

OB GYN SONOGRAPHY REVIEW

Fetal Face and Neck



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2024

Course Outline

- Embryology
- Normal Sonographic Anatomy
 - Face
 - Neck
- Facial Abnormalities
- Chin & Neck Abnormalities

FETAL FACE AND NECK

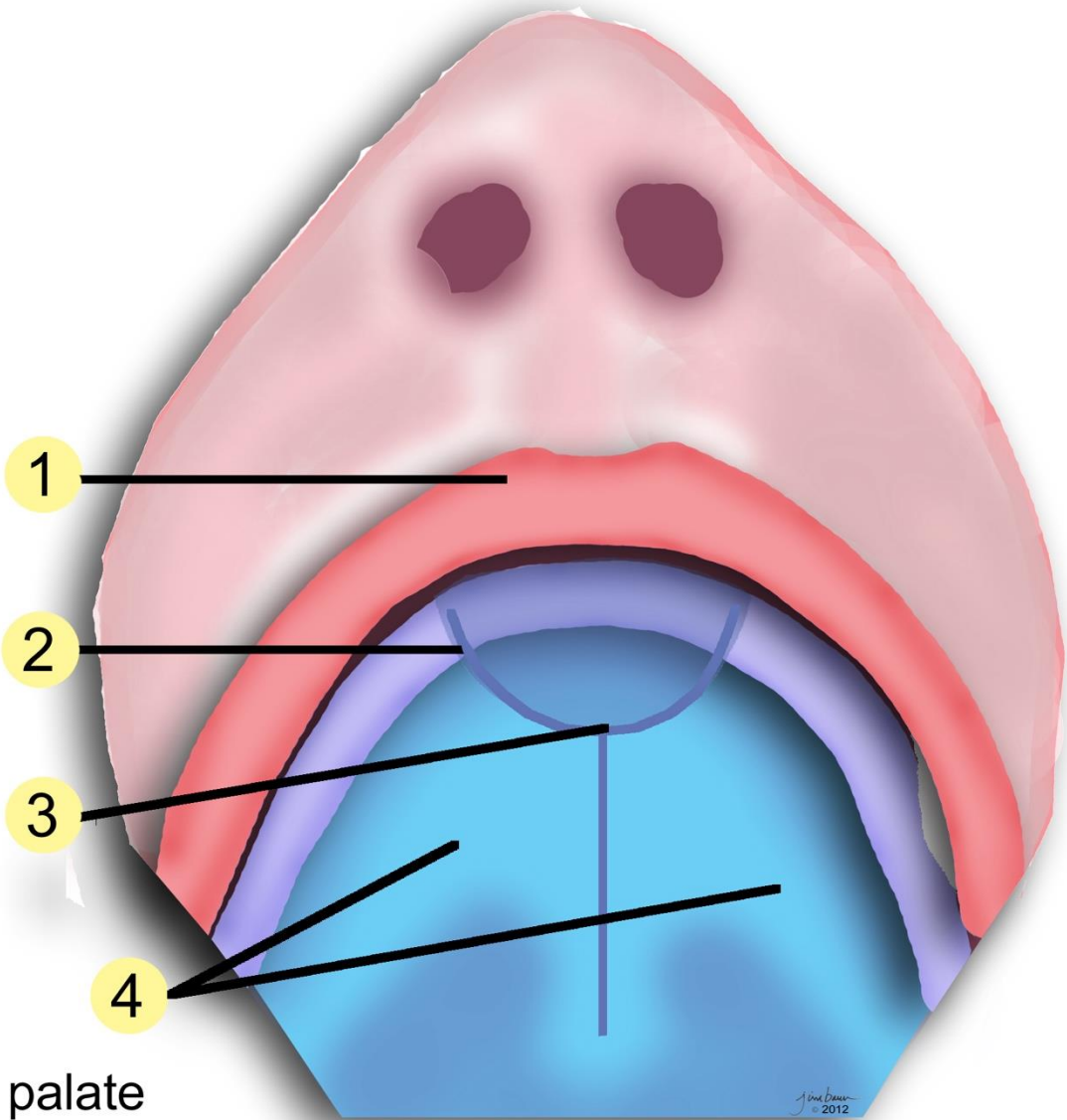
Embryology



Face

- Three primordial facial prominences present by 6 weeks
 - *Frontonasal prominence*: gives rise to forebrain, nose , and eyes
 - *Maxillary and mandibular prominences*: give rise to and create boundaries of primitive mouth
- Palate develops from bits of both *nasal* and *maxillary* prominences
- Complete formation by end of 11th week

EMBRYOLOGY



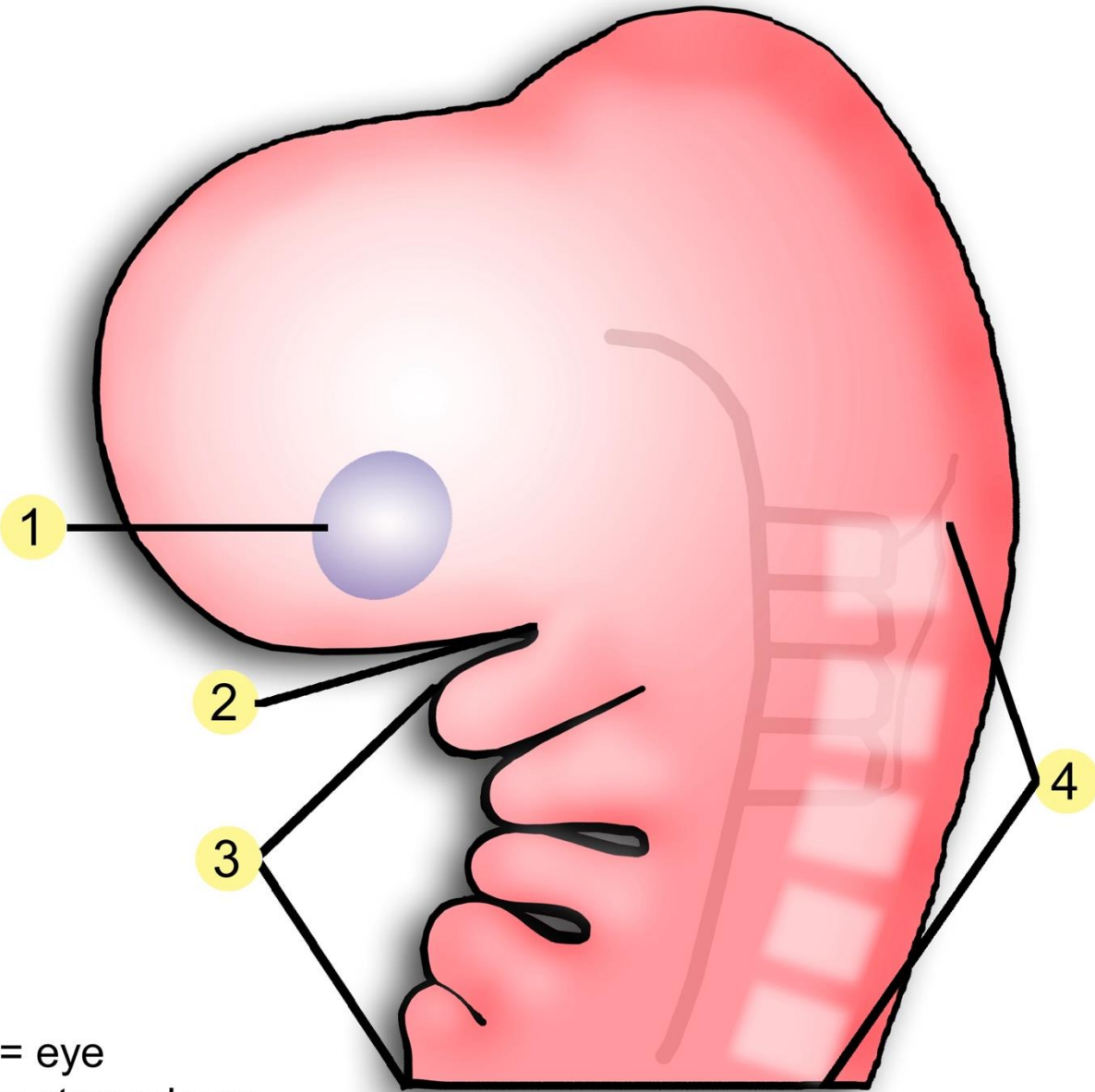
- 1 = lip
- 2 = primary palate
- 3 = incisive foramen
- 4 = secondary palate

EMBRYOLOGY

Neck

- *Pharyngeal arches and grooves metamorphose into:*
 - *Face*
 - *Nasal cavities*
 - *Mouth*
 - *Tongue*
 - *Larynx, pharynx*
 - *Neck fascia*
- Formation completed by 12 weeks

