

## EAA Course in Male Genital Tract and Penile Ultrasound

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The European Academy of Andrology (EAA) Executive Council recently approved the establishment of an “EAA Ultrasound School” focusing on “Male Genital Tract and Penile Ultrasound” with a dedicated multicenter course. EAA Ultrasound Course objective is to offer a high-quality level training to physicians interested in andrological ultrasound. This will help to a) create high-quality level operators in andrological ultrasound, and b) standardize the method of Male Genital Tract and Penile Ultrasound in Europe.

#### Why obtaining EAA ultrasound certification?

There are many reasons for obtaining EAA certification, including achievement of high-level skills in andrological ultrasound, ability to compare methods with other centers, access to multicenter studies and follow the underlying principles of the EU Cross Border Health Care Directive, which has brought to surface the need of transparency and quality control.

#### EAA Ultrasound Course

The Course will be held at the EAA Centers of Florence and Rome. It consists of:

- *Application (deadline the 21<sup>th</sup> of September 2019). Every year maximum 6 fellows (EAA affiliated members have a priority access to the course)*
- *Evaluation of the attendants' skills*
- **Initial theoretical part** made of frontal lessons and videos. This part will be held *in a single day* and will host all the fellows. Lessons will cover male genital tract and penile clinical and ultrasound anatomy, ultrasound normal and abnormal patterns, as follows:
  - ✓ **Scrotal colour-Doppler ultrasound**
    - scrotal anatomy (scrotum, testis, epididymis and vas deferens, pampiniform plexus);
    - scrotal organs: normal echo-patterns;
    - scrotal organs: abnormal echo-patterns (testis hypotrophy, inhomogeneity and hypoechogenicity, cryptorchidism, calcifications, inflammation; epididymal dilation, inflammation, echo-pattern abnormalities; vas deferens dilation and agenesis) with seminal and hormonal correlations; varicocele.
    - testicular lesions: non-neoplastic lesions: cysts [intratesticular cysts, tunica albuginea and tunica vaginalis cysts, rete testis dilation, epidermoid and dermoid cysts], global and segmental ischemia, abscess, adrenal rest, sarcoidosis, post biopsy scars, testicular gummas, intratesticular hematomas; neoplastic lesions (germ cell tumors, stromal cells tumors, others); contrast-enhanced ultrasound (CEUS); elastosonography; MRI of testicular lesions; US-guided clinical approach to incidental testicular lesions.
  - ✓ **Transrectal colour-Doppler ultrasound**
    - Transrectal anatomy (prostate, seminal vesicles, distal vas deferens);
    - Prostate, seminal vesicles and deferential ampullas normal echo-patterns;
    - Prostate, seminal vesicles and deferential ampullas abnormal echo-patterns (benign prostatic hyperplasia, prostatic hypoplasia, inflammation, calcifications, parenchymal and midline cysts, tumors; ejaculatory ducts dilation, calcifications or cysts; seminal vesicles and deferential ampullas dilation or agenesis, seminal vesicles echo-pattern abnormalities, seminal vesicles modification with ejaculation) with seminal and hormonal correlations.
  - ✓ **Penile colour-Doppler ultrasound**
    - Penis anatomy
    - Penile colour-Doppler ultrasound: normal patterns (flaccid and dynamic colour-Doppler ultrasound)
    - Penile colour-Doppler ultrasound: abnormal patterns (erectile dysfunction; La Peyronie disease; priapism).
- **Practical part: ultrasound sessions.** Attendants will follow ultrasound sessions of scrotal, transrectal and penile ultrasound individually under supervision. This part lasts 4 weeks (either consecutive or 4 times one week, upon agreement with the fellow). Fellows will attend 2 weeks at the EAA Center of Florence and 2 weeks at the EAA Center of Rome.
- Final theoretical and practical (hands-on) exam to be performed upon obtaining 25 credits\*.
- EAA ultrasound course certification.

#### \*Accreditation process

- 25 EAA credits must be collected to obtain EAA ultrasound certification.  
1 credit = direct clinical contact of 5 new cases; 1 credit = course attendance. 120 new cases of ultrasound are planned plus a theoretical part.
- It is not required to collect “consecutive” credits. Credits will be signed by the teacher in a booklet after each new ultrasound or course activity. 25 credits must be obtained in 12 months.

#### Faculty:

##### Coordinators

- Francesco Lotti (University of Florence)  
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- Andrea M. Isidori (“Sapienza” University of Rome)  
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##### Faculty members

- Daniele Gianfrilli (“Sapienza” University of Rome)
- Elisa Maseroli (University of Florence)
- Carlotta Pozza (“Sapienza” University of Rome)
- Matteo Rossi (University of Florence)