

Objectives

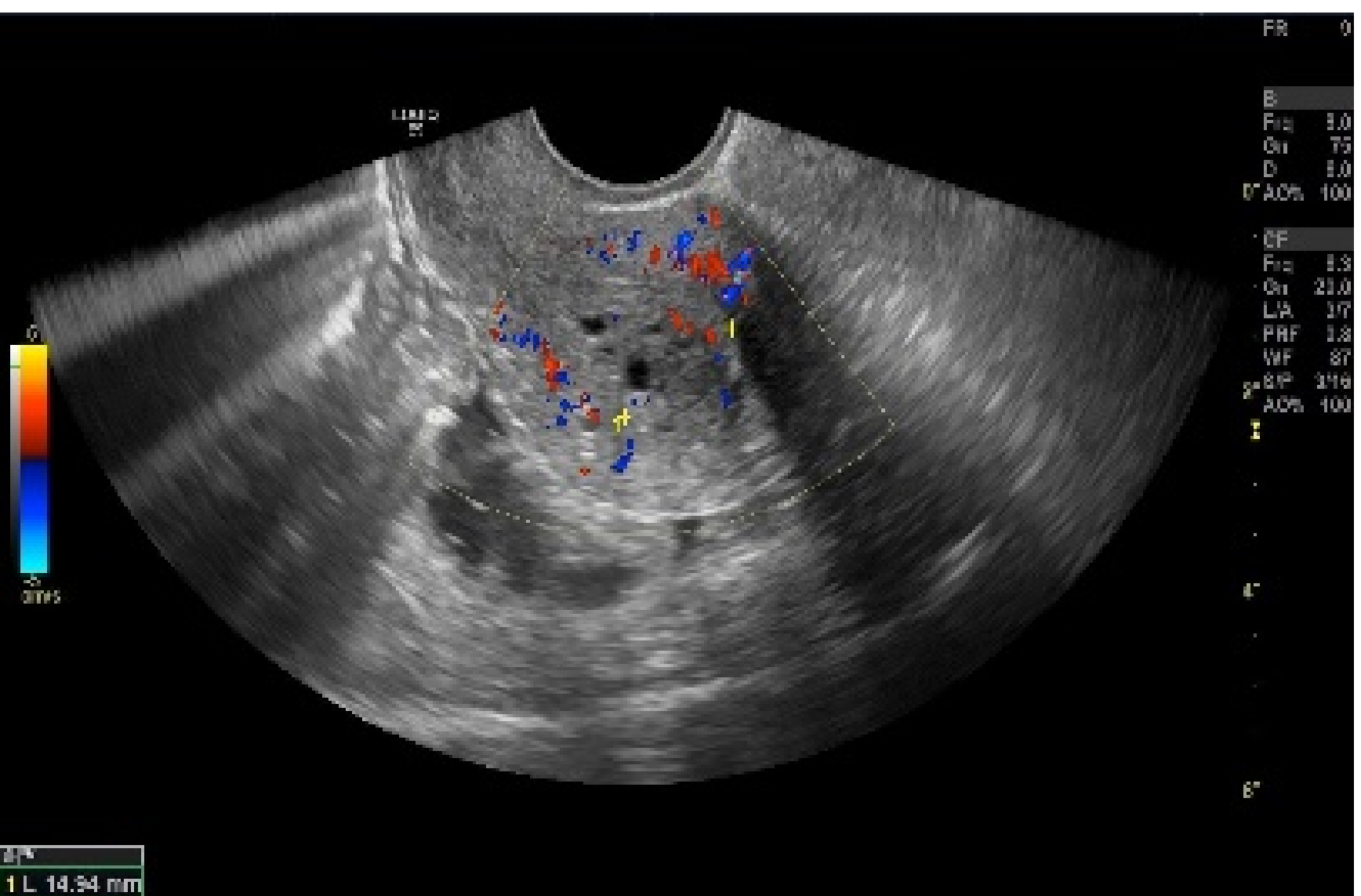
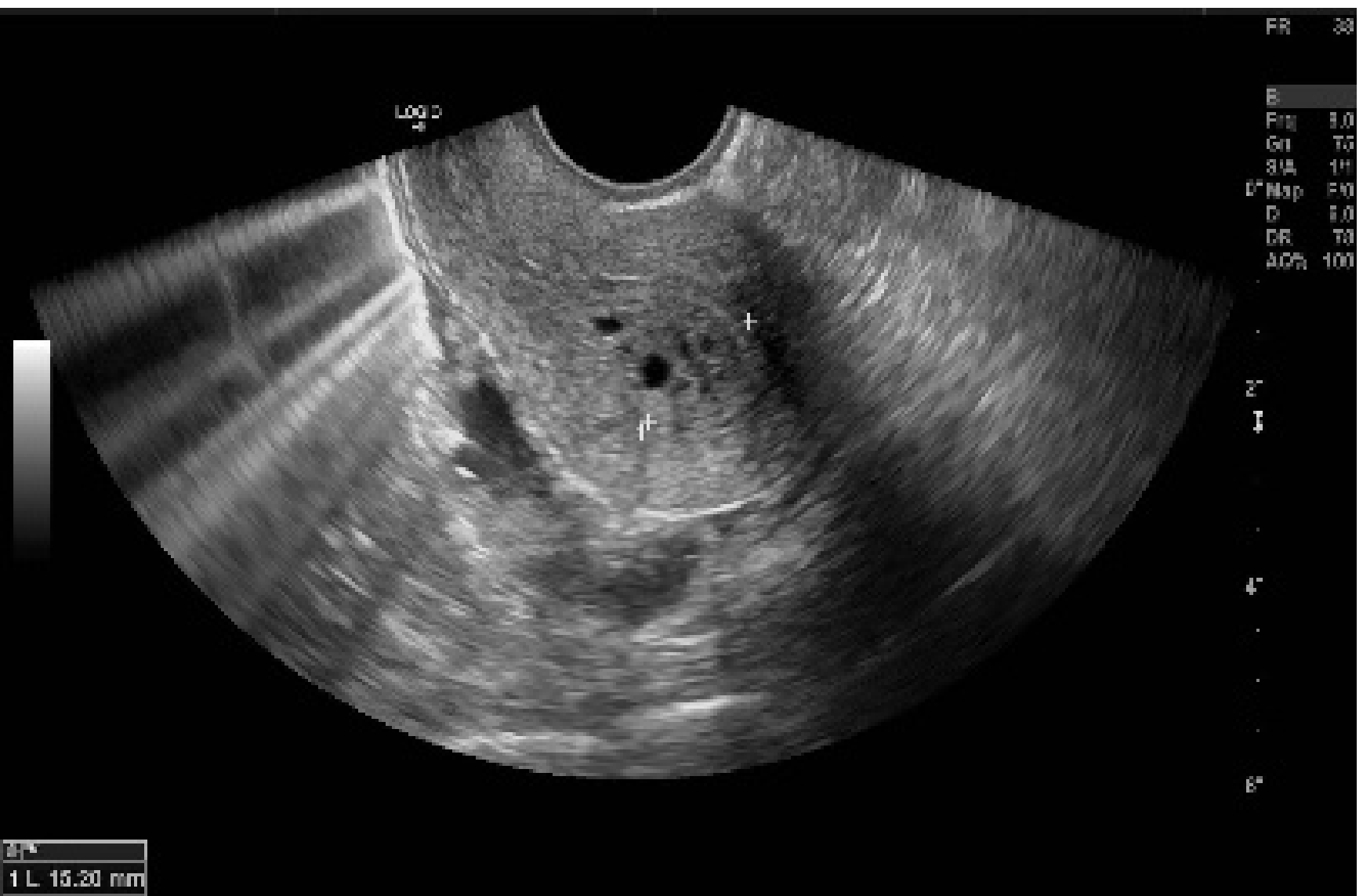
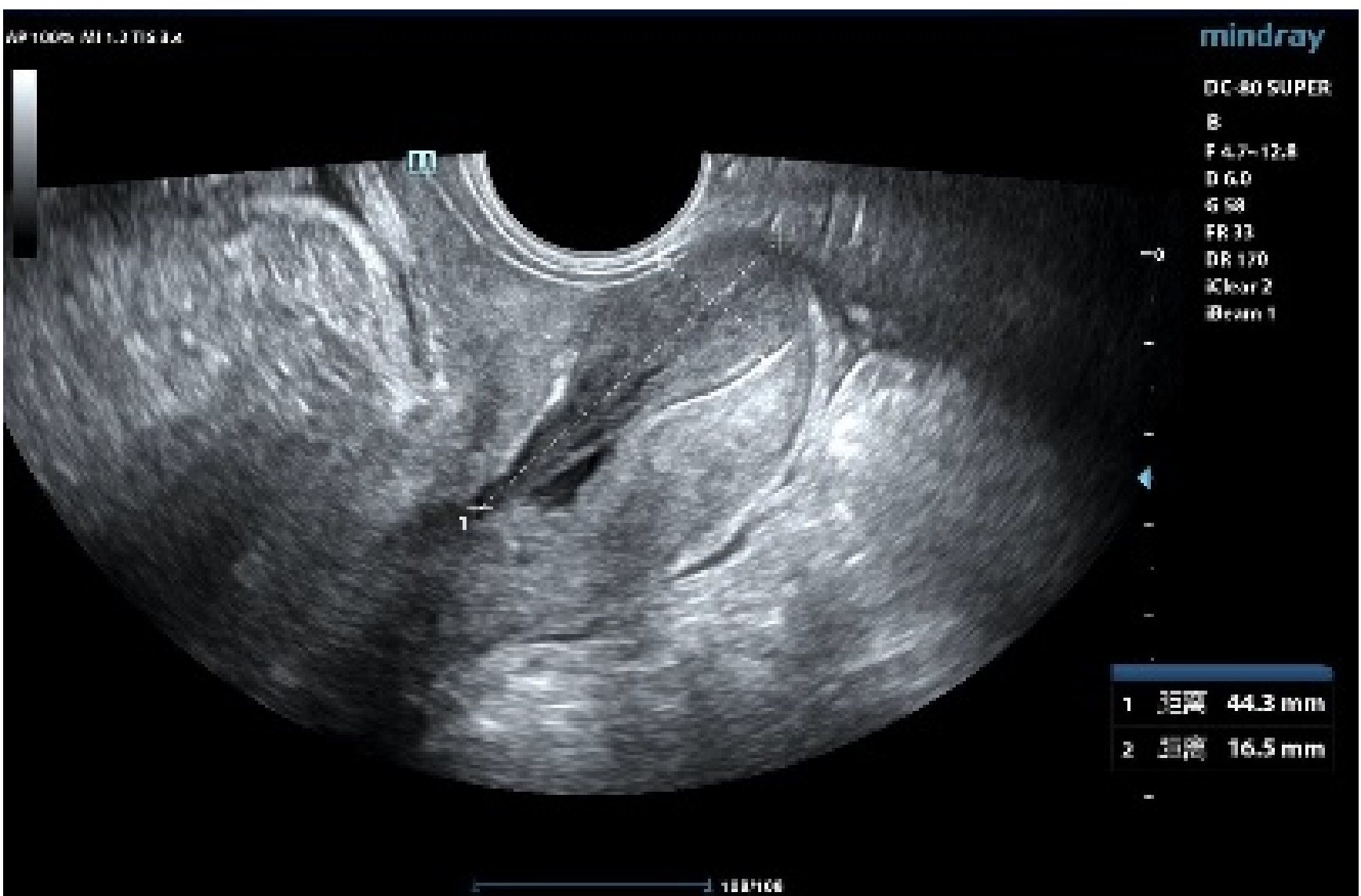
To investigate the clinical, IETA ultrasound (US), contrast-enhanced ultrasound (CEUS) and pathologic features of APA for the differential diagnosis of uterine lesions.