EMBRYOLOGY



- 1 = eye
- 2 = stomodeum
- 3 = pharyngeal arches
- 4 = somites

FETAL FACE AND NECK

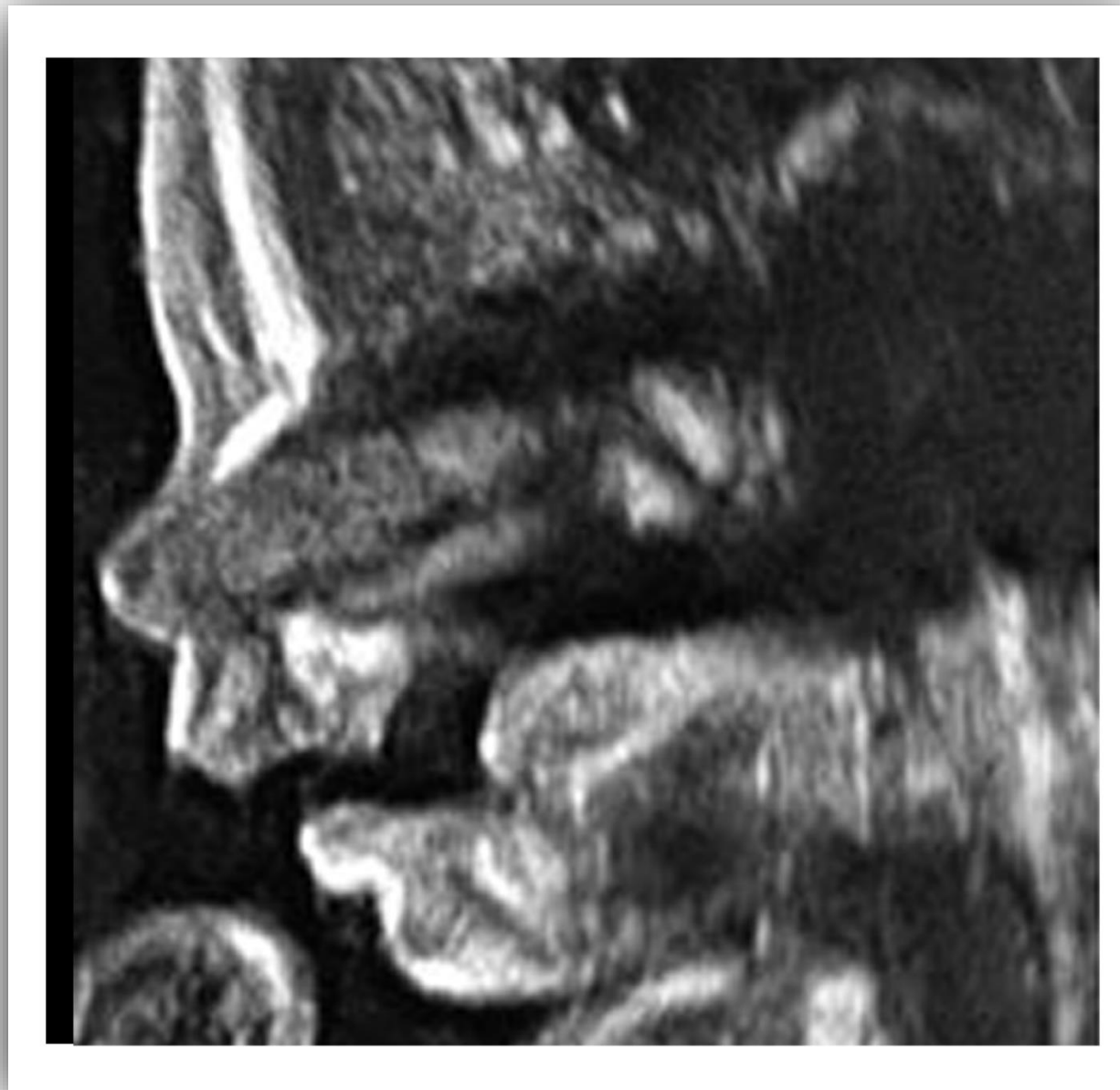
Normal Sonographic Anatomy



Imaging Protocol

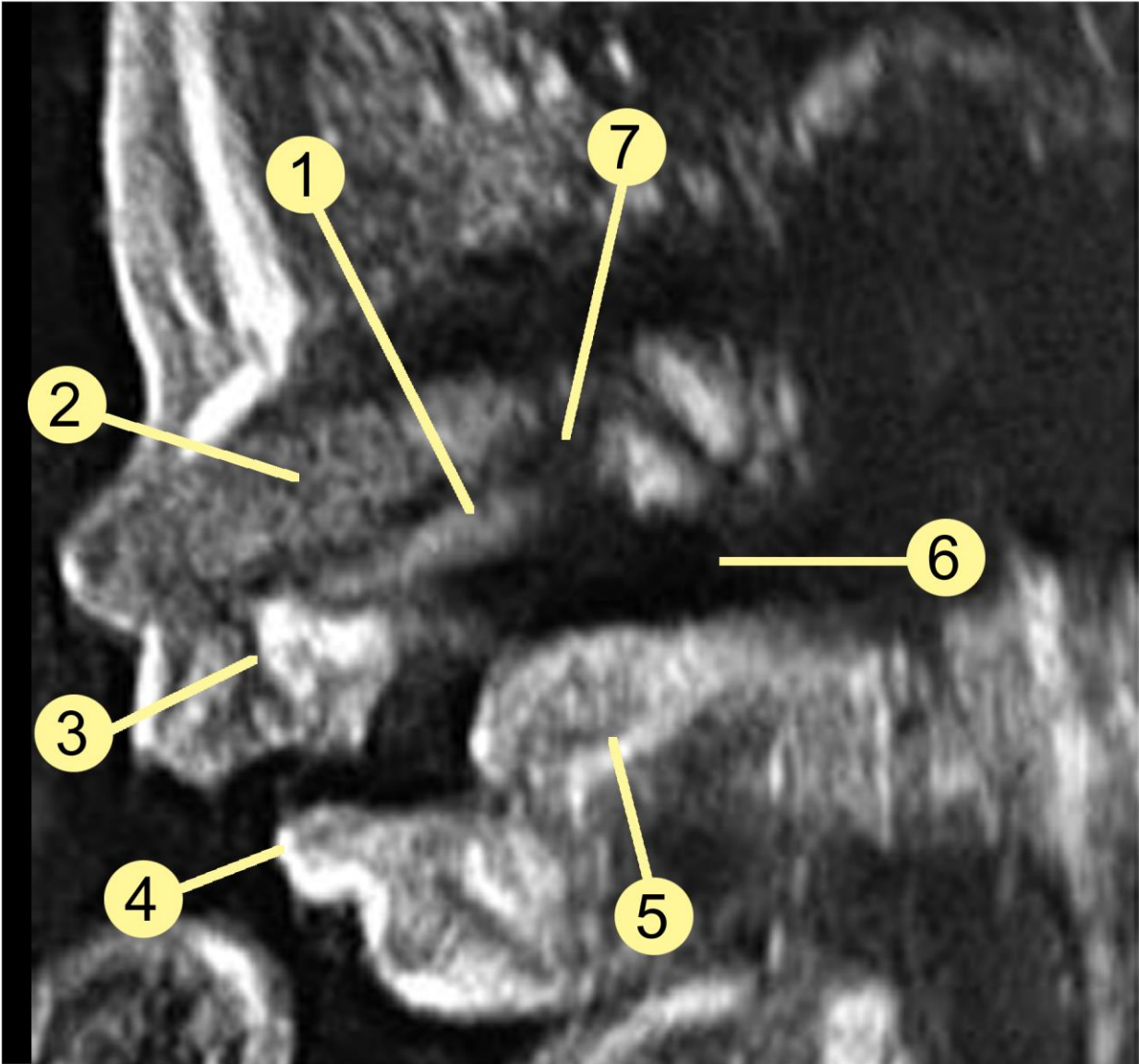
- Routine and targeted imaging of the fetal face and neck should include:
 - Sagittal view of orbits, nose, lips, maxilla and anterior mandible
 - Profile view of soft tissues of mouth and nasopharynx
 - Views of brow, cheeks, eyelids
 - View of lenses and nasal septum
 - Axial lips and nose

FETAL FACE



Profile view

FETAL FACE

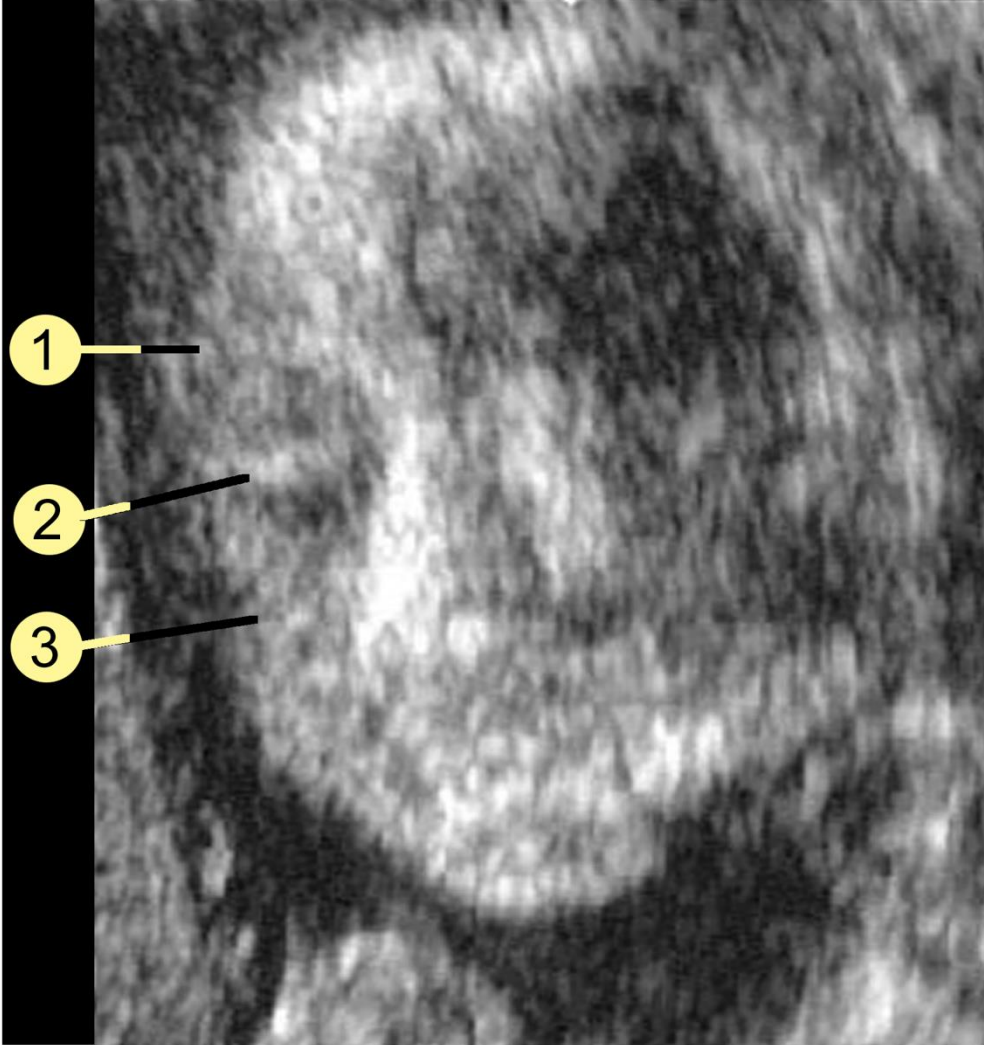
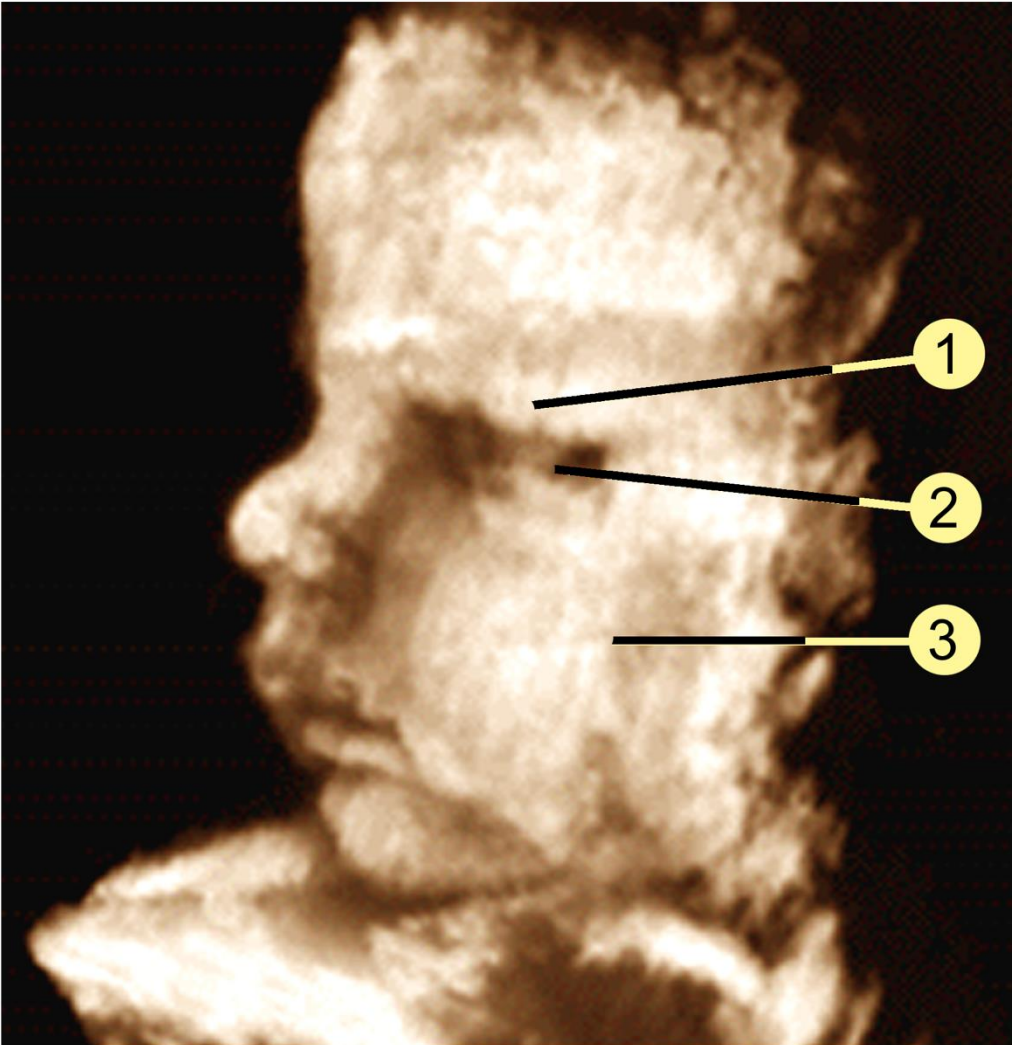


