

## Musculoskeletal imaging

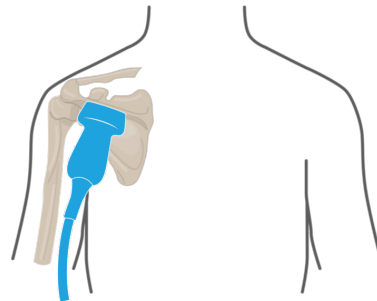
# RECOGNIZING A SHOULDER DISLOCATION

Point-of-care ultrasound can aid in the management of shoulder dislocations by allowing rapid confirmation of a clinical diagnosis, guiding delivery of an intra-articular anesthetic, and providing a method to confirm reduction at the bedside.

### Technique

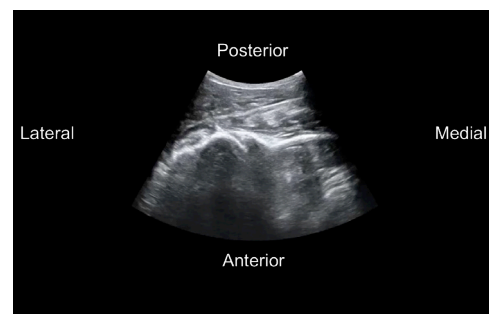
A low frequency curvilinear transducer will be best for most patients. In pediatric or small patients a high frequency linear transducer may be sufficient.

Place the transducer on the posterior aspect of the shoulder along the spine of the scapula.



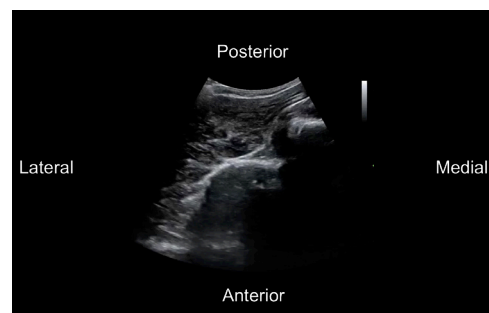
### Anatomy

In patients with a well-located shoulder, the humeral head and scapular spine should appear parallel.



### Dislocation

Patients with an anterior shoulder dislocation will have the humeral head displaced into the far field of the ultrasound image.



In a posterior dislocation, the humeral head will appear displaced towards the near field of the ultrasound image.

