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Ultrasound's Value in Evaluating Cubital Tunnel Syndrome

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We congratulate An et al. on their paper entitled “The Prevalence of Cubital Tunnel Syndrome: A Cross-Sectional Study in a U.S. Metropolitan Cohort.” The authors found a prevalence of cubital tunnel syndrome of 1.8% to 5.9% and discussed limitations in the diagnosis of this disease.

In their discussion, the authors mentioned ultrasound as one modality in the multidimensional evaluation of cubital tunnel syndrome. This tool can morphologically study the nerves, define the precise site of nerve involvement, and provide some information about the severity of impairment. Ultrasound also allows a precise measurement of nerve dimensions and enables detailed localization of any enlargement.

In addition, ultrasound permits the visualization of the relationships between the nerve and the

surrounding structures during elbow movements. In particular, ultrasound can depict ulnar nerve luxation or subluxation during the maximal flexion of the forearm. Finally, ultrasound can depict anatomical variations, such as an abnormal course of the nerve or the presence of accessory or atypical structures (1, 2). This information can help support the planning of the appropriate surgery and rehabilitation, even when the presenting symptoms are inconclusive (3, 4).

References

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Conflict of Interest: None Declared