

**PHILIPS**

*Refinity and Revolution*

Rotational IVUS catheter

# Rotational IVUS image interpretation

Pocket guide

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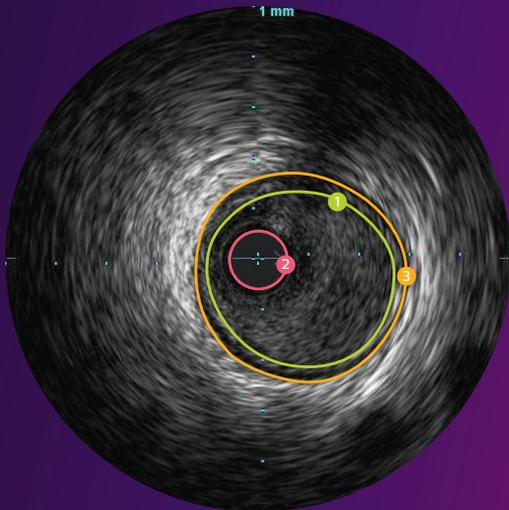
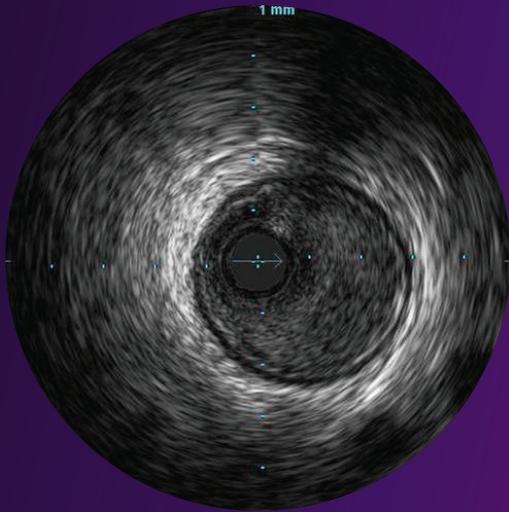
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# Normal vessel

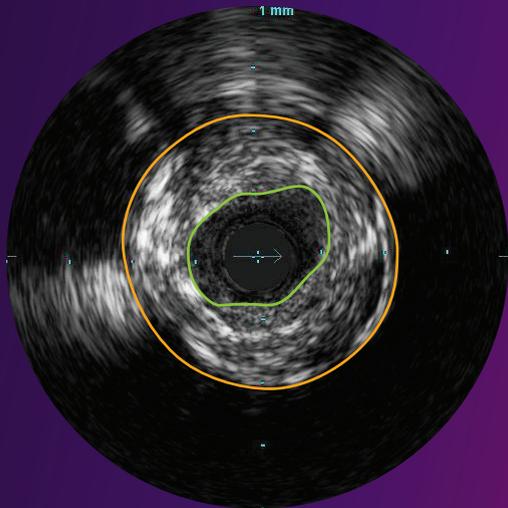
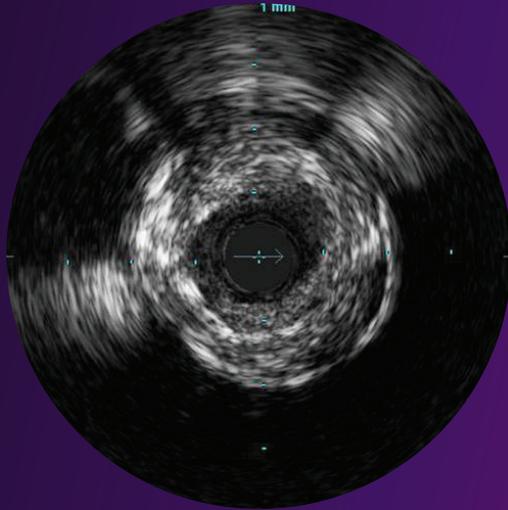
In a normal vessel, the lumen border is almost indistinguishable from the vessel border. While IVUS allows visualization of vessel and lumen, angiograms only provide a shadow of the lumen. In patients with diffuse disease, relying on the angiogram alone can potentially lead to underestimation of stenosis.