1 = soft palate
2 = nasal apparatus
3 = hard palate
4 = lower lip

5 = tongue
6 = oral pharynx
7 = nasal pharynx

FETAL FACE

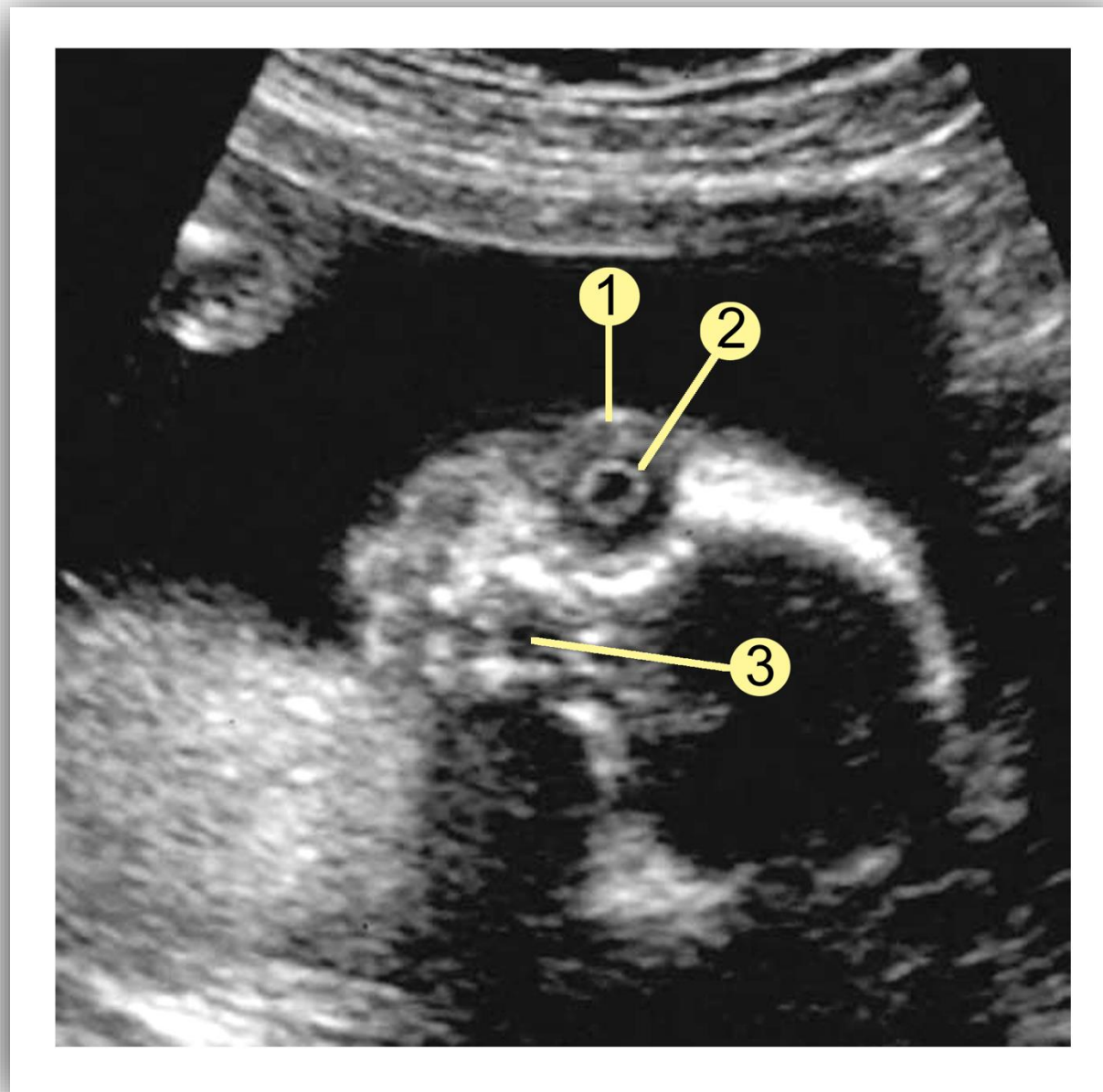
1 = brow
2 = eyelid
3 = cheek



Brow, cheeks. eyelid

FETAL FACE

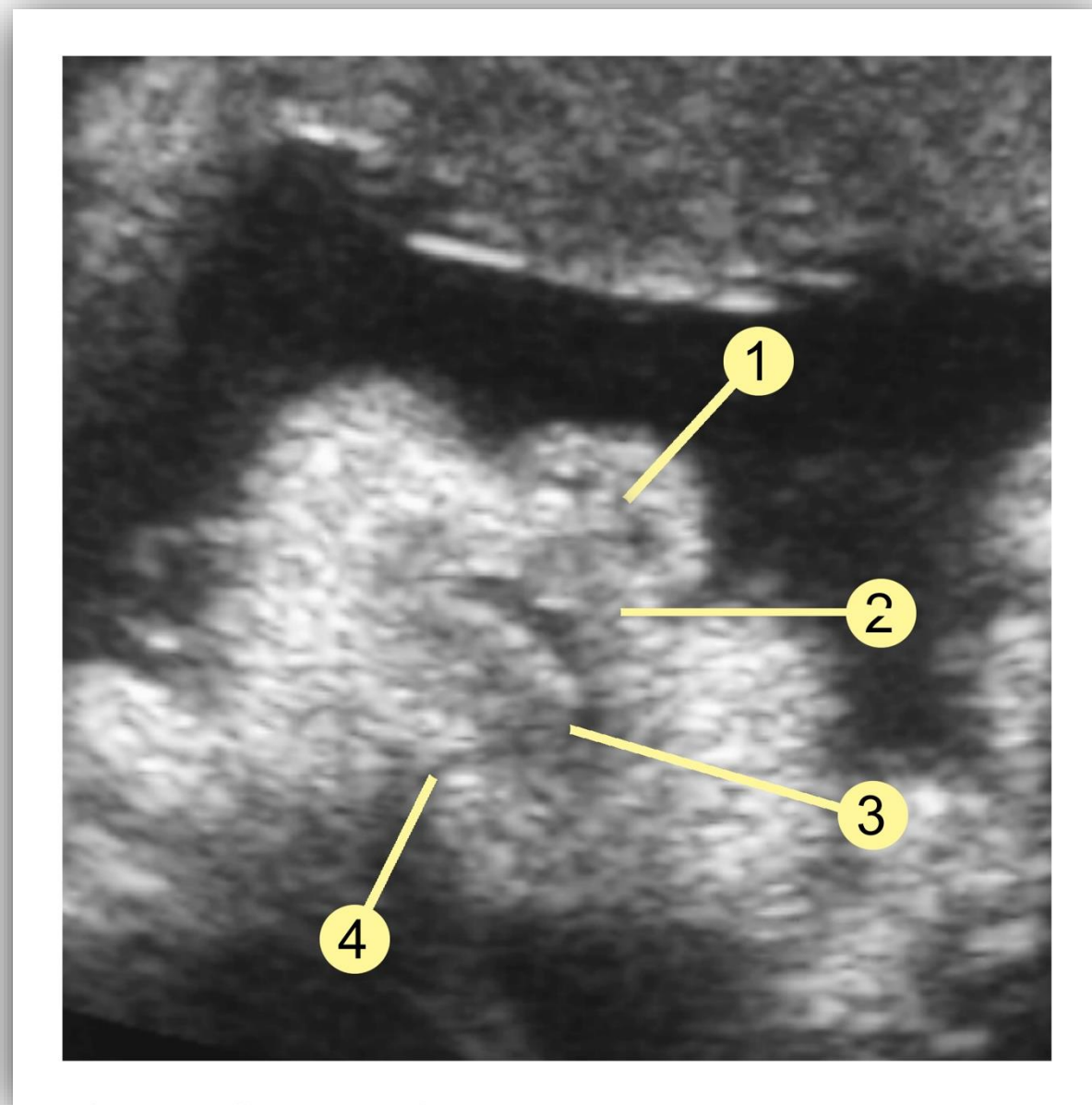
- 1 = orbital rim
- 2 = lens
- 3 = nasal septum



Lens & nasal septum

FETAL FACE

- 1 = nose
- 2 = upper lip
- 3 = lower lip
- 4 = chin



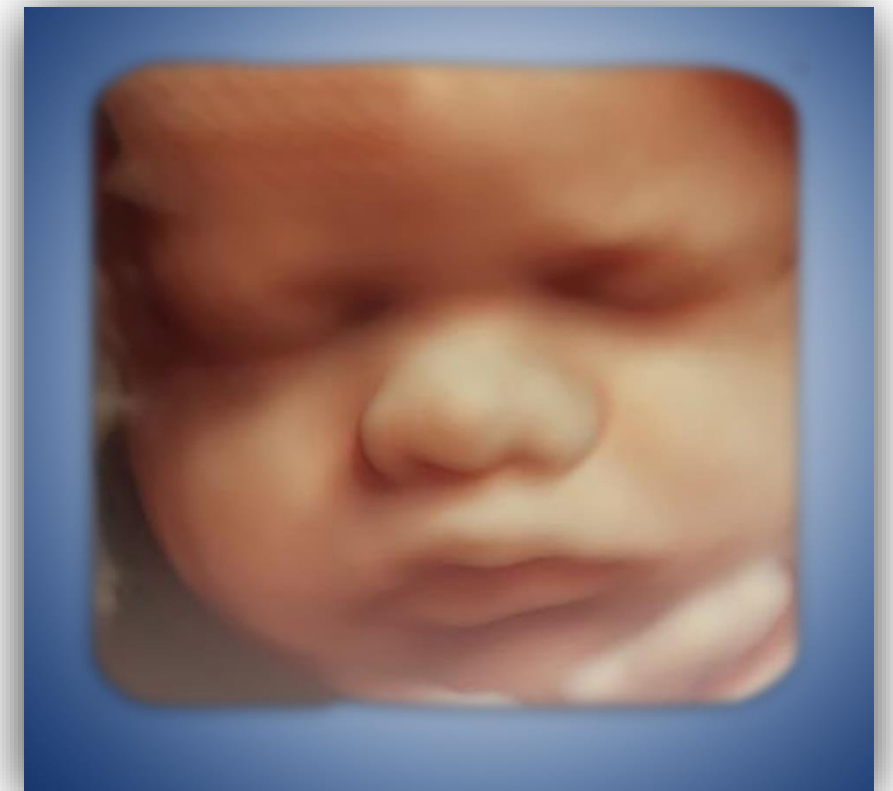
Axial lips & nose

Face Abnormalities



Categories of Abnormalities

- Face abnormalities
 - Clefting anomalies
 - Ocular and orbital abnormalities
 - Hypertelorism
 - Hypotelorism
 - Cyclopia
 - Microphthalmia
 - Anophthalmia



Clefting Abnormalities

- Relatively common congenital facial anomalies
- Cleft lip and cleft palate arise from two separate embryological events
- Disruption of *primary palate* (early 8th week)
= *anterior cleft anomalies*
- Disruption of *secondary palate* (early 8th – 11th week)
= *posterior cleft anomalies*

Clefting Abnormalities

- Anterior cleft palate anomalies
 - Incomplete unilateral cleft lip
 - Complete unilateral cleft lip
 - Complete bilateral cleft lip
 - Complete anterior cleft (uni- and bilateral) extending through lip and into maxilla

