EMUG NSW and ECI
Emergency Focused Ultrasound Checklist

BEFORE SCANNING:

1. What is the clinical **binary** question? (Answer: Yes/No/Indeterminate)

2. How will this scan **change** patient management?

3. **Machine:**
   a. Check no dangling machine leads. (Common cause of damage to probes)
   b. Check peripherals e.g.: Gel? Bath towel? Cleaning solution/wipes?
      Patient info sheets? Long 45mm 20G cannulas?
   c. Is the machine clean? Clean the probes and console in front of the patient.

4. **Patient:**
   a. Verbal consent? Info sheet? Sufficient analgesia?
   b. Enter minimum 4 data points into machine:
      MRN / First name/Last name/ User initials (DOB/Indication optional)
      (Select **temporary ID if time critical,** can attach patient data after)

5. **Position:** Patient / Bed (suitable height)/ machine (right side?)
   Dim the lights

6. **Select probe & preset** *(think frequency for depth / resolution trade off)*:
   Probe: Curvilinear/Linear/Sector (a.k.a. 'cardiac')
   Preset: Abdominal/vascular/lung/cardiac, etc

SCANNING:

7. **Orientation marker** towards the patient's Head or Right in non-cardiac US.
   (Note, Echo traditionally has marker on screen Right instead of Left)

8. **Label** (e.g. L, R, PLAx) & **Save** images (cineloops if possible).

9. Regularly adjust Depth, Gain and Frequency to **optimize the image**.

AFTER SCANNING:

10. **Patient:** thanks and ensure gel cleaned off with bath towel.

11. **Machine:** end the case, clean the probes, hook in cables, return machine to usual area and plug in.

12. **Document** your findings in notes (depending on local protocol if trainee user)

13. **Ongoing learning/QA:**
    Recommend recording details in your US logbook or your 'US cases' list on eMR.
    Review your images against radiology performed US, CT and pathology reports from OT. Save your images onto USB immediately/monthly, and review with supervisor if available.
    Email EMUGSydney@gmail.com to help find local supervisors.