

Description

SonoVue (sulphur hexafluoride microbubbles) is a contrast agent for contrast enhanced ultrasound (CEUS) for diagnostic imaging in adults where study without contrast enhancement is inconclusive. SonoVue is a second generation contrast agent. Second generation contrast agents have a flexible shell which allows continuous imaging without early destruction of the microbubble when compared with first generation contrast agents. SonoVue may be used for diagnostic purposes in echocardiography, Doppler of macrovasculature (cerebral arteries, extracranial carotid or peripheral arteries) and Doppler of microvasculature (liver and breast lesions). The manufacturer has highlighted the use of SonoVue in CEUS for imaging liver lesions (for example, liver cancer) in adults. In these patients, it is claimed that SonoVue reduces the waiting time for diagnosis, reduces the need for further imaging and has a better safety profile compared to other contrast agents.