### Position the TTE transducer:

- modification of the subcostal 4C view
- in the subxiphoid region of the abdomen
- tilt to the patient's left
- from the subcostal 4C view , rotate the probe 90° counterclockwise while keeping the RA in view
- with the index marker pointing towards the head (12 o'clock)

#### Adjust the sector depth to:

- 16-24cm to image the entire IVC

## Details

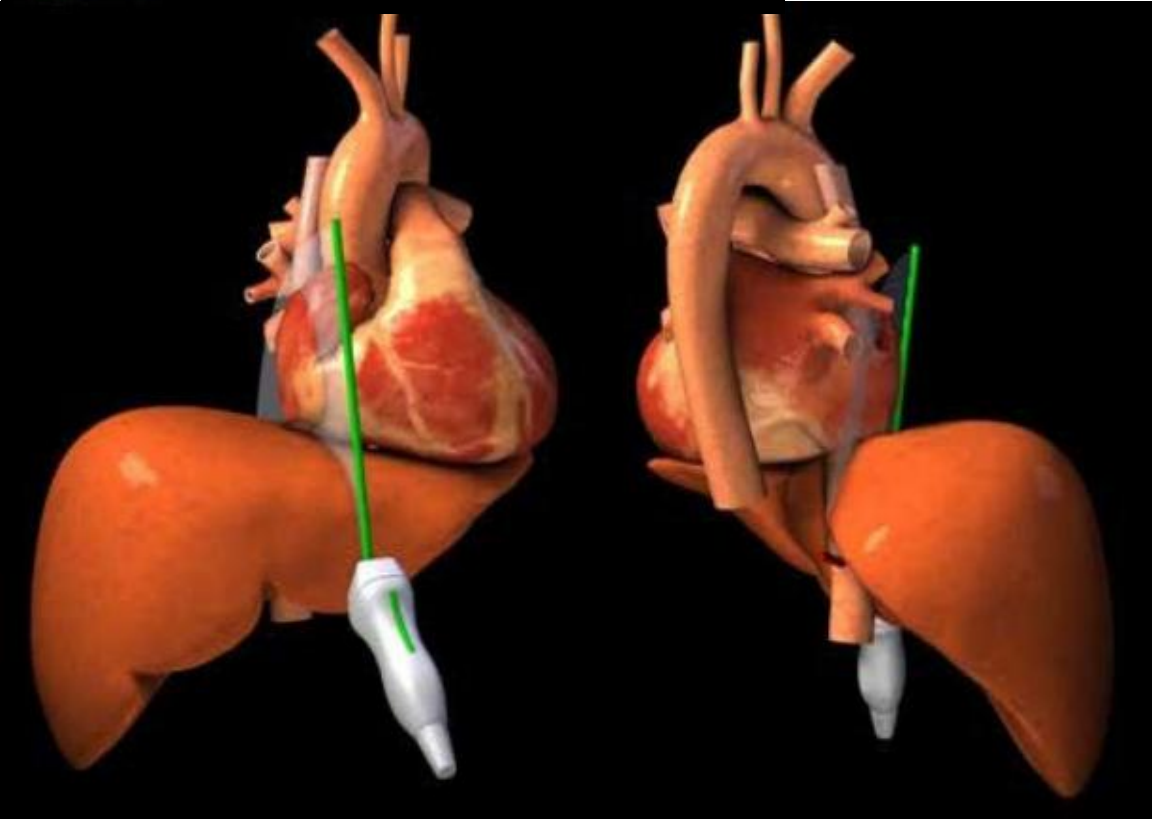
### How to Optimize this View

#### Adjust the TTE probe position to:

- view the junction of the IVC and RA (IVC must be shown to enter the RA)
- make the IVC appear horizontal
- image an hepatic vein

