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Neuromuscular Ultrasound: Current Challenges, Advances, and Future Applications

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Message from the Guest Editor

Diagnostic ultrasound represents an irreplaceable tool in physicians' hands able to provide mainly (but not exclusively) morphological information about the tissues. In neuromuscular disorders, since the first applications, the ability of ultrasound to depict the characteristics of nerves and muscles has been continuously shown.

The importance of ultrasound is not only limited to the diagnostic field. In fact, it directly delivers data fundamental for the surgical plan, when required. Furthermore, ultrasound is essential for specific interventions; for example, the use of ultrasound in drug administration allows avoiding side effects due to blind injections. Even rehabilitation can be assisted by ultrasound, obtaining specific outcomes about nerves and structure, like the dimension and the echogenicity.

Nevertheless, ultrasound recently showed its potential capability to assess the organs from different points of view. In particular, the application of postprocessing image analysis and the use of elastography has opened new doors for the use of ultrasound in medicine. New developments are ongoing and new facets of this fascinating technique probably wait to be explored.











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