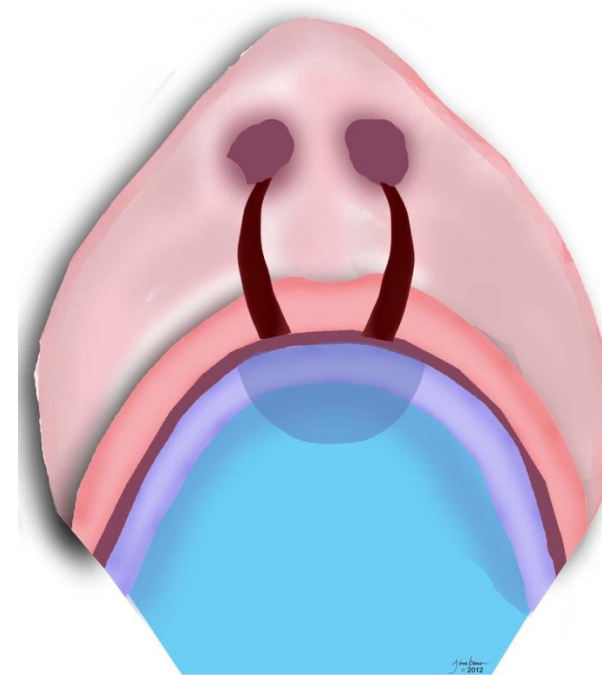
ANTERIOR CLEFTING VARIANTS



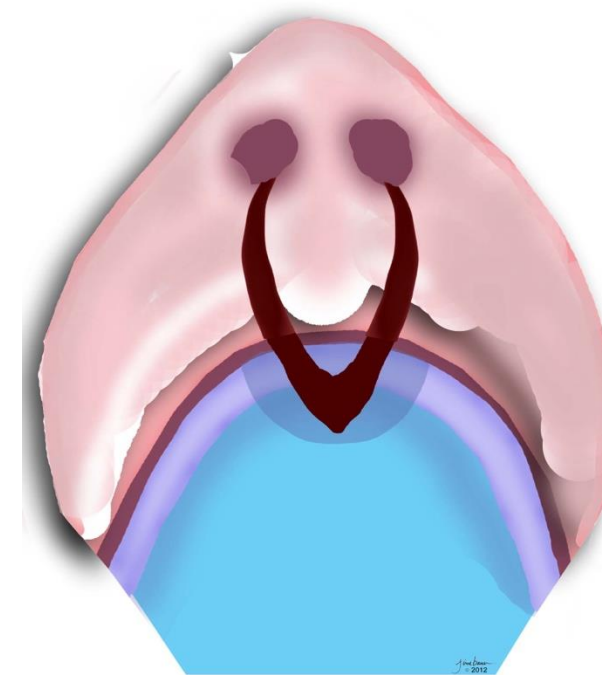
**Incomplete
unilateral cleft lip**



**Complete
unilateral cleft lip**



**Complete
bilateral cleft lip**



**Complete
bilateral
extending into
maxilla**

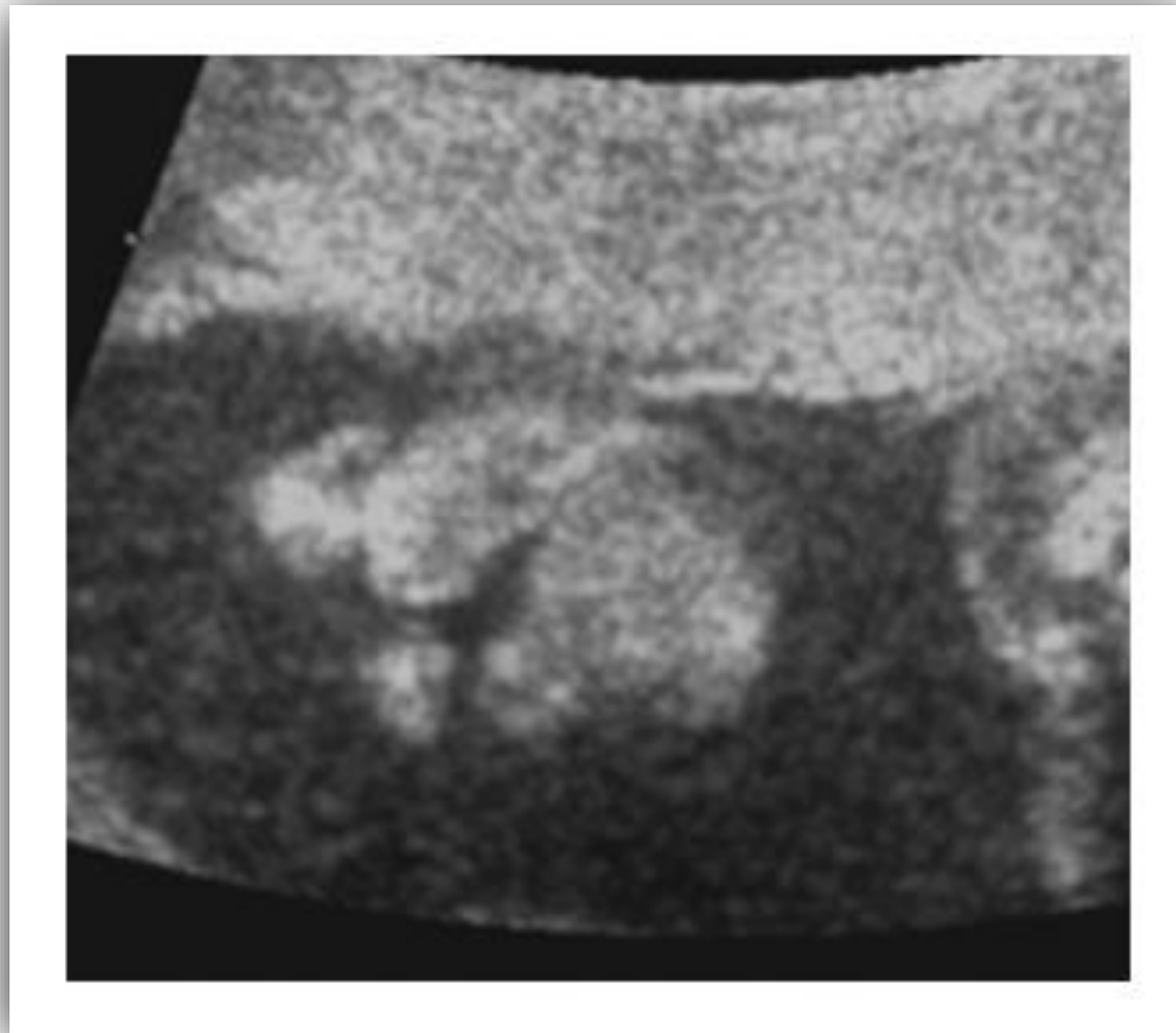
Clefting Abnormalities

- Imaging pearls & pitfalls
 - Cleft palate in absence of cleft lip is a diagnostic challenge
 - Cleft palate and associated cleft lip will demonstrate contiguity of lip defect with deeper structures
 - Amniotic fluid provides excellent US contrast
 - Cleft palate may be associated with an alveolar ridge

Clefting Abnormalities

- Sonographic findings – anterior clefting anomalies
 - Defect may be demonstrated as a groove extending from one nostril through the lip
 - Usually best demonstrated coronally
 - Defect may be uni- or bilateral
 - Polyhydramnios may result from swallowing difficulties

CLEFTING ABNORMALITIES



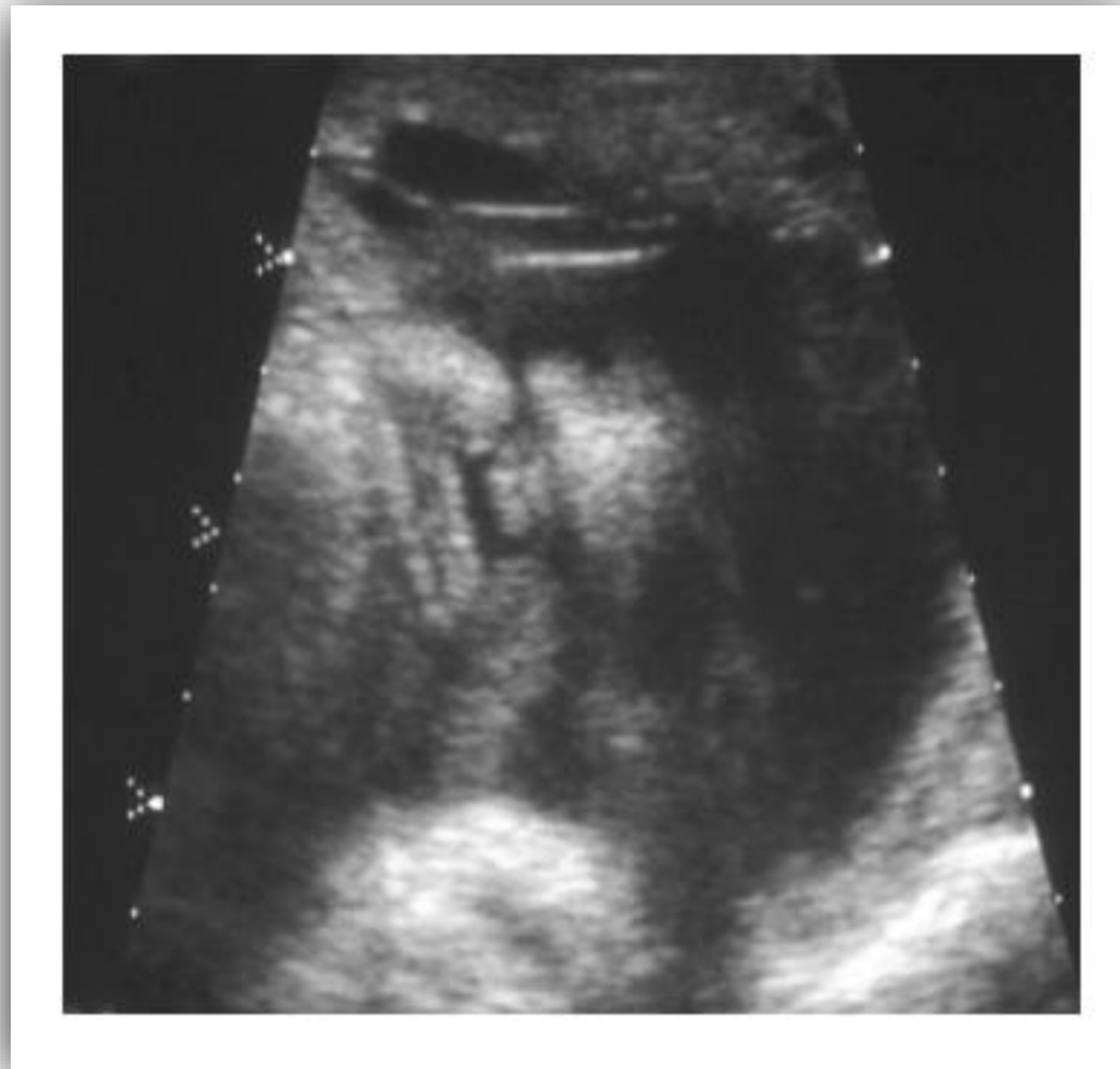
Cleft lip - unilateral

CLEFTING ABNORMALITIES



Cleft lip & palate - bilateral

CLEFTING ABNORMALITIES



Cleft lip & palate - unilateral

CLEFTING ABNORMALITIES



Cleft lip

CLEFTING ABNORMALITIES

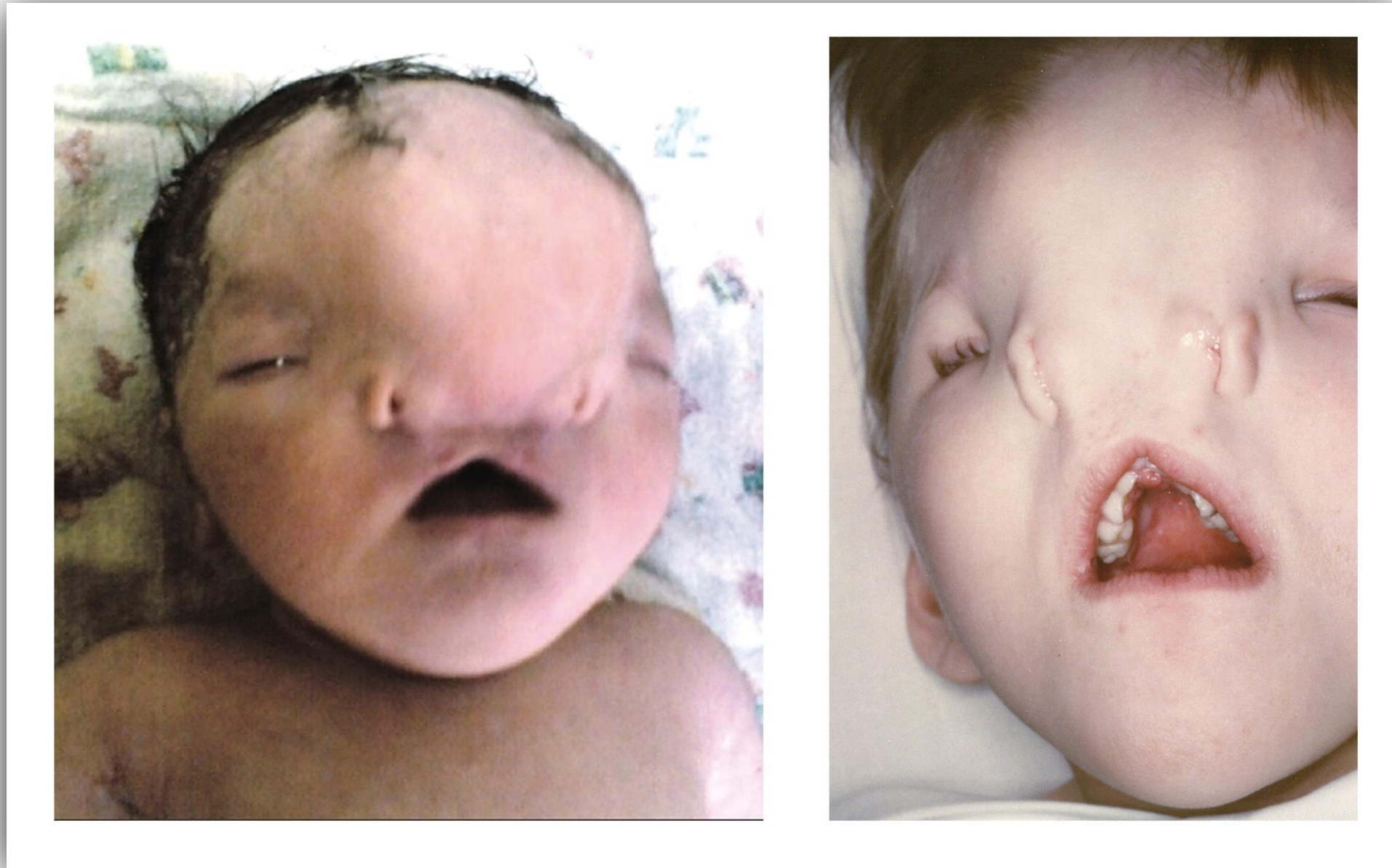


Cleft lip & palate

Median Facial Clefting

- Rare embryonic mesenchymal defect
- Characterized by severe derangement of internal anatomic relationship between nasal cavity and frontal bones
- Rarely associated with external lip or other facial clefting defects
- Also called *frontonasal dysplasia sequence*

MEDIAN FACIAL CLEFTING SYNDROME



Ocular & Orbital Abnormalities

- Are often principle signs of other significant fetal anomalies & syndromes
- Categories:
 - Hypertelorism
 - Hypotelorism
 - Cyclopia
 - Microphthalmia
 - Anophthalmia