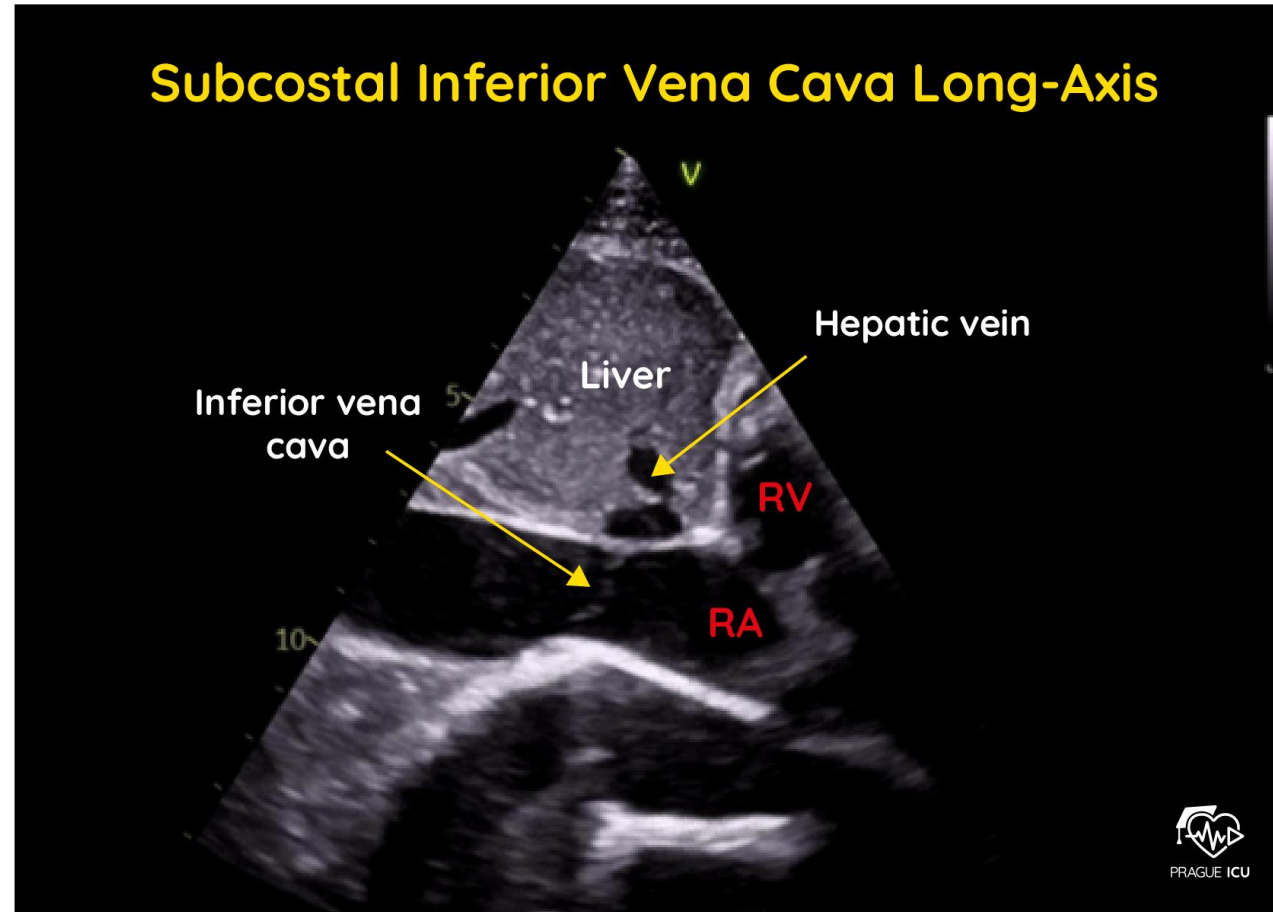
#### Differentiate the IVC from the aorta by:

- look for liver surrounding both sides of IVC
- non-pulsatile IVC, pulsatility of aorta
- IVC goes into RA
- no change in aorta size with respiration
- hepatic vein entering IVC





# Subcoastal - IVC



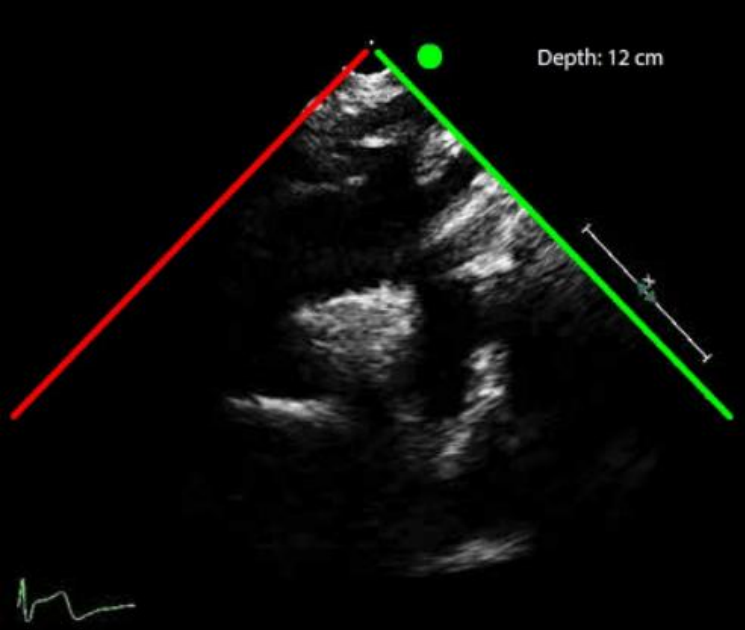
SUPRASTERNAL WINDOW



SUPRASTERNAL VIEW



AORTIC ARCH VIEW



# Suprasternal view

## Details

### How to Obtain this View

#### Position the TTE transducer:

- in the suprasternal notch
- with the index marker pointing towards the left supraclavicular notch (1 o'clock)
- tilt inferior and anterior

