

3-T MRI advancing on ultrasound for imaging fetal abnormalities

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Although ultrasound remains the primary imaging modality used in prenatal imaging, fetal MRI is playing an increasing role in further evaluation of fetuses suspected of congenital anomalies. As 3-T MRI scanners become more common due to their improved image signal-to-noise ratio and anatomical detail, the benefits of 3-T MRI must be weighed against potential risks to the fetus that may result from the higher field strength.

"MRI is playing an increasingly important role in the assessment of complex prenatal disease," said Kathleen E. Carey, MD, Mayo Clinic, Jacksonville, FL. "The use of stronger 3-T field strengths may allow for improved visualization of subcutaneous fat and osseous structures, including the hands and feet of the developing fetus."

The study is featured in an electronic exhibit at the ARRS 2015 Annual Meeting in Toronto.

More information: View the abstract

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