Methods

Clinical data, US and pathology results of 7 cases uterine APA were retrospectively collected and observed.

Results

7 patients ranged in age from 27 to 57 years old, 2 were postmenopausal, 4 cases had manifestations of irregular vaginal bleeding and menstrual disorders. The lesions were located in the cervix in 4 cases and uterine cavity in 3 cases. 5 cases had typical US signs: the lesions showed pedicled equal-echo masses, clear boundaries, with a slightly higher echo envelope around it, uneven internal echoes, and multiple cystic echoes in some lesions. 2 cases showed only endometrial thickening, uneven echo, and multiple sacs echo. In all 7 cases, the endometrial–myometrial junction was regular. Long pedicle blood flow was seen in 6 cases, the vascular pattern was single vessel (without branching),



and scattered vessels pattern in 1 case. 1 case underwent CEUS and the results showed typical CEUS features: annular low-enhanced echo around the lesion, uneven high-enhanced echo inside the lesion, and no enhanced area if there was cystic change or necrosis. The CEUS pattern was shown as a " slow perfusion, slow resolution " pattern. The volume of most APA lesions was larger than that of common polyps, 7 cases had typical pathologic features: the lesions were composed of endometrial glands and smooth muscle bundles, accompanied by varying amounts of fibrous interstitial, and glandular hyperplasia and disorder. Typical cases showed obvious structural complexity and cell atypia.

Conclusion

Uterine atypical polypoid adenomyoma (APA) has specific US characteristics and pathologic features and is a benign lesion, but APA has low malignant potential. Complete resection of the tumor is required to prevent recurrence and regular follow-up is essential. This study was supported by the National Natural Science Foundation of China (No.82202262).