#### Adjust the sector depth to:

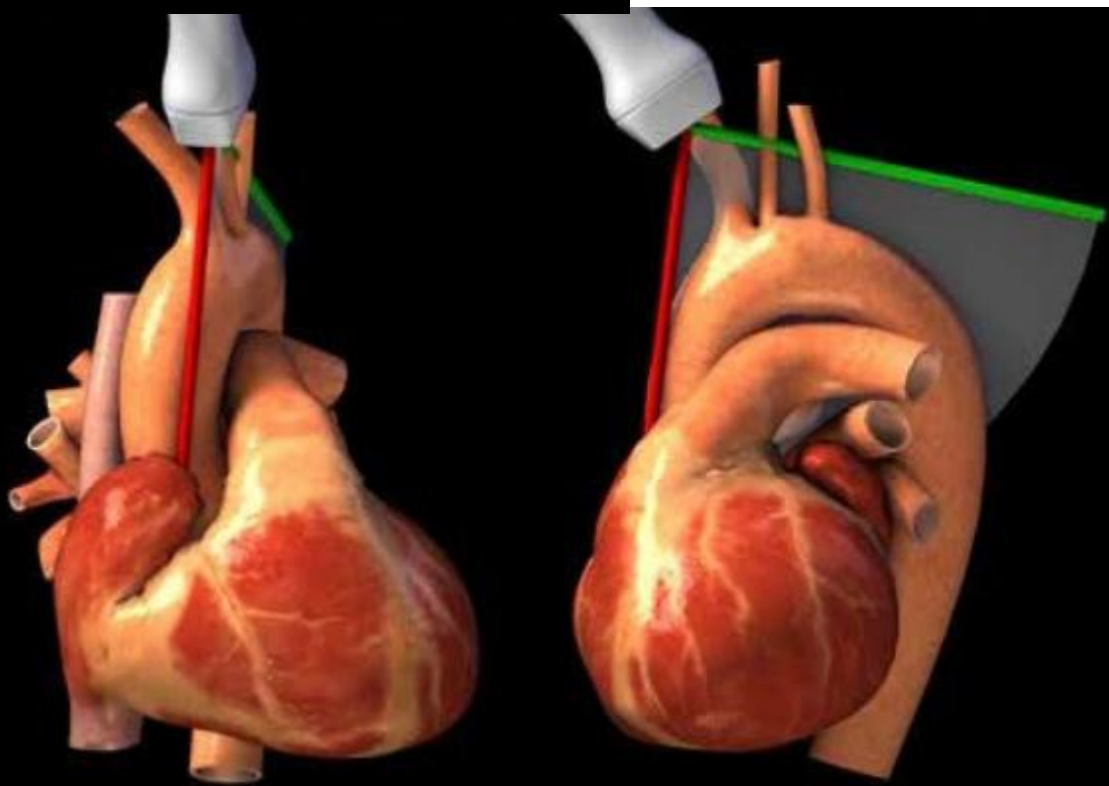
- 10-12cm to image the descending aorta

## Details

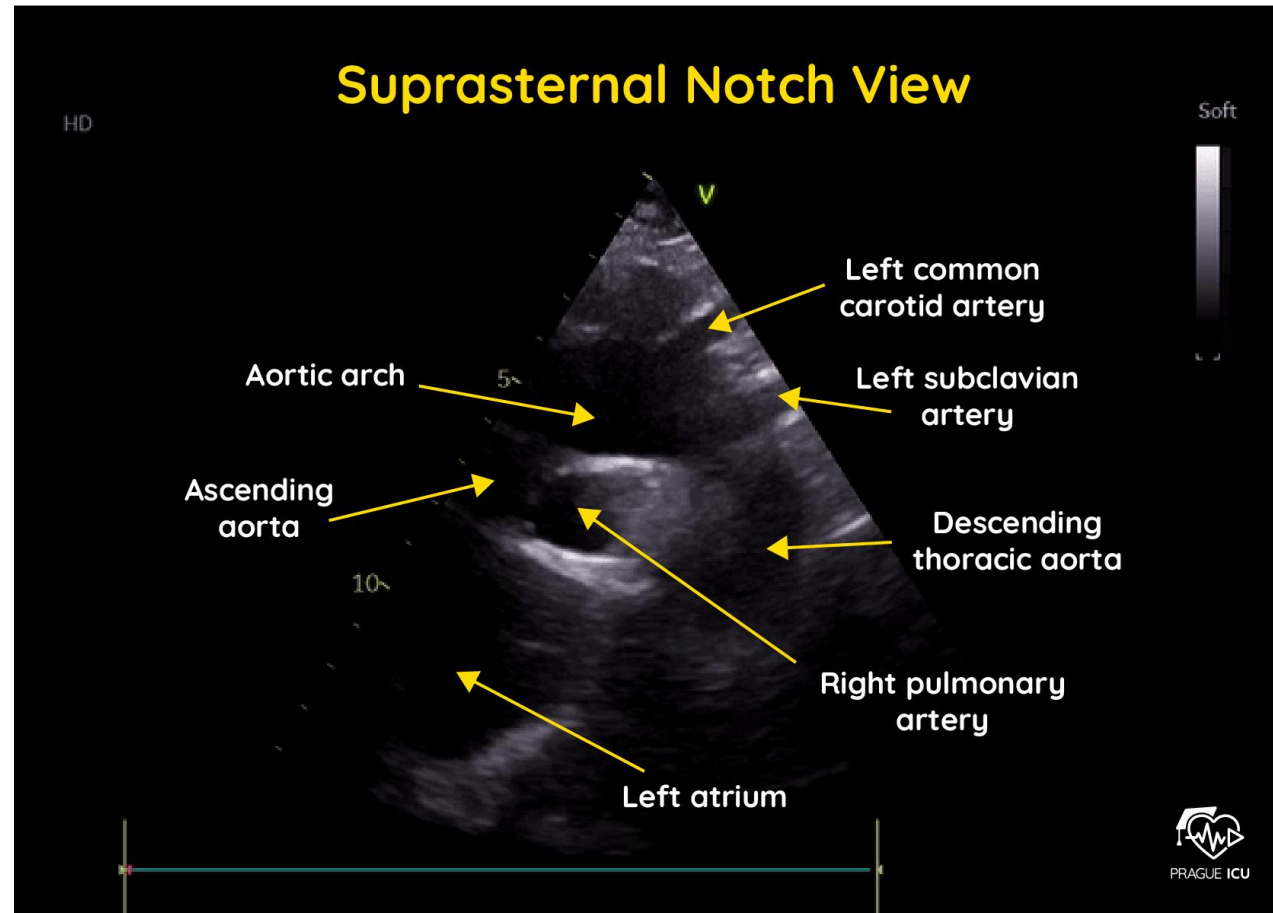
### How to Optimize this View

#### Adjust the TTE probe position to:

- view the descending aorta (tilt more anterior)
- view the head vessels (tilt more posterior)
- open the lumen of the aorta and see arch (rotate probe)



