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Title: Use of ultrasonography in the diagnosis of dysbaric osteonecrosis

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Abstract: Comparisons between x-ray and B-mode ultrasonic examinations were carried out in 32 divers in both shoulders and both hips (128 comparisons in all). The x-rays showed dysbaric osteonecrosis (DON) in 46 sites; in 43 of these, the B-mode ultrasonogram result coincided with the x-ray finding. We suggest that B-mode ultrasonograms can depict the location, form, and size of the lesions. It is an easy, efficient, and noninvasive method of diagnosing DON, worthy of further investigation and application. Similar good agreement between x-rays and ultrasonograms was found with the now-obsolete A-mode technique.

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