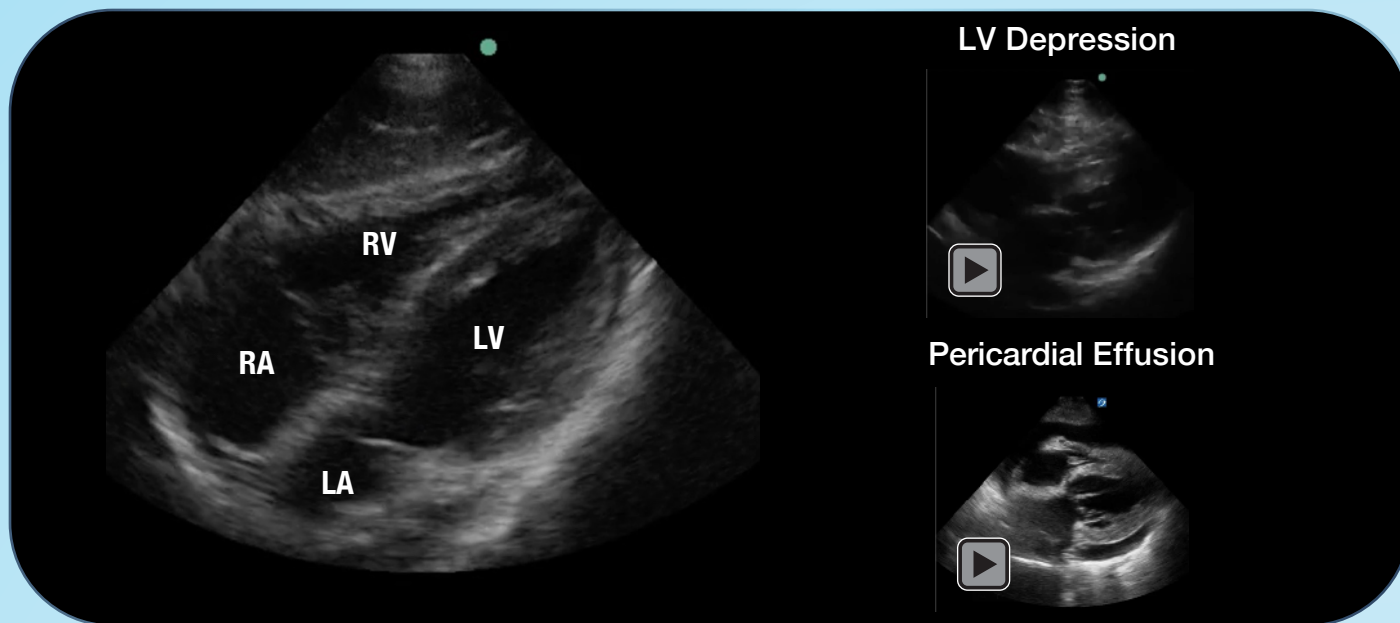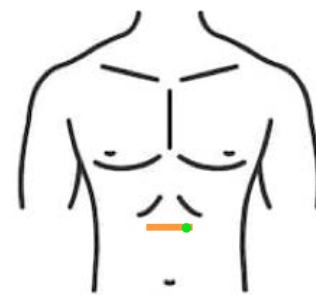# Cardiac SUBX

LV Depression

Pericardial Effusion

Purpose: LV function, identify PCE

Probe: Curvilinear / Phased array

Preset: Abdo (curvilinear) / Cardiac (phased)

Position: Supine (consider flexing knees)

Orientation: Marker to pt R (curvilinear)
Marker to pt L (phased)

Anatomic Landmarks: Inf. to xiphoid

Sono Landmarks: Liver in near field 'window
Find all borders of heart

Area of interest: Pericardium

Images: Sweep (fan) through entire heart, including posteriorly to asses pericardium

Interpretations: PCE will be anechoic stripe that follows contour of heart. While some may be circumferential, small effusions may only be seen posteriorly

NOTE: If the stripe is enlarging posteriorly, is consistent with dependent fluid and PCE. If stripe disappears posteriorly, more likely epicardial fat pad

Troubleshooting: Have patient bend knees
Have patient take deep breath (brings heart caudally towards probe)
Use more liver as acoustic window

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