- The lumen border is drawn inside the intima or plaque
- The intimal layer is normally not seen unless it has begun to thicken
- The catheter mask (red area) indicates the location of the ultrasound transducer
- The media is the dark band between the adventitia and the intima

- 1 Lumen border
- 2 Catheter mask
- 3 Vessel border

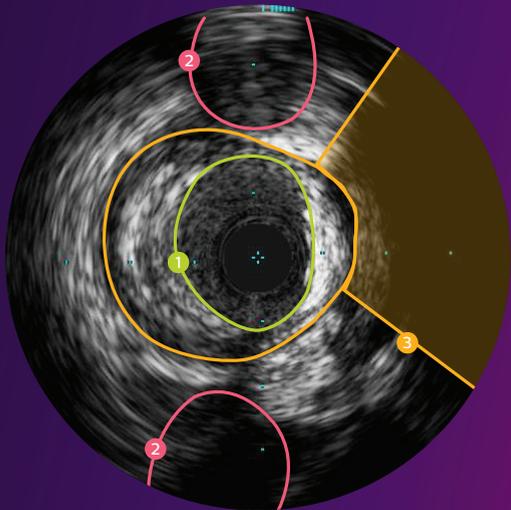
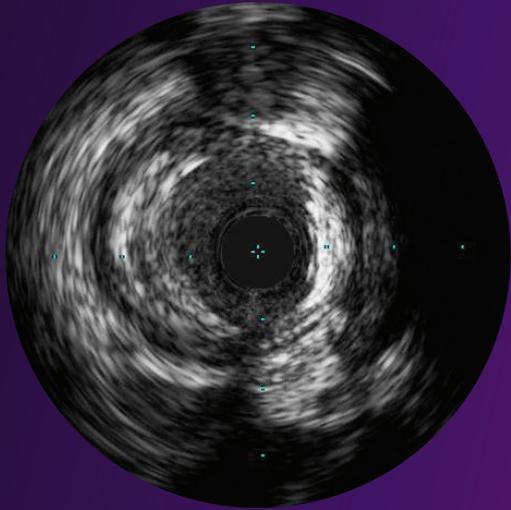


# Concentric mixed plaque



- Concentric plaques are distributed circumferentially in the vessel
- Concentric plaques tend to occur in areas of negative remodeling; use of angiography alone could result in too large a stent diameter
- Mixed plaque is a combination of tissues of varying echogenicity
  - The distribution of light and dark may be distinct, or light and dark variations may be intermingled as shown here
- Minimum Lumen Area (MLA) can define a threshold for a significant stenosis to determine the need for catheter-based or surgical intervention
  - $MLA < 4 \text{ mm}^2$  in LAD, LCX, and RCA vessels  $> 3 \text{ mm}$  in diameter correlates with physiological significance<sup>1</sup>
  - $MLA < 6 \text{ mm}^2$  in left main correlates with  $FFR < 0.75$ , indicating physiological significance<sup>1,2,3</sup>

1. Jasti, et al. Correlations between fractional flow reserve and intravascular ultrasound in patients with an ambiguous left main coronary artery stenosis *Circulation*, 2004;110:2831-2836.
2. Jose M. de la Torre Hernandez et al. Prospective Application of Pre-Defined Intravascular Ultrasound Criteria for Assessment of Intermediate Left Main Coronary Artery Lesions: Results From the Multicenter LITRO Study, *J Am Coll Cardiol*, 2011 58: 351-358.
3. Levine et al. 2011 ACCF/AHA/SCAI Guideline for Percutaneous Coronary Intervention. *J Am Coll Cardiol*, 2011; 58:44-122.