# Suprasternal view

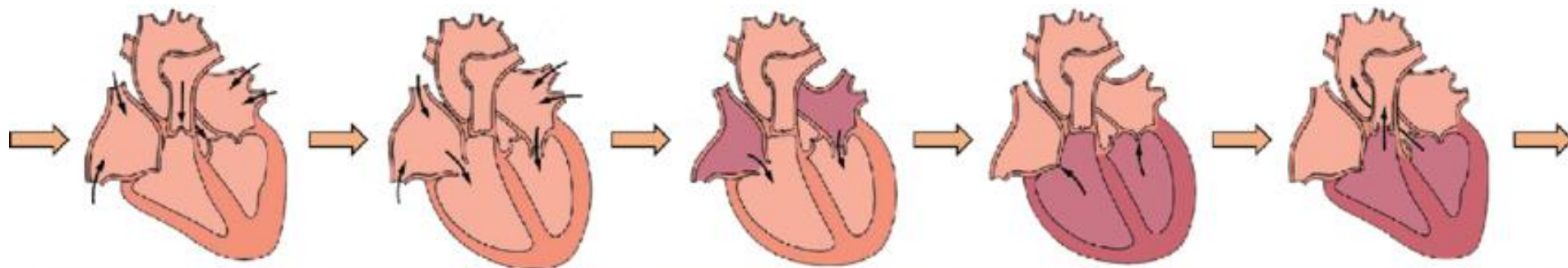




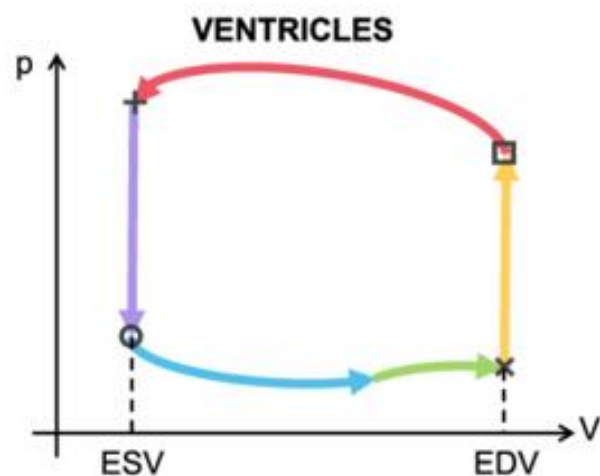
# Physiology of the Heart

# Phases of the cardiac cycle.

- Systole = Ventricular contraction
- Diastole = Ventricular relaxation

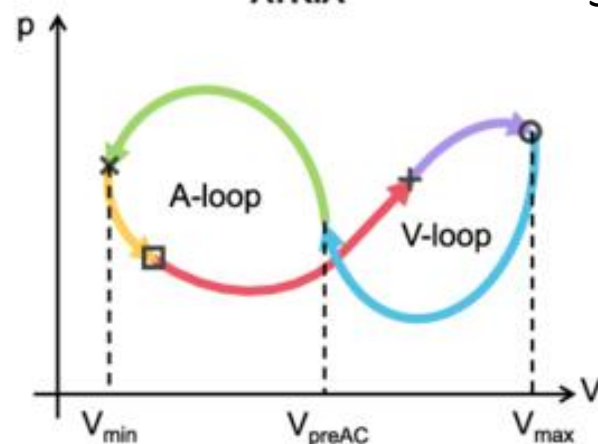


Diastolic phase



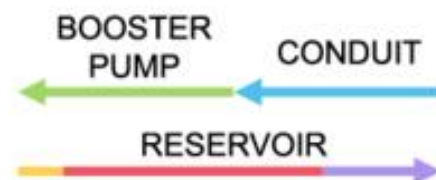
