Identification of a relatively hypoechoic or echo-free space surrounded by typical anatomic boundaries: diaphragm, chest wall, ribs, visceral pleura, normal/consolidated/atelectatic lung

Identification of liver and ascites, spleen, kidney, heart, pericardium and pericardial effusion, spinal column, aorta, inferior vena cava

Identification of characteristic dynamic findings of pleural fluid, such as diaphragmatic motion, floating lung, dynamic fluid motion, respirophasic shape change

Characterization of fluid: anechoic; echogenicity (using liver/spleen as reference); homogeneous or heterogeneous; presence of strands/debris/septations

Performance of semi quantitative assessment of fluid volume

Identification of miscellaneous findings, such as pleural based masses or thickening

Recognition of specific limitations of ultrasonography to identify pleural fluid, such as inadequate image quality due to technical limitations, subcutaneous emphysema, hemothorax, echo-dense purulent fluid, mimics of effusion such as mesothelioma or pleural fibrosis

Knowledge of the basic terminology of lung ultrasound: A lines, B lines, sliding lung, lung point

Identification and characterization of consolidated lung: identification of tissue density lung, with or without air bronchograms

Identification and characterization of air artifacts suggestive of the normal aeration pattern: A lines with sliding lung

Identification and characterization of air artifacts suggestive of alveolar interstitial pattern: number and location of B lines

Knowledge of the limitations of not visualizing lung sliding/B lines

Identification and characterization of air artifacts to rule out pneumothorax: presence of sliding lung, presence of B lines

Identification and characterization of findings that rule in pneumothorax: presence of lung point (both by 2D mode and M-mode)