ORBITAL ABNORMALITIES

Orbital Hypertelorism

- Orbits space too far apart
- Increase in intraorbital distance above 95th percentile
- Two conditions typically associated are:
 - Frontal encephalocele
 - Midline facial clefting syndrome

Orbital Hypertelorism

- Associated abnormalities include:
 - Trisomy 21 (Down syndrome)
 - Trisomy 13 (Patau syndrome)
 - Agenesis of the corpus callosum
 - Turner syndrome
 - Ehlers-Danlos syndrome
 - Apert syndrome

ORBITAL ABNORMALITIES

Orbital Hypertelorism

- Sonographic findings include:
 - Orbits placed far apart
 - Interocular distance and binocular distance at or above 95th percentile for dates

ORBITAL ABNORMALITIES

Table 1. The fetal interocular distance (mm): GA, gestational age (n = 595)

GA (weeks)	n	Mean \pm SD	Percentile		
			10 th	50 th	90 th
15	22	8.78 \pm 0.92	7.69	8.70	10.15
16	22	9.88 \pm 1.10	8.40	10.00	11.41
17	23	10.66 \pm 0.96	9.24	10.90	11.56
18	31	11.40 \pm 1.10	10.12	11.10	13.16
19	22	11.72 \pm 0.97	10.26	11.80	13.21
20	26	13.05 \pm 0.97	11.71	13.25	14.25
21	24	13.65 \pm 1.40	11.45	13.60	15.45
22	22	14.02 \pm 1.29	12.20	14.20	15.37
23	23	14.43 \pm 1.22	12.70	14.30	16.40
24	26	14.90 \pm 1.08	13.28	15.05	16.30
25	23	15.59 \pm 1.40	13.90	15.30	17.70
26	22	15.91 \pm 0.98	14.73	15.85	17.42
27	22	16.17 \pm 0.93	15.09	16.05	17.83
28	22	16.97 \pm 1.58	15.13	16.85	19.55
29	22	17.33 \pm 1.44	15.62	17.15	19.66
30	23	17.57 \pm 1.50	16.00	17.30	19.24
31	22	17.90 \pm 1.46	16.00	17.50	19.98
32	22	18.21 \pm 1.27	16.21	18.05	19.99
33	22	18.70 \pm 1.42	17.10	18.75	20.17
34	22	19.82 \pm 1.38	17.92	19.55	21.91
35	22	20.25 \pm 1.46	18.01	20.05	22.40
36	22	20.37 \pm 1.41	18.22	20.40	22.50
37	22	20.75 \pm 1.53	18.55	20.75	22.82
38	22	21.93 \pm 1.94	19.22	21.70	24.72
39	22	22.18 \pm 1.95	19.79	22.00	25.00
40	22	22.41 \pm 1.29	21.13	22.10	25.16

Table 2. The fetal binocular distance (mm): GA, gestational age (n = 595)

GA (weeks)	n	Mean \pm SD	Percentile		
			10 th	50 th	90 th
15	22	20.20 \pm 2.10	17.22	20.00	22.96
16	22	23.19 \pm 1.34	21.80	22.90	25.04
17	23	25.59 \pm 1.30	24.08	25.40	27.70
18	31	27.30 \pm 1.75	24.88	27.10	30.28
19	22	29.52 \pm 1.74	27.49	29.20	31.71
20	26	31.14 \pm 1.56	29.17	31.10	33.19
21	24	32.88 \pm 1.12	31.40	33.00	34.25
22	22	35.06 \pm 1.03	33.69	35.10	35.94
23	23	36.17 \pm 1.85	34.12	36.00	39.18
24	26	37.52 \pm 1.54	34.87	37.85	39.42
25	23	39.45 \pm 1.85	36.74	39.40	42.00
26	22	41.05 \pm 1.52	39.23	40.95	43.79
27	22	42.63 \pm 1.87	39.62	43.00	44.72
28	22	43.87 \pm 2.02	41.12	44.10	46.07
29	22	45.43 \pm 1.95	43.00	45.15	48.88
30	23	46.31 \pm 1.88	43.70	46.00	48.98
31	22	47.89 \pm 1.93	44.46	48.00	50.04
32	22	48.24 \pm 2.02	45.37	48.25	51.13
33	22	49.31 \pm 2.07	46.23	49.60	51.70
34	22	51.98 \pm 2.64	48.66	51.95	55.77
35	22	52.99 \pm 2.35	49.32	53.00	56.99
36	22	53.32 \pm 2.36	50.18	53.15	57.08
37	22	54.04 \pm 1.89	51.65	53.80	57.44
38	22	55.49 \pm 2.12	52.58	55.60	58.27
39	22	55.79 \pm 2.26	52.66	56.05	58.69
40	22	55.97 \pm 1.89	53.66	56.15	58.77

ORBITAL HYPERTELORISM



Increased interocular and binocular distance

ORBITAL ABNORMALITIES

Orbital Hypotelorism

- Orbits space too close together
- Reduction in intraorbital distance below 5th percentile
- Condition typically associated :
 - **Holoprosencephaly**

ORBITAL ABNORMALITIES

Orbital Hypotelorism

- Associated abnormalities include:
 - Trisomy 13 (Patau syndrome)
 - Encephalocele
 - Cleft palate
 - Cardiac anomalies
 - Imperforate anus
 - Diaphragmatic hernia
 - Meckel-Gruber syndrome

ORBITAL ABNORMALITIES

Orbital Hypotelorism

- Sonographic findings include:
 - Close appearing orbits
 - Interocular distance and binocular distance below 5th percentile for dates

ORBITAL HYPOTELORISM



Moderate



Severe

ORBITAL HYPOTELORISM



Holoprosencephaly

ORBITAL ABNORMALITIES

Cyclopia

- Presence of single midline orbit
- May be single, fused or no eyes present
- Can be induced by exposure to certain teratogenic toxins
- Condition typically associated :
 - Alobar holoprosencephaly with proboscis

ORBITAL ABNORMALITIES

Cyclopia

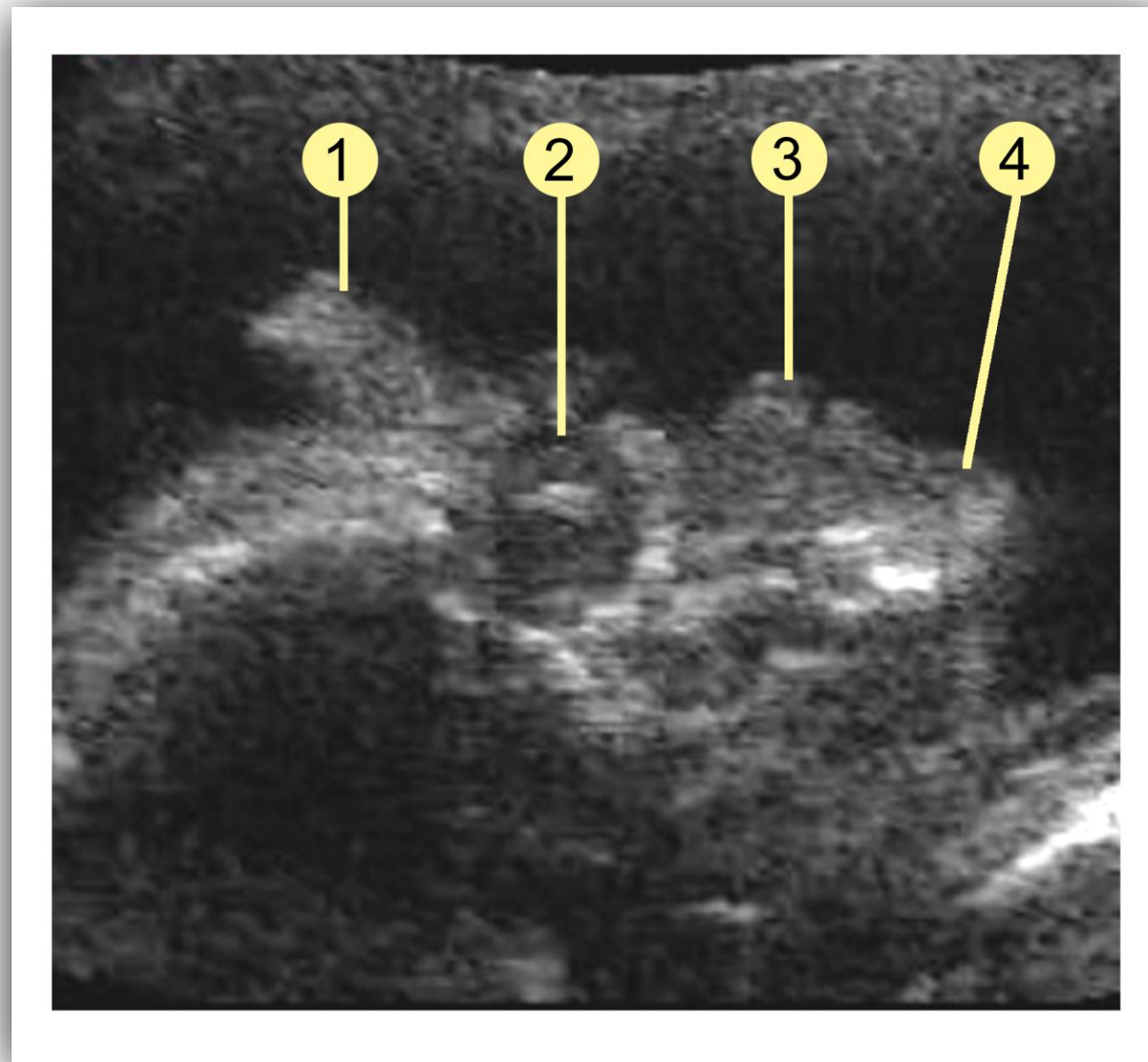
- Associated abnormalities include:
 - Alobar holoprosencephaly
 - Median facial clefting
 - Trisomy 13 (Patau syndrome)
 - CHARGE association

ORBITAL ABNORMALITIES

Cyclopia

- Sonographic findings include:
 - Single midline orbit
 - Microcephaly (64% of cases)
 - Other findings associated with holoprosencephaly

CYCLOPIA



1 = proboscis
2 = single midline orbit

3 = upper lip
4 = chin

ORBITAL ABNORMALITIES

Microphthalmia

- Reduction in orbital size
- Objectively when affected orbit is disproportionately small relative to other facial structures
- May be uni- or bilateral
- May occur in isolation or as part of a syndrome

ORBITAL ABNORMALITIES

Microphthalmia

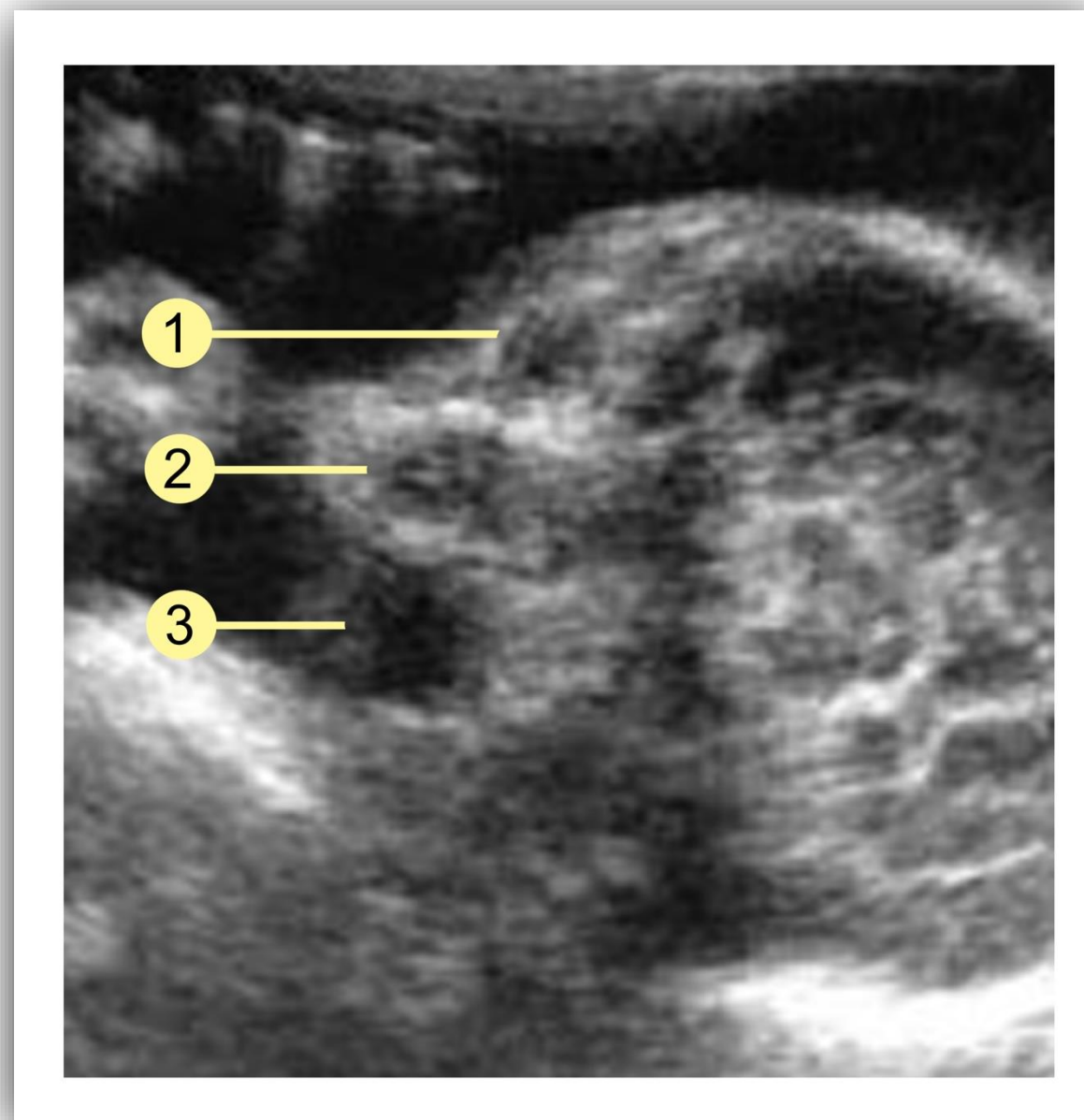
- Associated abnormalities include:
 - Holoprosencephaly
 - *In utero* infection
 - Fetal alcohol syndrome
 - Triploidy
 - Trisomy 13 (Patau syndrome)
 - Treacher Collins syndrome