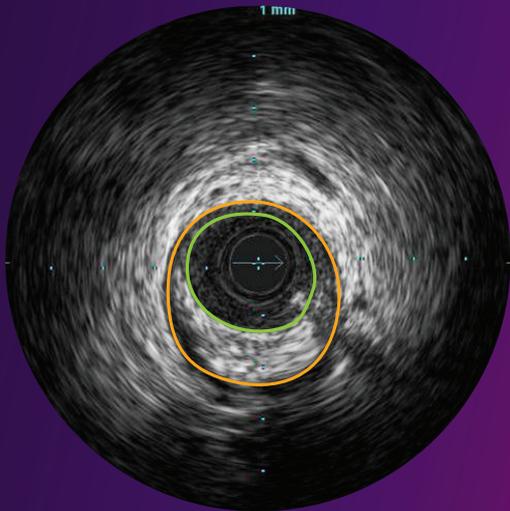
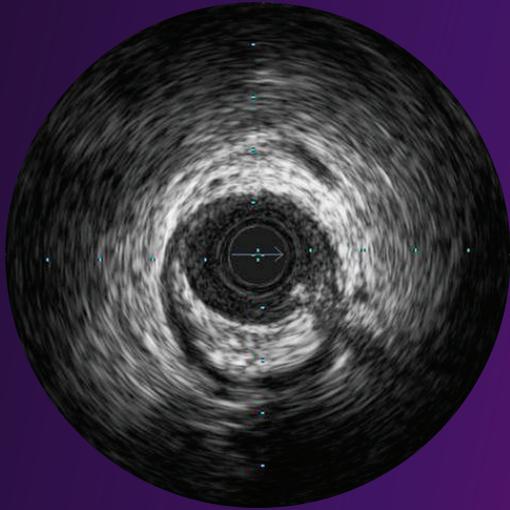
## Eccentric mixed plaque

- Eccentric plaques are distributed non-circumferentially in the vessel; this makes the assessment of disease by angiography especially prone to underestimation or overestimation depending on the angle of view
- Calcium is indicated by very bright areas with acoustic shadowing that blocks out the image behind; this shadowing occurs because the high density of calcium dampens the ultrasound echo
- Nearby vessels on the periphery can be seen moving in and out of the field of view and can be used as landmarks

- 1 Lumen border
- 2 Side branch
- 3 Acoustic shadowing

# Fibrous plaque

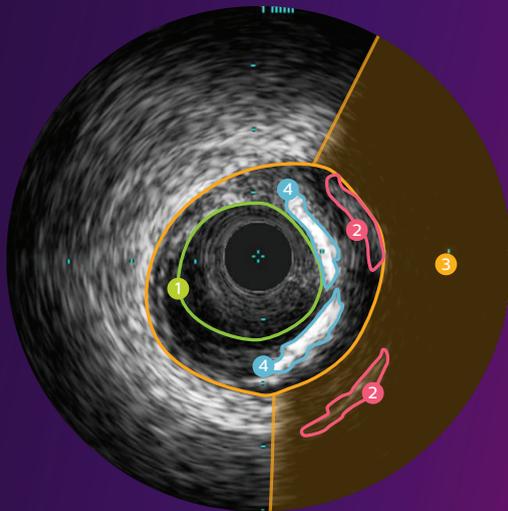
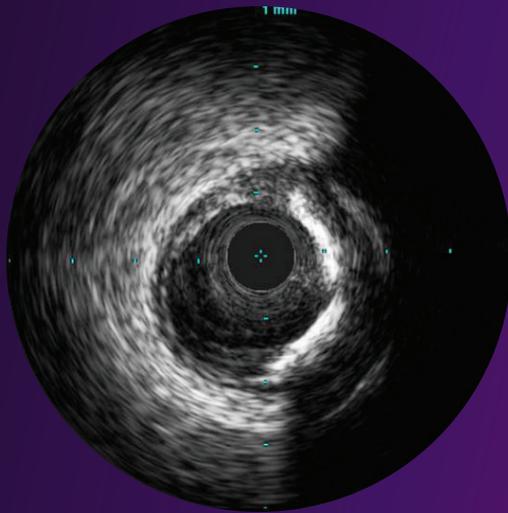
- These plaques have an intermediate echogenicity between soft (echolucent) atheromas and highly echogenic calcific plaques
- Fibrous plaques exhibit little or no acoustic shadowing



