Ultrasound assisted detection and removal of wooden foreign bodies in soft tissue

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Soft tissue foreign bodies represent a common cause for emergency department visits. Diagnosis may be difficult especially with non-radiopaque foreign bodies. Undetected wooden foreign bodies can cause significant morbidity, repeat visits, high cost, and extensive surgery. We report a case in which ultrasound was used in the Emergency Department to detect and remove wooden foreign bodies from the soft tissue. Ultrasound and other imaging modalities that may aid in the early diagnosis are discussed. (Hong Kong j.emerg.med. 2004;11:104-108)

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