ORBITAL ABNORMALITIES

Microphthalmia

- Sonographic findings include:
 - Reduced orbital size
 - Characteristic findings associated with other concomitant congenital conditions

MICROPTHALMIA



- 1 = microphthalmic right eye**
- 2 = nasal apparatus**
- 3 = normal left eye**

ORBITAL ABNORMALITIES

Anophthalmia

- Congenital absence of an eyeball within an orbit
- May be uni- or bilateral; isolated occurrence or syndromic in nature
- Causes include :
 - Failure of eye tissue to grow
 - Optic vascular maldevelopment
 - Secondary tissue degeneration due to toxic insult

ORBITAL ABNORMALITIES

Anophthalmia

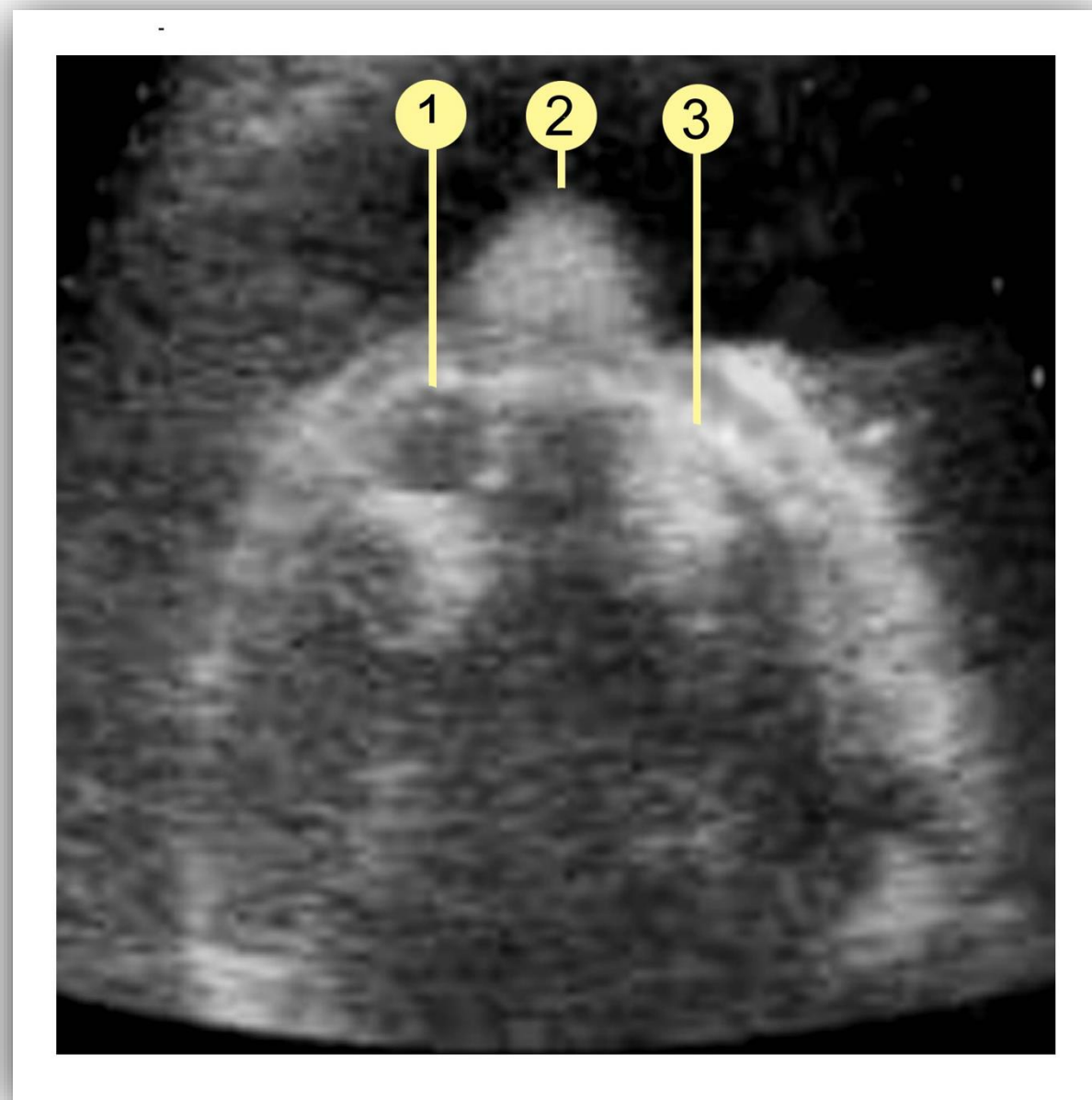
- Associated abnormalities include:
 - Trisomy 13 (Patau syndrome)
 - CHARGE association
 - Heterotaxy
 - Lenz microphthalmia syndrome (rare, inherited disorder)

ORBITAL ABNORMALITIES

Anophthalmia

- Sonographic findings include:
 - Absent anechoic eye chamber
 - Echogenic filling of orbital cavity

ANOPHTHALMIA



- 1 = normal left eye**
- 2 = nose**
- 3 = absent right eye**

Categories of Abnormalities

- Chin & neck abnormalities
 - Micrognathia
 - Macroglossia
 - Neck cysts
 - Neck teratomas
 - Epignathus
 - Cystic hygromas



Chin & Neck Abnormalities



Micrognathia

- Abnormally small mandible
- Occurs as part of many syndromes
- If severe, may compromise postnatal respiration
- Diagnosis is usually a subjective one

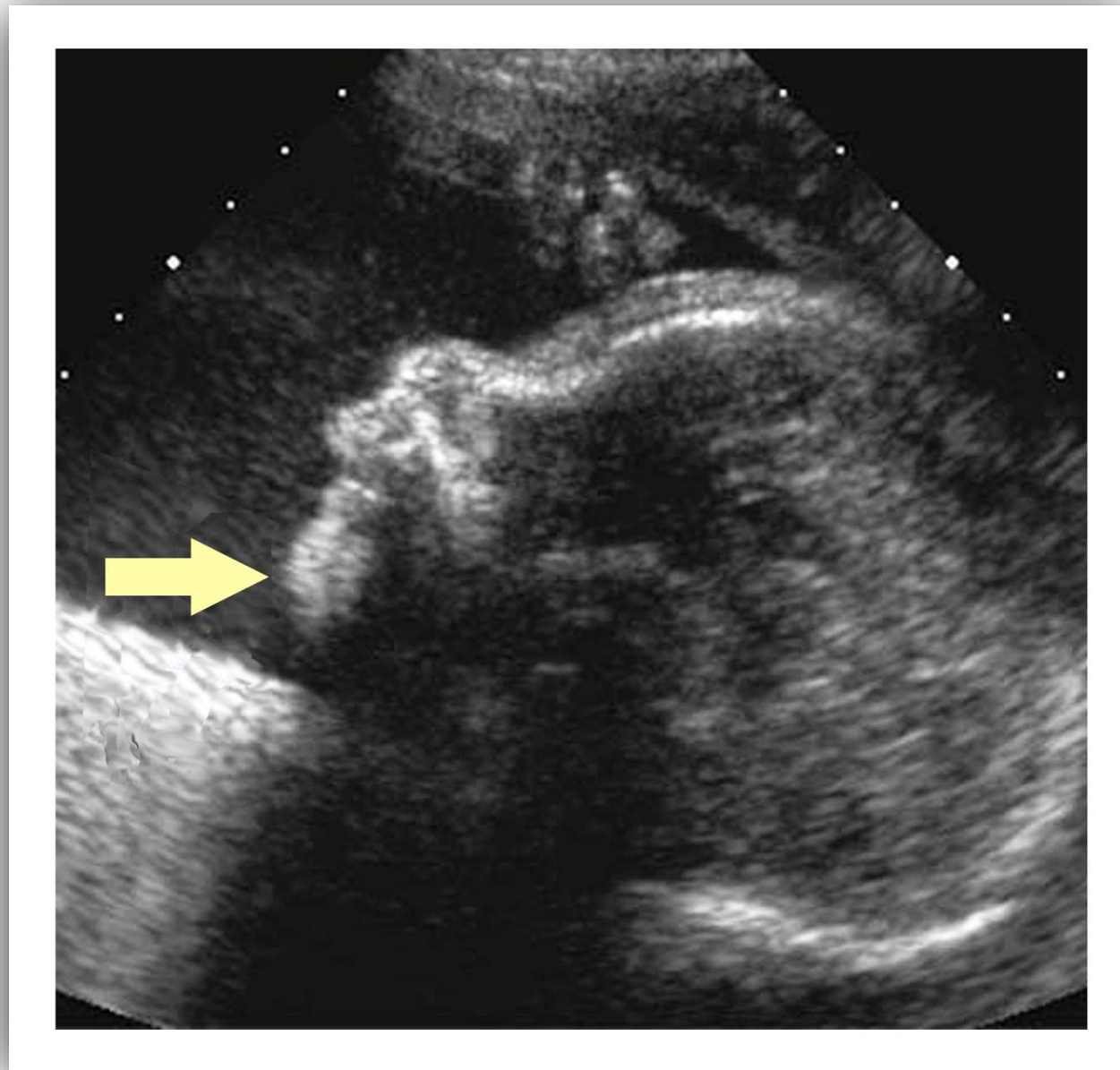
Micrognathia

- Associated conditions include :
 - True sagittal facial image demonstrated receding chin
 - Jaw index measurements consistent with observations
 - Polyhydramnios suggests impairment of fetal swallowing

Micrognathia

- Sonographic findings include:
 - Sagittal section demonstrates receding chin
 - Jaw index (AP mandible diameter ÷ BPOD) < 21
 - Polyhydramnios suggests impairment of fetal swallowing mechanism

MICROGNATHIA



Receding chin (arrow)

Macroglossia

- Abnormally large tongue
- Most common syndromic association is Beckwith-Wiedemann syndrome
- May also be caused by posterior solid mass displacing tongue forward