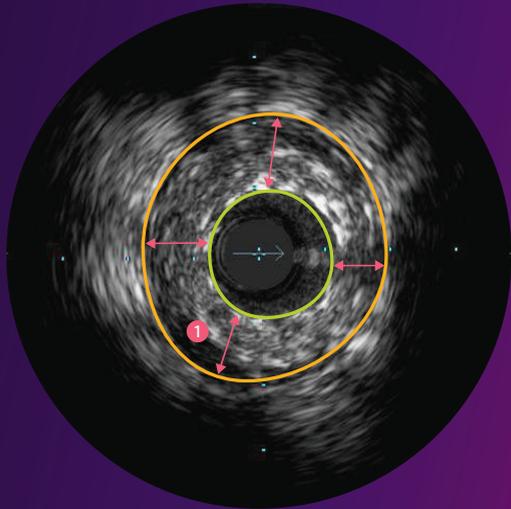
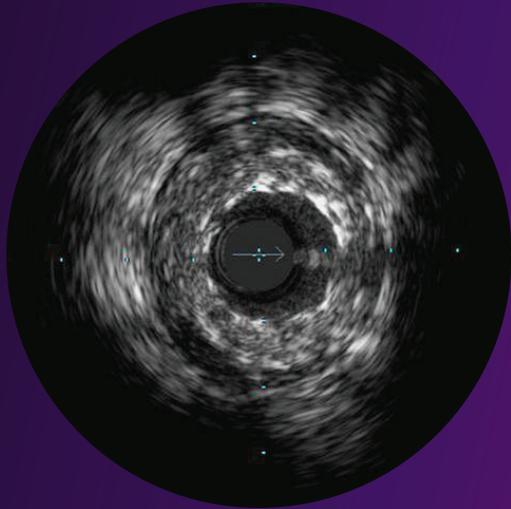
# Plaque with calcium

- There are two large bands of calcium in this plaque with acoustic shadowing arcs behind them
- Calcium is indicated by very bright areas with acoustic shadowing that blocks out the image behind it
  - Reverberations may also be seen
  - This shadowing occurs because the high density of calcium prevents the ultrasound from passing through
- Detection of calcium is a critical factor in determining the optimal PCI strategy
- Study data comparing IVUS and angiographic based assessments of calcium reported that IVUS detected calcium significantly more often<sup>1</sup>

- ① Lumen border
- ② Reverberation
- ③ Shadowing
- ④ Calcium



1. Mintz et al. Patterns of calcification in coronary artery disease. Circulation 1995; 91:1959-1965.

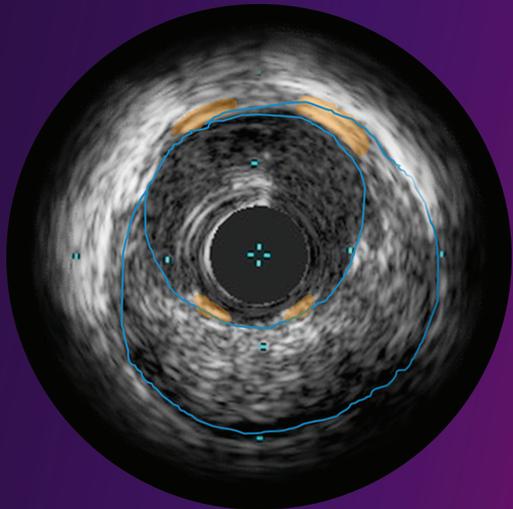
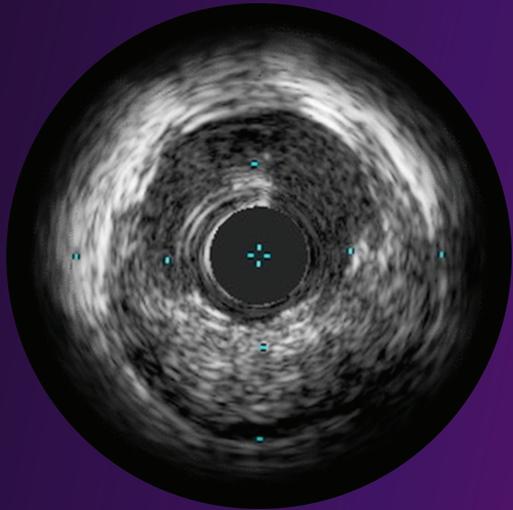


## Under expanded stent

- Stent struts appear as bright marks spaced around the lumen (eleven struts seen here)
- Large presence of plaque behind stent struts may indicate under-expansion
- Device size is an independent predictor of stent thrombosis<sup>1</sup>