STROKE  
VOLUME

ATRIA



Systolic phase

- MV/TV open
- × MV/TV close
- AV/PV open
- + AV/PV close

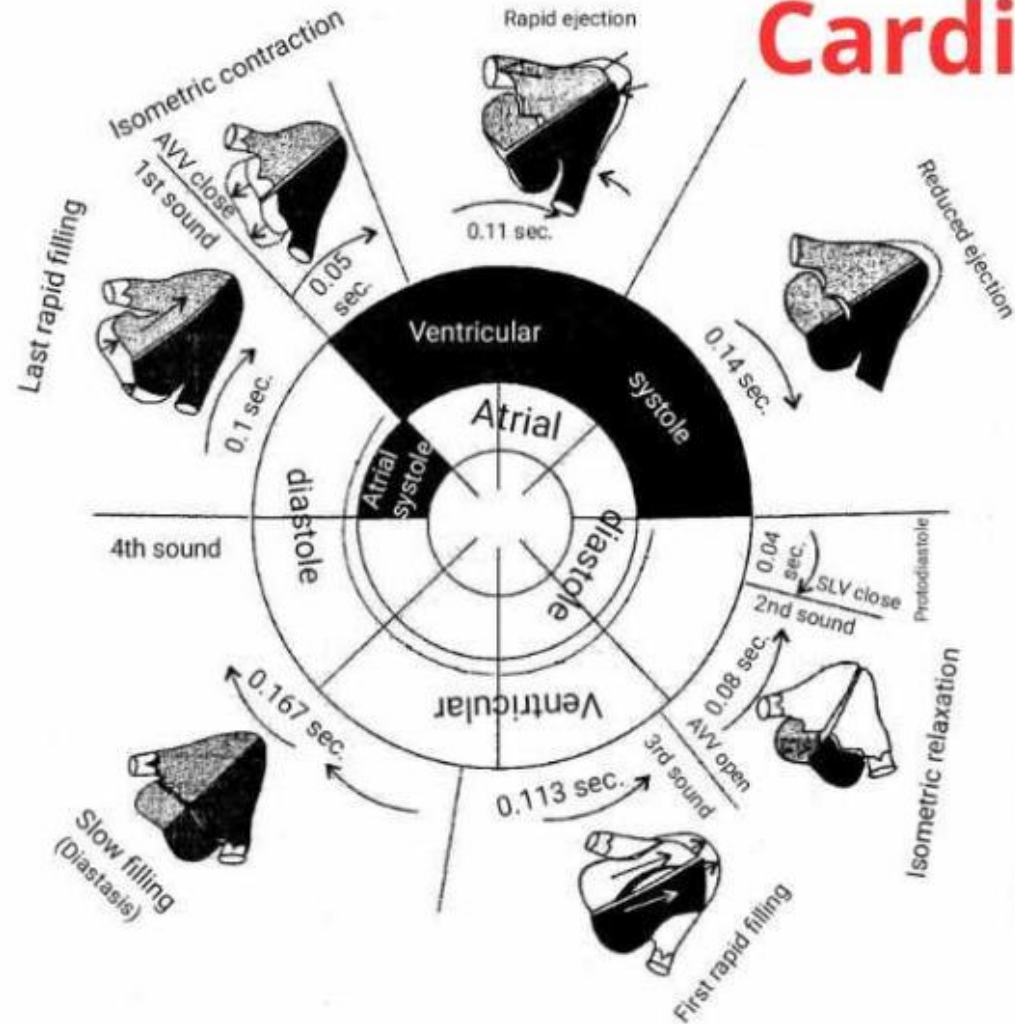


# 5 phases of the cardiac cycle

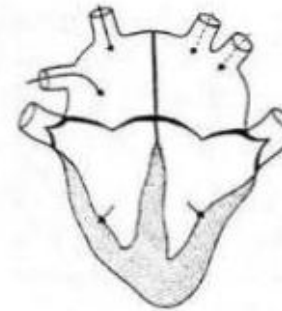
- Isovolumetric relaxation
- Passive filling
- Atrial contraction
- Isovolumetric contraction
- Ejection phase