Macroglossia

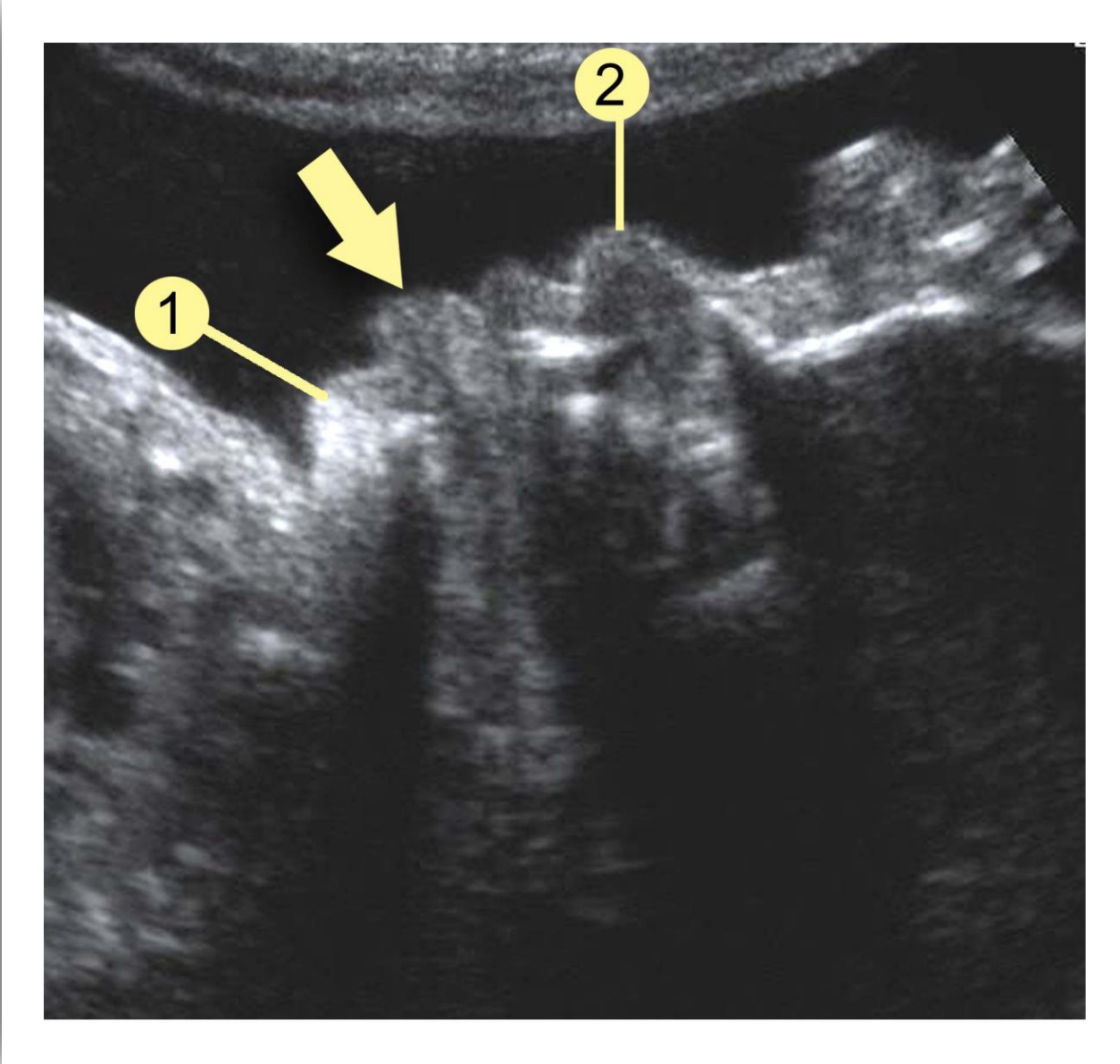
- Associated conditions include :
 - Beckwith-Wiedemann syndrome
 - Congenital hyperthyroid syndrome
 - Trisomy 21 (Down syndrome)
 - Triploidy
 - Hunter syndrome

Macroglossia

- Sonographic findings include:
 - True midline sagittal image shows tongue protruding between upper and lower lips
 - Subjective appearance of a big tongue
 - Tongue remains outside of mouth regardless of swallowing movement of lips
 - Polyhydramnios suggests swallowing impairment

MACROGLOSSIA

1 = lower lip
2 = nose



Protruding tongue (arrow)

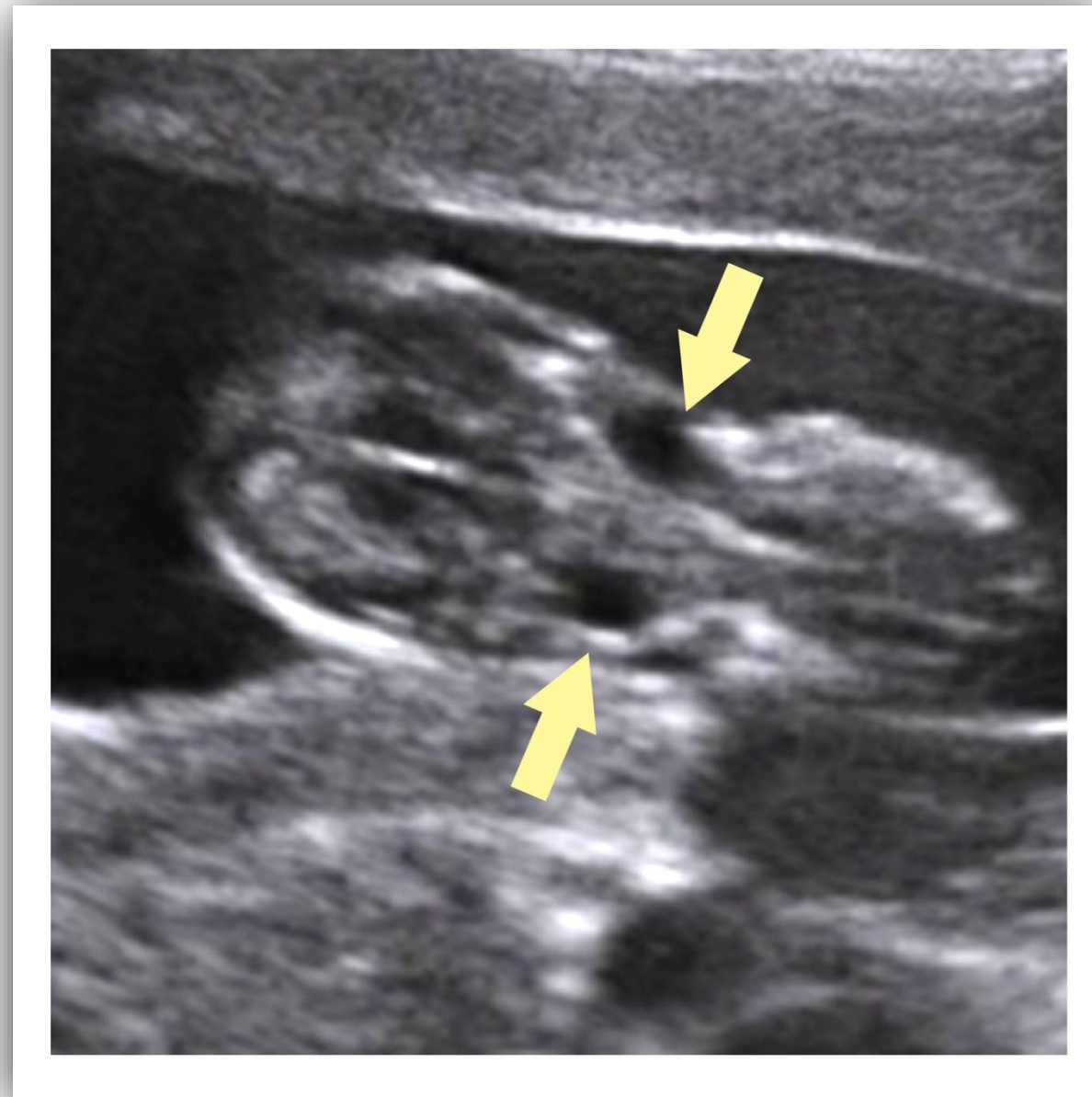
Neck Cysts

- Rarely encountered in prenatal imaging appearing more frequently as subdermal masses in children and young adults
- Two types:
 - Branchial cleft cysts: failure of branchial cleft to undergo embryonic obliteration. **located laterally**
 - Thyroglossal duct cysts: p[persistence of thyroglossal tract. **located midline**

Neck Cysts

- Sonographic findings include:
 - Smooth-bordered, anechoic mass in neck
 - Posterior acoustic enhancement
 - Displacement of normal midline structures

NECK CYSTS



Branchia cleft cysts (arrows)

Neck Teratomas

- Encapsulated tumors containing tissue from all three embryonic germ cell layers
- Gross pathological appearance varied widely
- Range in size and location
- Most immature teratomas are benign, however, mature teratomas carry malignant potential

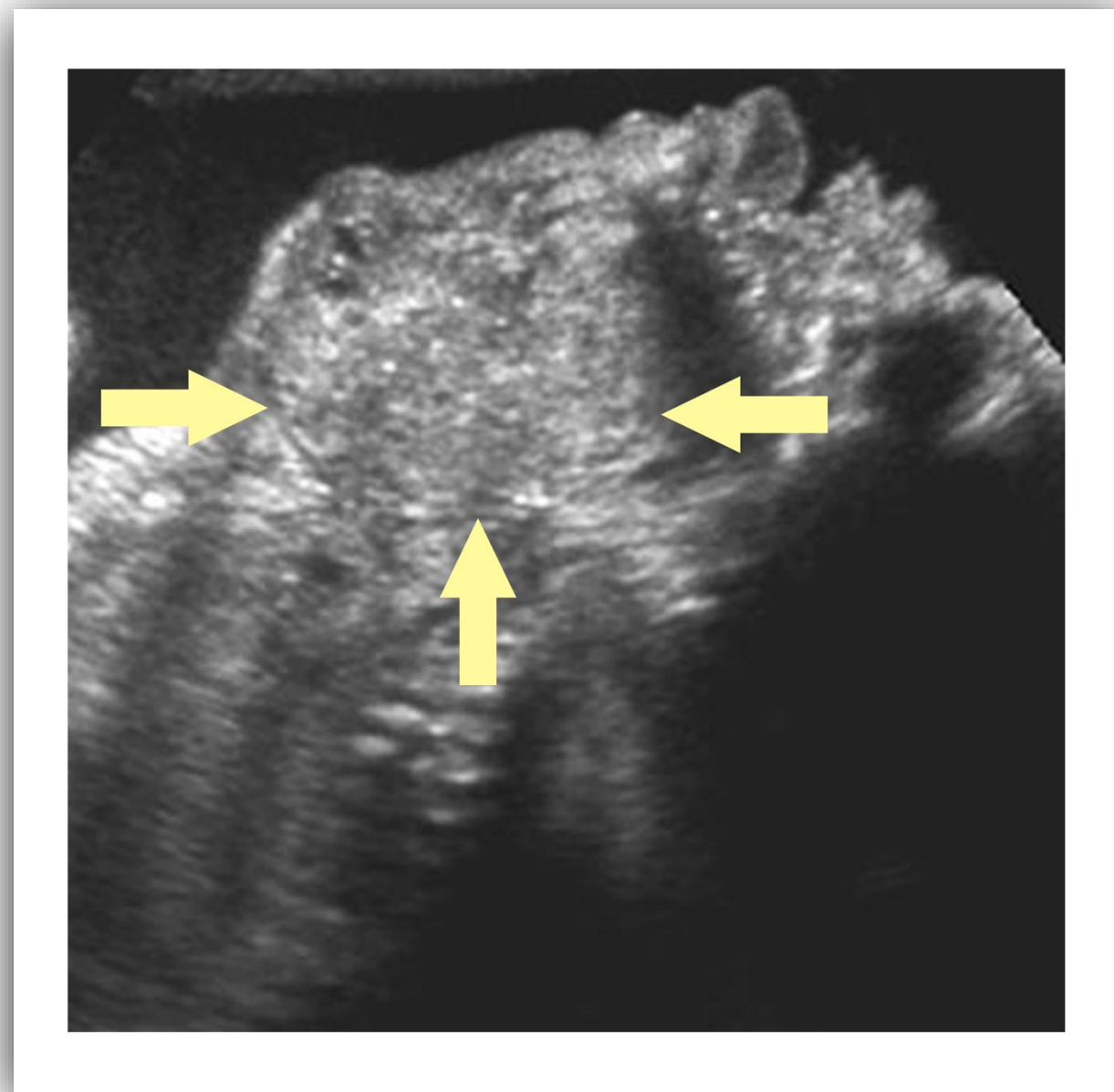
Neck Teratomas

- Associated conditions include :
 - Hydrops fetalis
 - Neonatal airway obstruction

