What does a PE look like?

YES!

Does this Patient have a PE?

What factors can limit the Study?

- Noise Artifact
- Patient Motion
- Fluid Accumulation
- Diminished Contrast
- Cardiac Output

Noise Artifact

Patient Motion
**Valsalva**

- **Intra-thoracic pressure**
  - Temporarily interrupts venous return into SVC (also from arm veins)

- **Intra-abdominal pressure**
  - Temporarily increases venous return from IVC

Unopacified blood enters right atrium and pulmonary arterial tree

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**Inadequate Opacification**

- **Ao HU 261**
- **MPA HU 197**

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**Smartprep ROI Placement**

Correct

Incorrect

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**Example of too small, and suboptimal Smartprep ROI placement**

- Should have started here
Pregnant PE studies

- Hypercoagulable

- 50% of the deaths occur during pregnancy are from PE’s

- Cannot control increased cardiac output

PE Studies

- Make the Patient Comfortable

- Fulfill normal protocol

- We cannot control every factor, mistakes happen

- Good quality PE studies help improve our patient care!

Pulmonary Embolism

Thank you for your undivided attention!

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The End