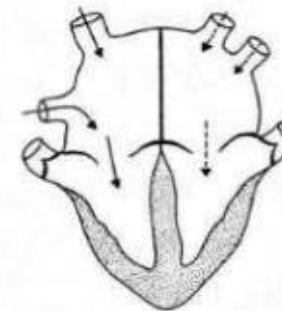
# Cardiac Cycle and its Phases



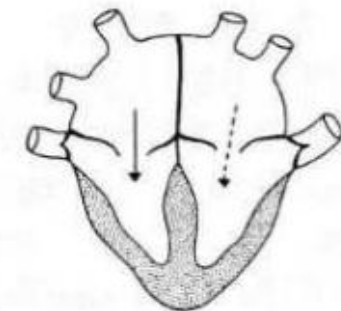
Ventricular Diastole



Isovolumetric relaxation

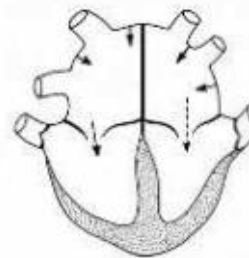


First rapid filling

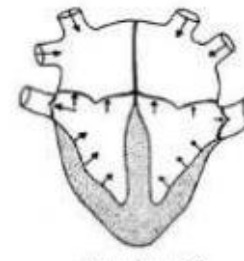


