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New Developments in Breast Ultrasound

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Breast ultrasound (US) is commonly used in addition to mammography both as a supplemental screening modality for women at an average risk of breast cancer and for diagnostic purposes as well. While B-mode US is the cornerstone of the sonographic breast lesion evaluation, newer techniques have emerged in recent years, offering an insight into molecular and functional tissue properties. At the same time, automated breast US devices offer an alternative to resource-intensive and time-consuming handheld US, especially in the screening setting. With the increased use of artificial intelligence (AI) algorithms in medical imaging, breast US has also benefited from these advancements. Additionally, current research on breast US focuses on the use of AI techniques, not only for differentiating benign from malignant lesions but also for various other applications, some of which are already in clinical use. In this presentation we will introduce novel supplementary US techniques for breast imaging and explore current and potential future applications of AI in breast US. We will also provide an overview of practical applications of these techniques in everyday clinical practice.