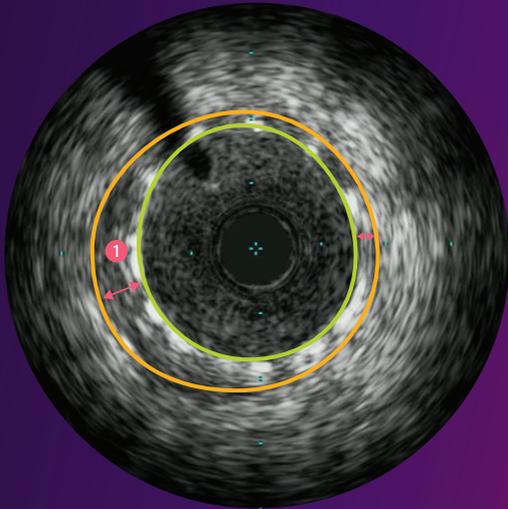
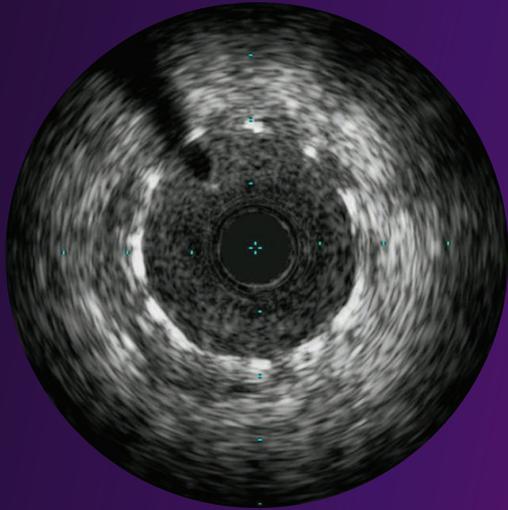
1 Area of expansion

1. Witzensbichler et al. Relationship Between Intravascular Ultrasound Guidance and Clinical Outcomes After Drug-Eluting Stents: The ADAPT-DES Study. *Circulation*. Published online November 26, 2013.



## Bioresorbable scaffold, under expanded

Large presence of plaque behind scaffold struts may indicate under-expansion.



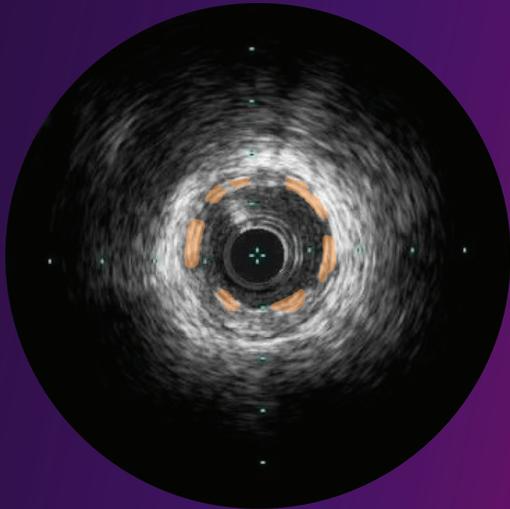
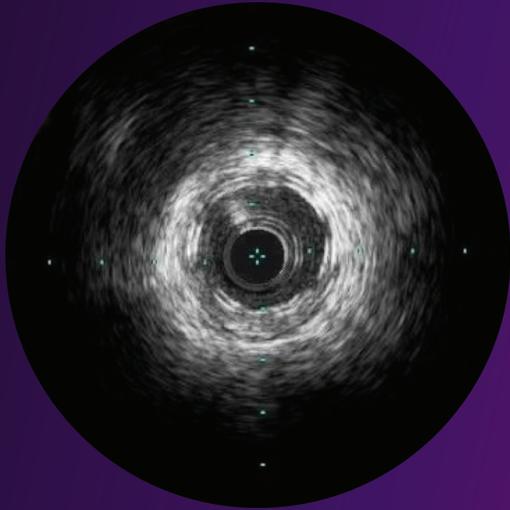
## Stent with complete apposition