Slow filling

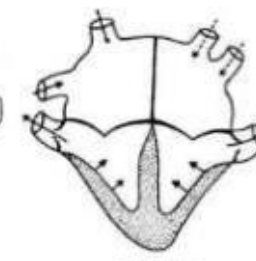
Atrial Systole



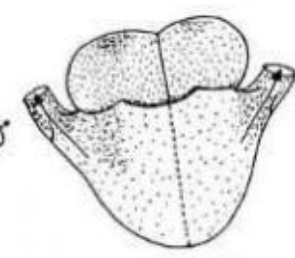
Ventricular Systole



Isovolumetric contraction



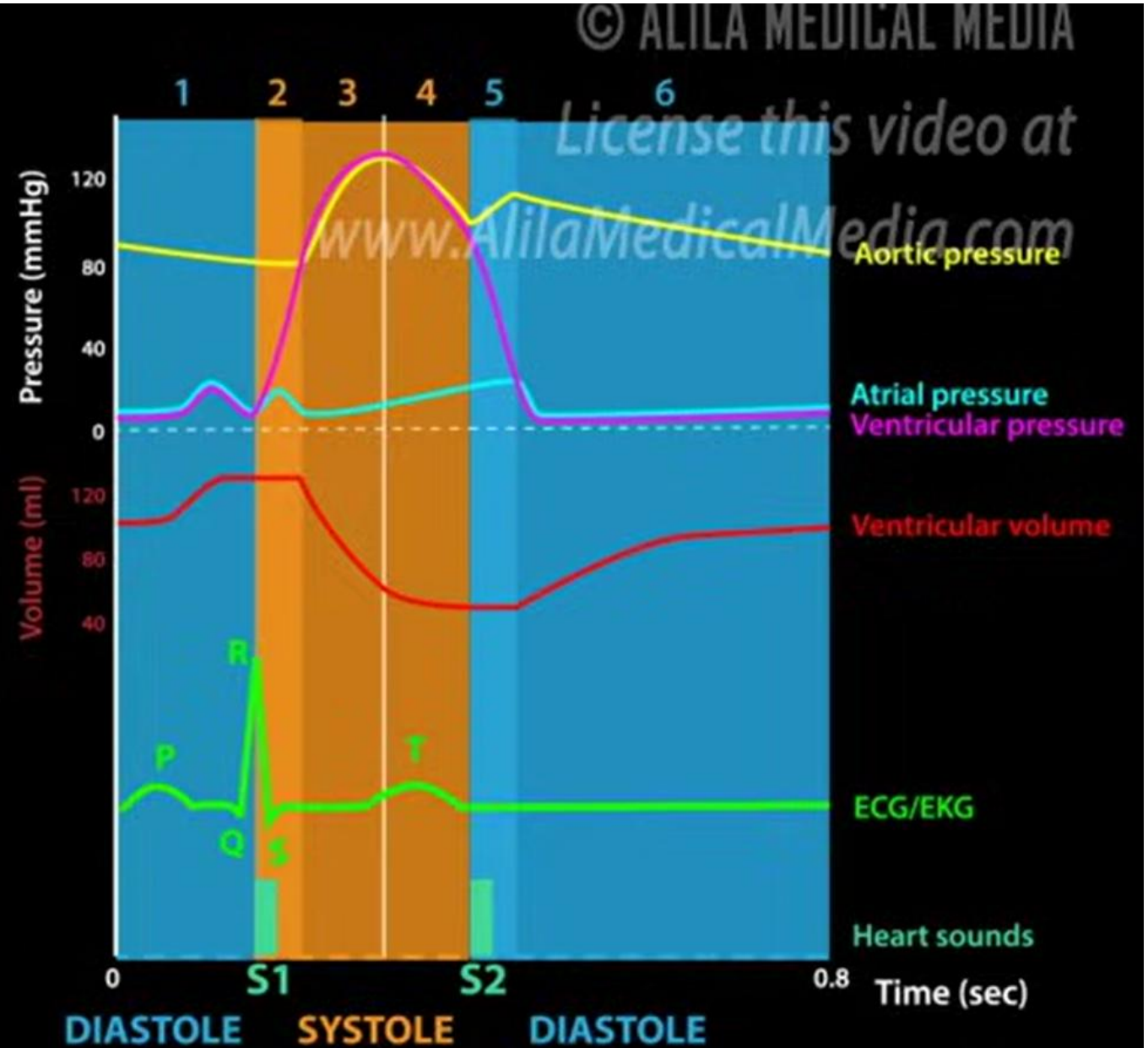
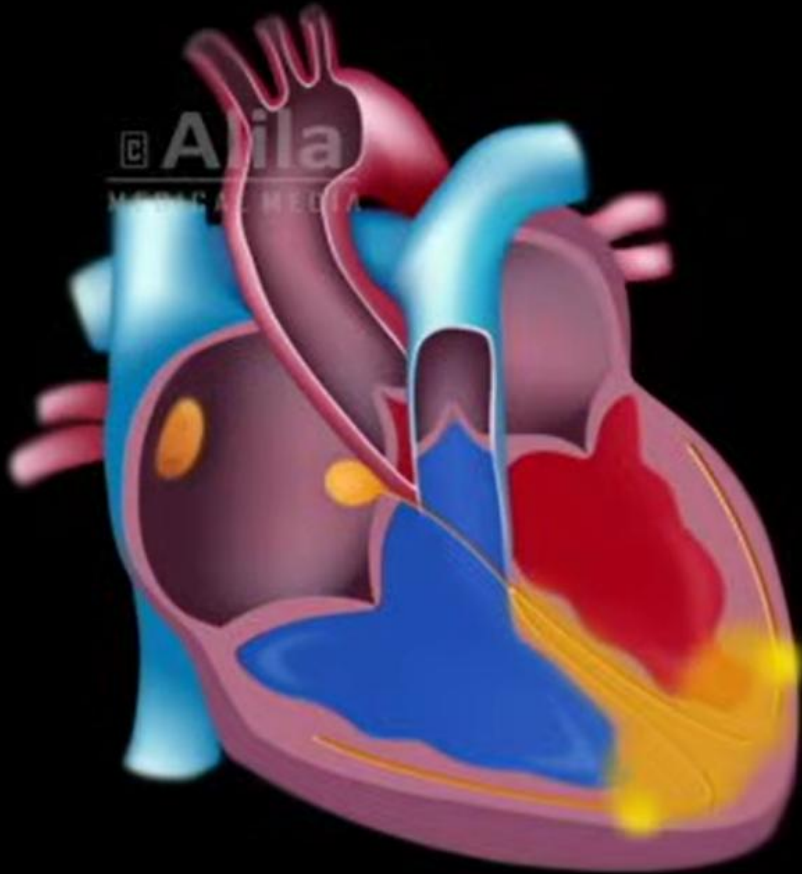
Maximum ejection

