

Image Guided Puncture & Seldinger Technique – Getting Your Coordinates Right

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Radiologists have been dealing with images since the discovery of X-rays in 1895. From then, imaging has evolved in leaps and bounds leading to the advent of the CT scan. There were also many other imaging modalities that were introduced in the 20th century that do not involve radiation like ultrasound and MRI. At the turn of the century Imaging became the driver of Medicine.

In recent years, the practice of Medicine has been revolutionized by the practice of Interventional Radiology. Using image guidance, catheters were inserted, biopsies were done and vessels were imaged like never before.

Nowadays many other clinicians are realizing the importance of moving from “blind” procedures to image guided procedures. Anaesthetists and Chest physicians are increasingly referring patients for insertions of jugular catheters and drainage catheters done under image guidance. In fact recently they are also learning the art of image guided procedures.

The Seldinger technique, also known as Seldinger wire technique, is a medical procedure to obtain safe access to blood vessels and other hollow organs. It is named after Dr. Sven Ivar Seldinger (1921–1998), a Swedish radiologist who introduced the procedure in 1953.

This technique is the basis of all angiograms done in medical practice today.

The combination of image guided punctures and the Seldinger technique is the basis of Interventional Radiology