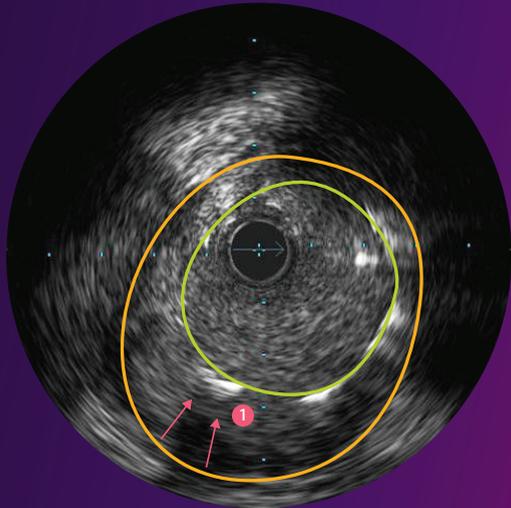
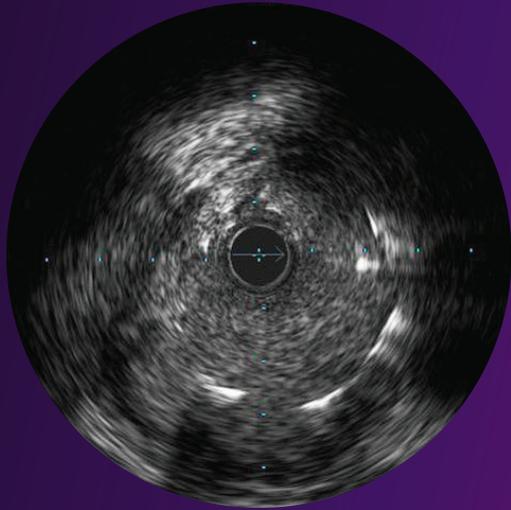
- Complete apposition is indicated by consistent stent strut contact with tissue
- Complete apposition does not guarantee that a stent is not under-sized or under-expanded

1 Area of complete apposition

## Bioresorbable scaffold, well apposed

- Because of the thickness and material of the struts, it is common for the struts to present on ultrasound as a double line representing the leading and trailing edges of the strut
- IVUS may be used to optimize BRS implantation by allowing you to observe:
  - Scaffold expansion
  - Apposition
  - Edge complications

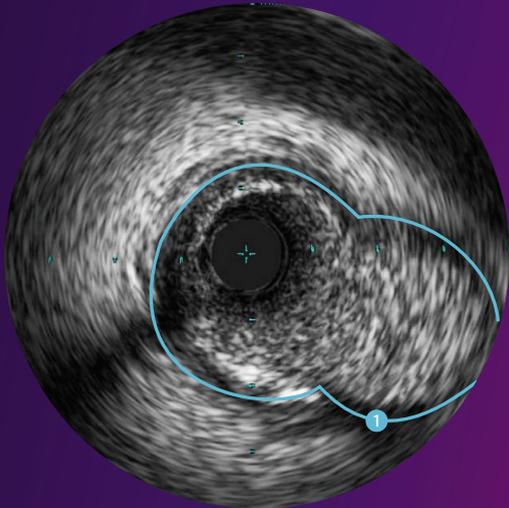
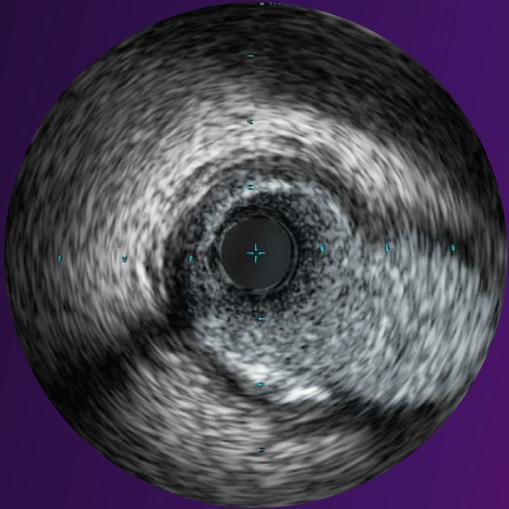




# Stent with malapposition

- Malapposition is indicated by blood visible behind stent struts
- Blood may appear as a very faint speckle or black on grayscale IVUS
- Stents may be completely or only partially malapposed depending on how much of the stent is in contact with the lumen wall