Neck Teratomas

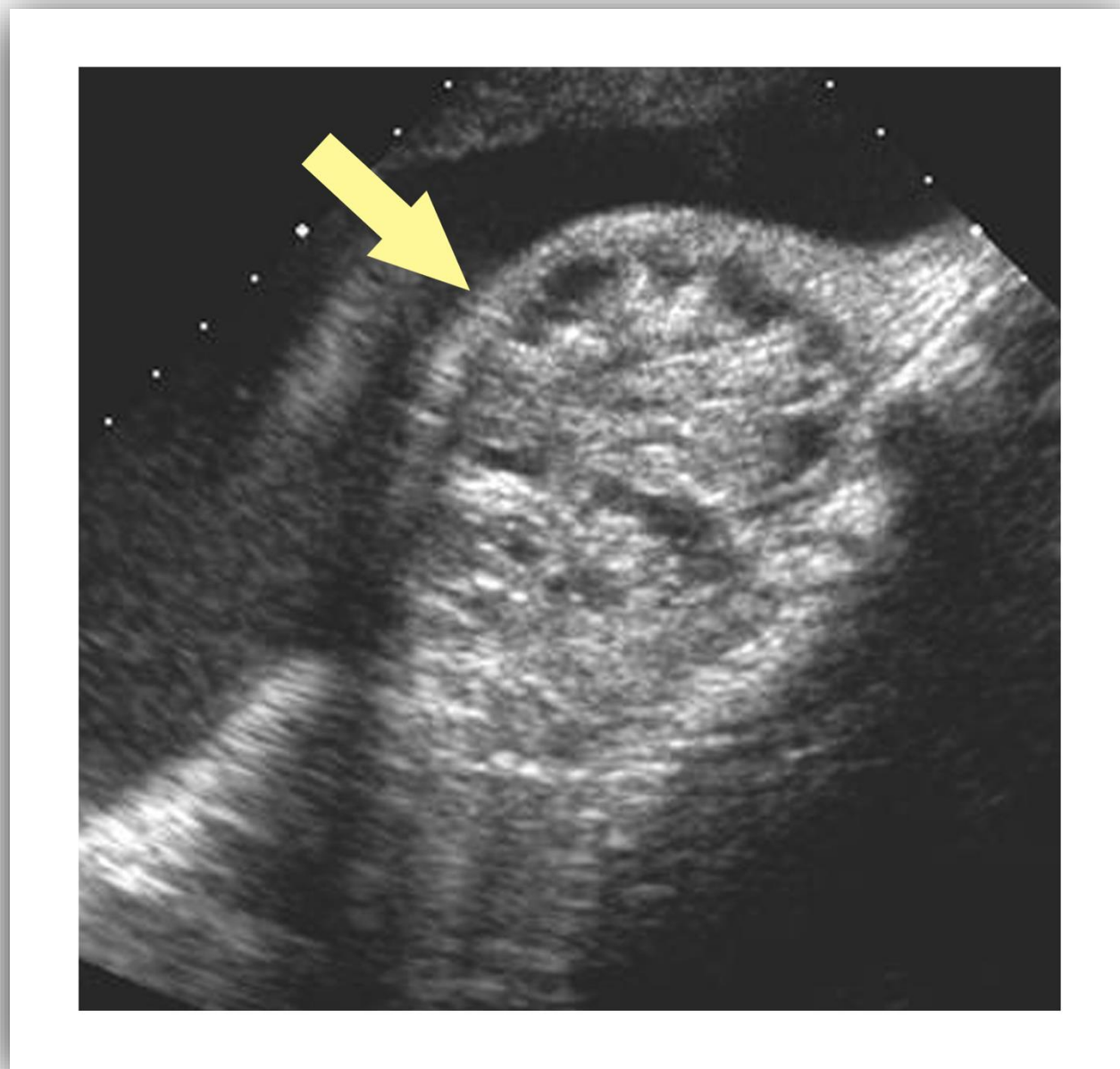
- Sonographic findings include:
 - Complex, cystic/solid tumor seen near fetal neck
 - Calcifications may be present
 - Polyhydramnios (30% of cases)

NECK TERTATOMAS



Sagittal view with hyperextension of neck

NECK TERATOMAS



Exophytic complex neck mass (arrow)

CHIN & NECK ABNORMALITIES

Epignathus

- Rare teratoma arising from oral cavity or pharynx
- Most commonly arise from sphenoid bone, however other sites of origin include: *soft palate, tongue, pharynx, jaw*
- Typical of teratoma, they include tissue from all three germ cell layers

Epignathus

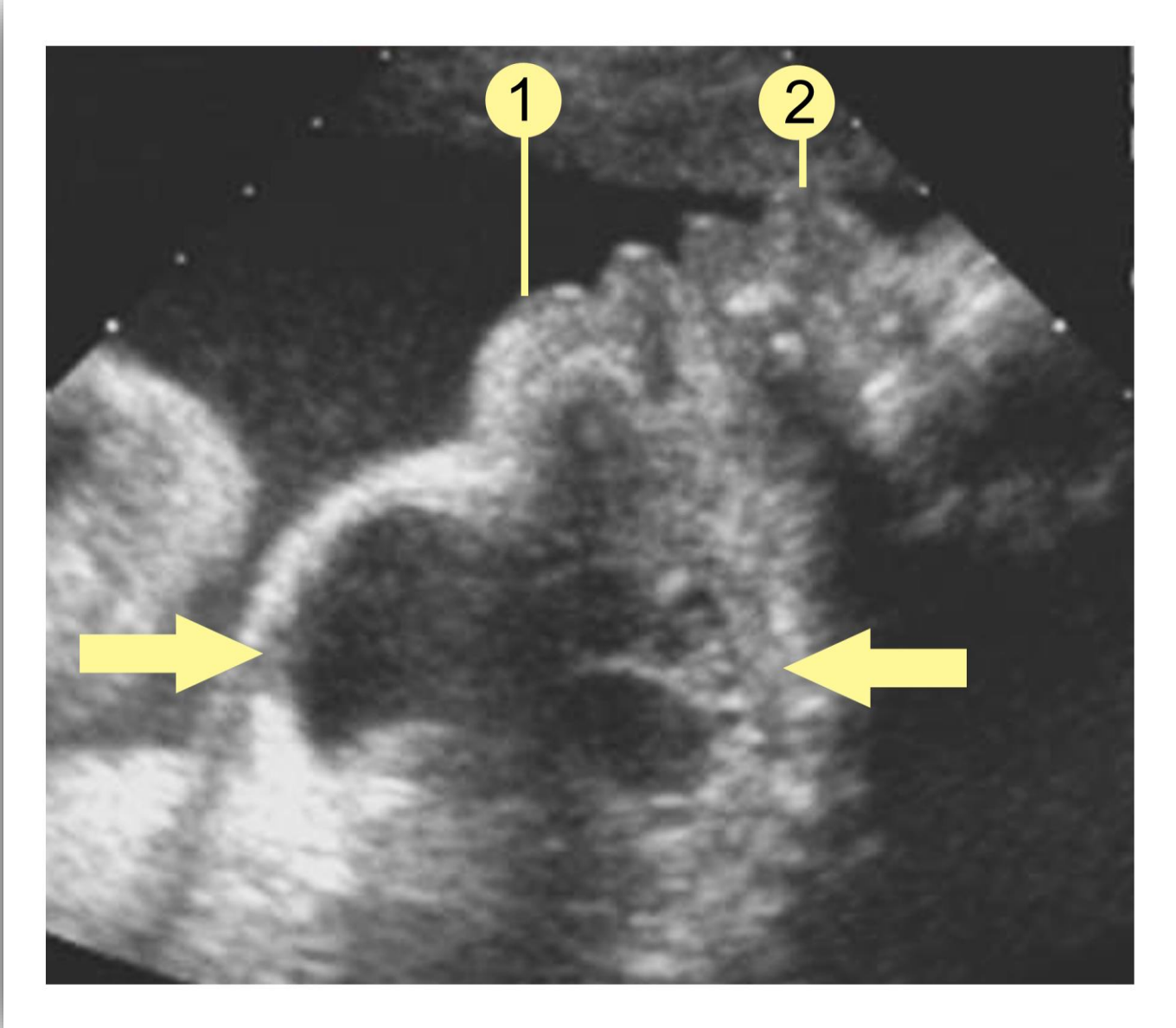
- Associated conditions include :
 - Cleft palate
 - Facial hemangiomas
 - Branchial cysts
 - Hypotelorism
 - Umbilical hernia
 - Congenital heart defects

Epignathus

- Sonographic findings include:
 - Complex, cystic/solid tumor protruding from mouth and/or neck
 - Polyhydramnios suggests impairment of swallowing mechanism

EPIGNATHUS

1 = chin
2 = nose



Complex mass arising from neck (arrows)

Cystic Hygromas

- Benign, developmental anomaly of lymphatic origin
- Characterized by single or multiple cystic fluid collections within soft tissue surrounding fetal neck
- Sizes of cystic lesions vary greatly
- May be simple or septated

Cystic Hygromas

- Associated conditions include :
 - Turner syndrome
 - Trisomies 13, 18, 21
 - Noonan syndrome

Cystic Hygromas

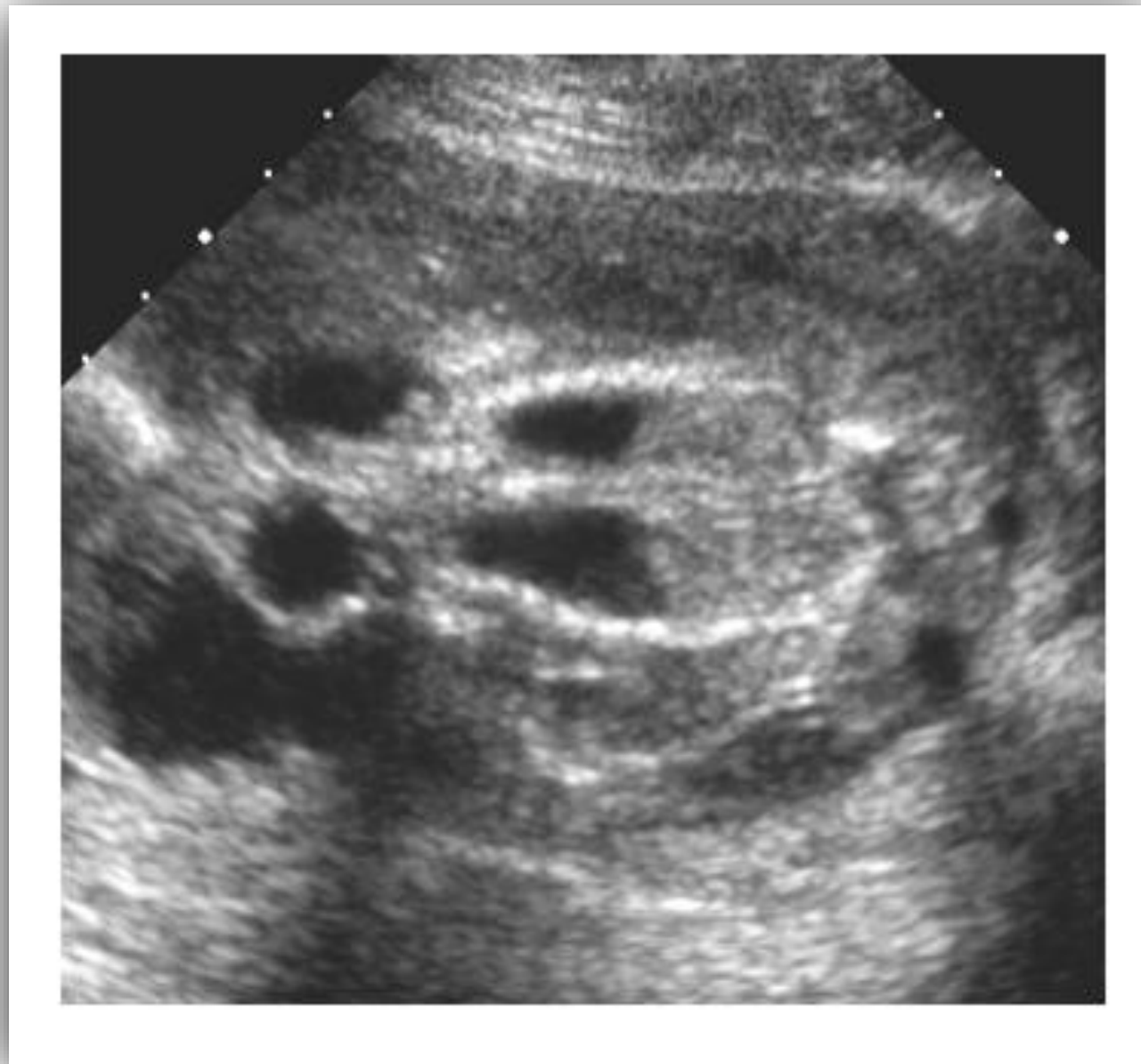
- Sonographic findings include:
 - Fluid-filled structure(s) presenting as cystic masses contiguous with chest wall
 - Thin-walled, multiseptated cysts usually located posterior to fetal head/neck
 - Associated with fetal ascites, fetal edema (anasarca), enlarged edematous placenta, intradermal fluid collections (cystic cutaneous lymphangiectasis)
 - May mimic a cervical teratoma or NTD

CYSTIC HYGROMAS



Cystic mass arising from neck

CYSTIC HYGROMAS



Cystic neck mass, pleural effusion

OB GYN SONOGRAPHY REVIEW

Fetal Face and Neck



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