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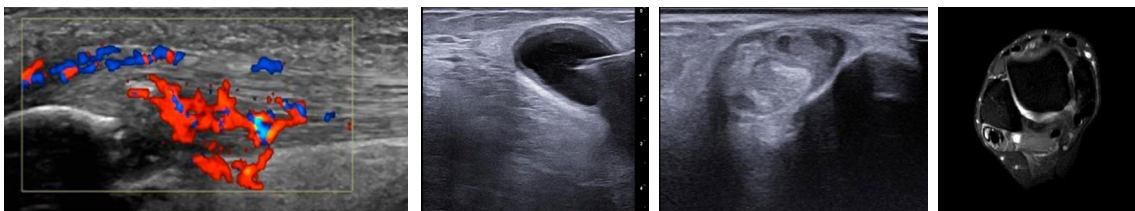
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Role of interventional radiology in chronic joint and tendon disorders

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Interventional radiology (IR) plays a crucial role in the management of chronic joint and tendon disorders, offering minimally invasive treatment options that are particularly beneficial for athletes. These individuals often face musculoskeletal chronic conditions such as osteoarthritis, tendinopathies, and chronic pain due to the increased physical demands for their strenuous careers. IR techniques, including image-guided intra-articular and tendon injections, aspirations, dry-needling and radiofrequency ablation, provide targeted and effective treatment options that can significantly improve pain management and functional outcomes. Dynamic high-resolution ultrasonography (US) has emerged as the first-choice imaging modality to guide musculoskeletal percutaneous procedures. By utilizing real-time ultrasound imaging, healthcare providers can accurately localize target tissues and administer injections with better accuracy, reducing the risk of complications and improving outcomes. The ability to visualize the needle pathway and injectates ensures precise delivery of medications, such as corticosteroids, hyaluronic acid, or monocyte rich plasma or platelet-rich plasma, directly into affected areas. This approach not only enhances the quality of life for athletes but also minimizes the risks associated with traditional more invasive surgical interventions. There are a numbers of conditions that can be targeted with image-guided interventions, the most frequently treated are knee osteoarthritis, degenerative tendon disorder like epicondilopathy (tennis elbow), patellar tendinopathy (Jumper's knee) and Achille's tendinopathy, tenosynovitis, ganglion cyst, hematomas, The integration of IR into the treatment plan for chronic joint and tendon disorders represents a significant advancement in personalized and patient-centered care for athletes.



Biography

Salvatore Seminatore is a MD in Interventional Radiology at ARNAS Garibaldi Hospital of Catania, with expertise in diagnostic and interventional radiology especially in msk field. I offer ultrasound-guided minimally invasive procedures to both sports professionals and general population to manage acute and chronic sport-related injuries and degenerative joint disorders.

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