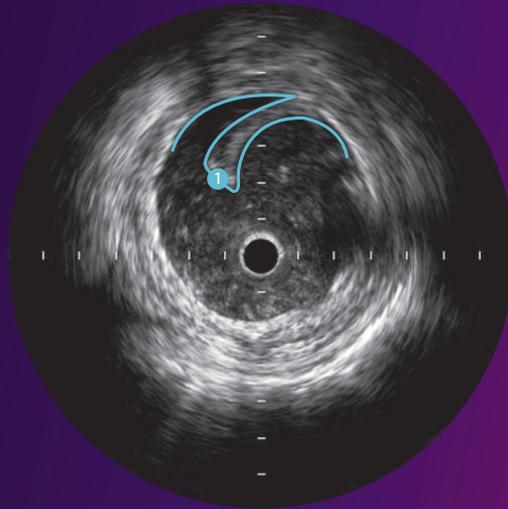
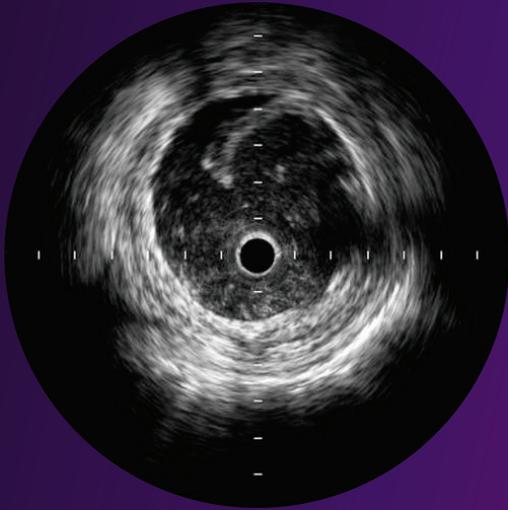
1 Area of malapposition



# Vessel branches merging

- Nearby side branches can act as landmarks
- Side branches can be used to determine where or where not to stent within a vessel

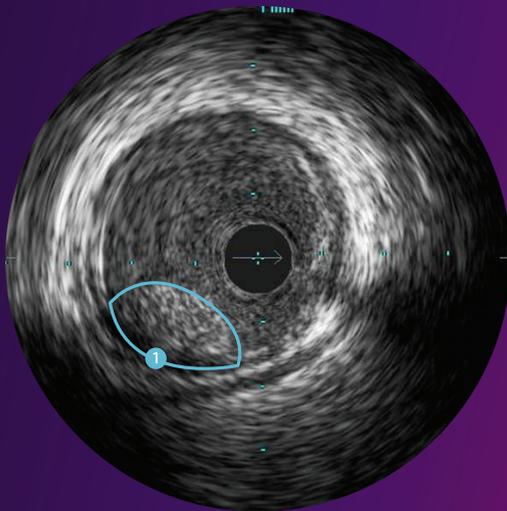
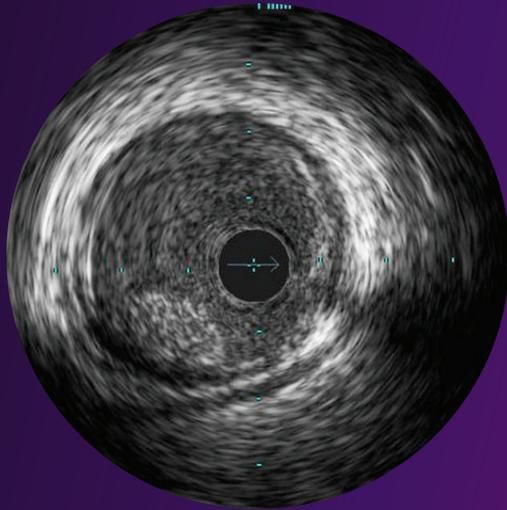
## 1 Side branches merging



## Vein graft dissection

- A dissection, or tear in the vessel wall can be seen as a flap with blood flow behind it
- Only the intimal layer is dissected
- When detecting a dissection, the catheter may be flushed with contrast to reduce the blood speckle

