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Thursday, 14 October 2021

Dr Karen Mizia
President
The Australasian Society for Ultrasound in Medicine
Suite 501, 11 Help Street
Chatswood NSW 2067 Australia

Via email to: l.lu@asum.com.au

Dear Dr Mizia,

Thank you for the opportunity to review the Australasian Society for Ultrasound in Medicine (ASUM) Colour Duplex Doppler Ultrasound Extracranial Carotid Artery Disease draft guideline. This document has been reviewed by the Vascular Special Interest Group (SIG) for the Australasian Sonographers Association (ASA).

Their review of this consultation draft recognised the quality of the criteria specified in the guideline, noting a couple of adjustments that could improve the statement at Section 1.2 'Scope'. The ASA also acknowledges that there is variance across Australia on the criteria used in these ultrasound examinations. This variance can often be attributed to the local protocols and experience of the respective vascular surgeon.

The ASA is pleased to support this guideline in principle. We recommend the following adjustments to section 1.2 'Scope':

- state more clearly that this is not diagnostic criteria and how the information is intended for use if this is the intention of the guideline
- replace the word 'laboratories' with "practices" or "providers".

The ASA also strongly recommends that the ASUM seek feedback on the guideline from the Society of Vascular Surgery before publishing the document.

If you require any additional information to support this feedback, please write to me directly or contact the ASA Policy and Advocacy Advisor, James Brooks-Dowsett, by phone at +61 406 998 429 or email to policy@sonographers.org.

Thank you again for the opportunity to provide feedback on the guideline. The ASA looks forward to continued collaboration with the ASUM to support high-quality ultrasound services for Australian and New Zealand communities.

Yours sincerely,

Ian Schroen

President of the Board
The Australasian Sonographers Association