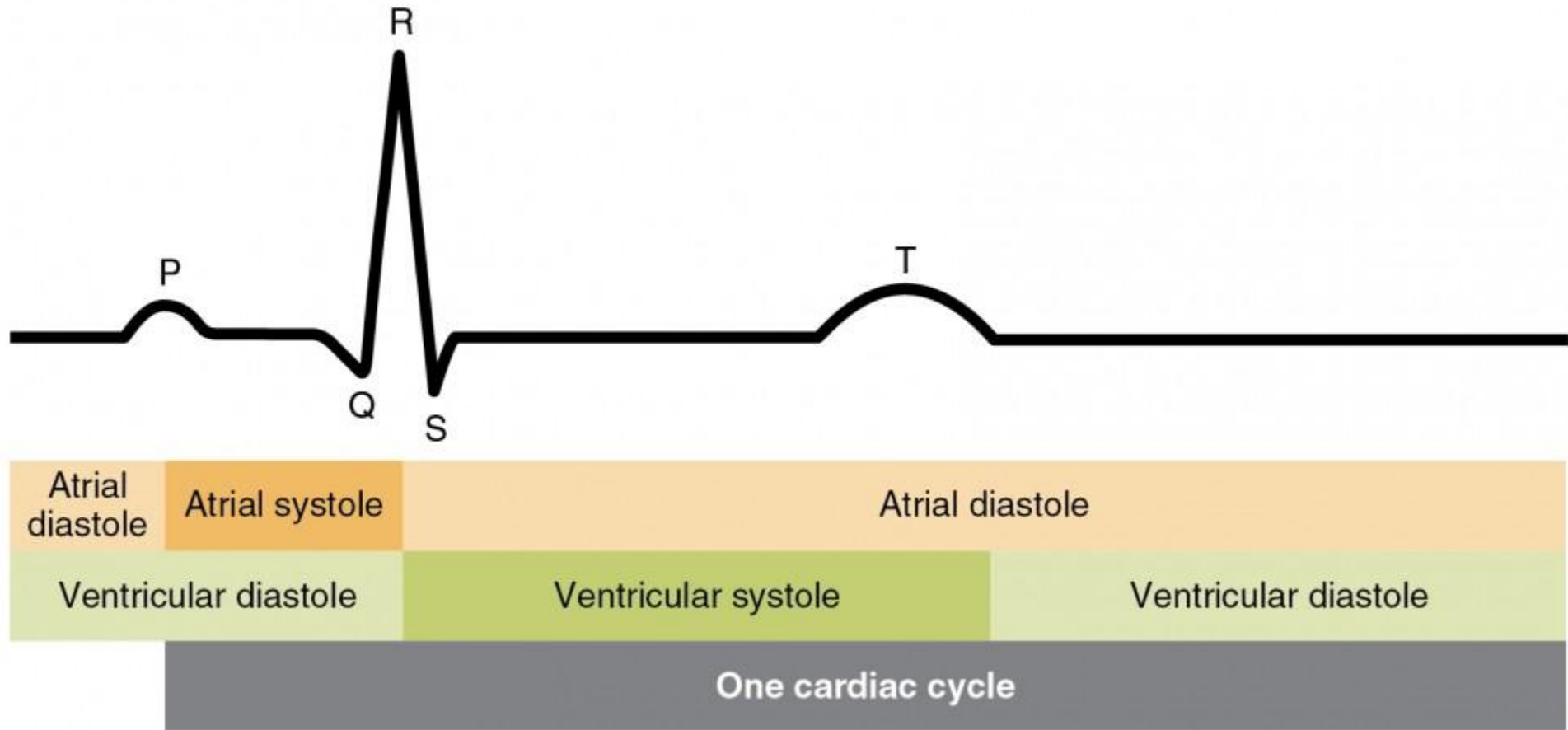


Reduced ejection

# Systole and Diastole

## Cardiac Cycle







The End..



Rome was not built in a day

