Transvaginal Sonography Best For Assessing Suspected Ectopic Pregnancy.

Medscape (4/24, Barclay) reports, "Transvaginal sonography is the single best diagnostic test to assess suspected ectopic pregnancy, according to a systematic <u>review</u> published in the April 24 issue" of the Journal of the American Medical Association. "Clinical history and physical examination alone are insufficient to confirm or rule out ectopic pregnancy in women with abdominal pain or vaginal bleeding during early pregnancy."

MedPage Today (4/24, Boyles) reports, "In a review of 14 studies with just over 12,000 patients, when the transvaginal sonogram indicated the presence of an adnexal mass and absence of an intrauterine pregnancy, the summary [likelihood ratio] for an ectopic pregnancy was 111 (95% CI 12 to 1,028), reported Monique Chireau, MD, MPH, of Duke University Medical Center, and colleagues." The study "authors also stated that patient history and clinical examination alone are insufficient to indicate or eliminate the possibility of ectopic pregnancy, emphasizing that 'the presence of abdominal pain or vaginal bleeding during early pregnancy should prompt a transvaginal sonogram and quantitative serum human chorionic gonadotropin (hCG) testing,' they wrote."