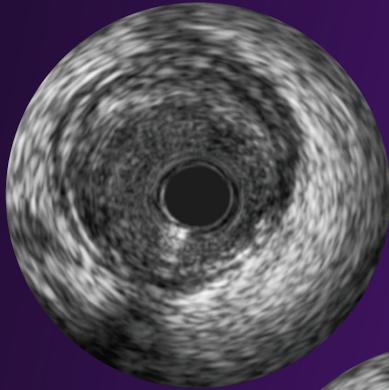
1 Dissection area



# Intraluminal thrombus

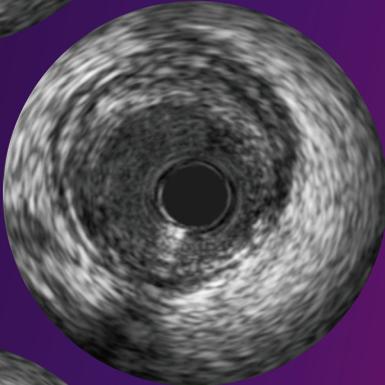
- Thrombus is usually circular in appearance and non-stationary
- When viewed during a pullback, thrombus first appears small in size becoming larger and then smaller again
- When detecting a thrombus, the catheter may be flushed with contrast to highlight the contours

## 1 Thrombus

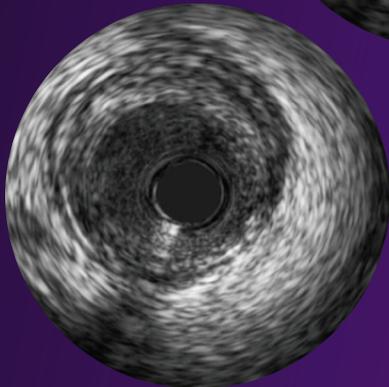


**Hi-Q off**  
Imaging equivalent to systems with software versions prior to v3.3

**Hi-Q level 1**  
Imaging with a darker and finer blood speckle appearance than in the Off mode. Level is also the default mode for new systems



**Hi-Q level 2**  
Imaging with an even darker and finer blood speckle appearance than in the Level 1 mode



## Hi-Q imaging options

Hi-Q imaging allows you to customize your image to better identify lumen features<sup>1</sup>

Choose from three high quality, optimized imaging modes with different levels of darkness and fineness of blood speckle:<sup>2</sup>

- May help differentiate between tissue and blood along the lumen border
- May help identify stent struts, dissection, or other lumen features

1. Available on all Refinity and Revolution catheters when using v3.3 software or higher.
2. Catheter must be plugged in with Image On; selection accessible via the Adjust Image Menu.

# See what you've been missing with IVUS

## Stent sizing

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### Angiography

Must rely on “eyeball” estimate.

### IVUS

Enables you to make lumen and reference vessel measurements that can be used when selecting stent size.

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## Stent expansion and apposition

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### Angiography

Cannot see the vessel wall to verify optimal placement.

### IVUS

User-defined cross-sectional area measurements and views allow verification and documentation of stent placement.

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## Normal vessels vs. diffuse disease

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### Angiography

Tends to underestimate degree of stenosis in diffuse disease or with positive remodeling.<sup>1</sup>

### IVUS

Helps you distinguish normal from abnormal vessels and find the location of disease in patients with a normal angiogram.

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## Concentric and eccentric plaques

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### Angiography

Must rely on “eyeball” estimate. Assessment of eccentric plaque lesion size especially prone to error based on angle of view.

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### IVUS

Helps you get an accurate lumen area to determine lesion significance and stent size.

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## Calcium

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### Angiography

Less sensitive than IVUS for detecting calcium.<sup>1</sup>

### IVUS

Makes the presence of calcium clear, helping to identify lesions that need pre-treatment.

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## Dissection

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### Angiography

Cannot determine where the dissection begins.

### IVUS

Can be determined.

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## Thrombus

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### Angiography

Difficult to determine.

### IVUS

Can be determined.

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## Side branches merging

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### Angiography

Cannot tell how diseased the vessels are.

### IVUS

Helps to determine where to place or not place a stent as well as providing information on the disease state in the ostium and side branch.

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1. Reference vessels are diseased 93% of the time. Mintz et al. Patterns of Calcification in Coronary Artery Disease A Statistical Analysis of Intravascular Ultrasound and Coronary Angiography in 1155 Lesions JACC 25; 7:1479-85, June 1995.





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D041656-01 042019