http://ccm.anest.ufl.edu/education/ultrasound

B lines are thought to be formed from thickened interlobular septa of the alveoli. The exact amount of thickness that changes the lung ultrasound findings from A lines to B lines is not well understood.

1. What anatomical change is suspected to be responsible for appearance of the "B" line?

A. Massive fluid collection in all parts of the lung
B. Thickened interlobular septa of alveoli
C. Thickened lung line
D. Thickened lung tissue with fluid

A/B profile is suggestive of pneumonia, not pulmonary edema. Pulmonary edema from any cause should show a more symmetric findings and B lines should be present on both sides

2. T or F: An A/B profile suggests pulmonary edema on the side of the B findings

A. True
B. False

1		
2		
3		

3. What does the 3 in B3 lines indicate?

A. There are 3 B lines present on the acoustic window examined
B. The B lines are 3 mm apart on the acoustic window examined
C. There are 3 locations where B lines are found on the chest wall
D. None of the above, no such thing as B3 lines

One B line can be normal or from fissures, B7 lines indicate B lines that are 7 mm apart, B3 lines indicated lines that are 3 mm apart, and B lines can be in such large quantities they appear as one bright white echogenic line, but this on both sides indicates massive pulmonary edema. Question 4 shows that if you have unilateral hyperechoic findings below the pleural line this can also be pneumonias or pulmonary contusions, with contusions being the more common cause. Pneumonias usually cause a consolidated lung when massive, not bright white lines

4. Massive pulmonary edema can show up as full hyperechoic finding below the pleural line, what other findings can show this?

A. Pulmonary contusion
B. Pneumonia
C. Pleural effusion
D. A and B

5. T or F: When B lines are found on a particular window, it can be assumed that lung sliding is present also in that window

A. True
B. False

B lines indicate lung sliding. If one sees them, pneumothorax on that same side is unlikely