

Comparison of Micro-Ultrasound and Multiparametric MRI Imaging for Prostate Cancer: Multicentre Prospective Analysis.

Giovanni Lughezzani¹, José Gregorio Pereira², Andrea Sánchez², Frédéric Staerman³, Hannes Cash⁴, Laurent Lopez⁵, Jean Rouffilange⁵, Richard Gaston⁵, Eric Klein⁶, Robert Abouassaly⁶, Laurence Klotz⁷, Gregg Eure⁸

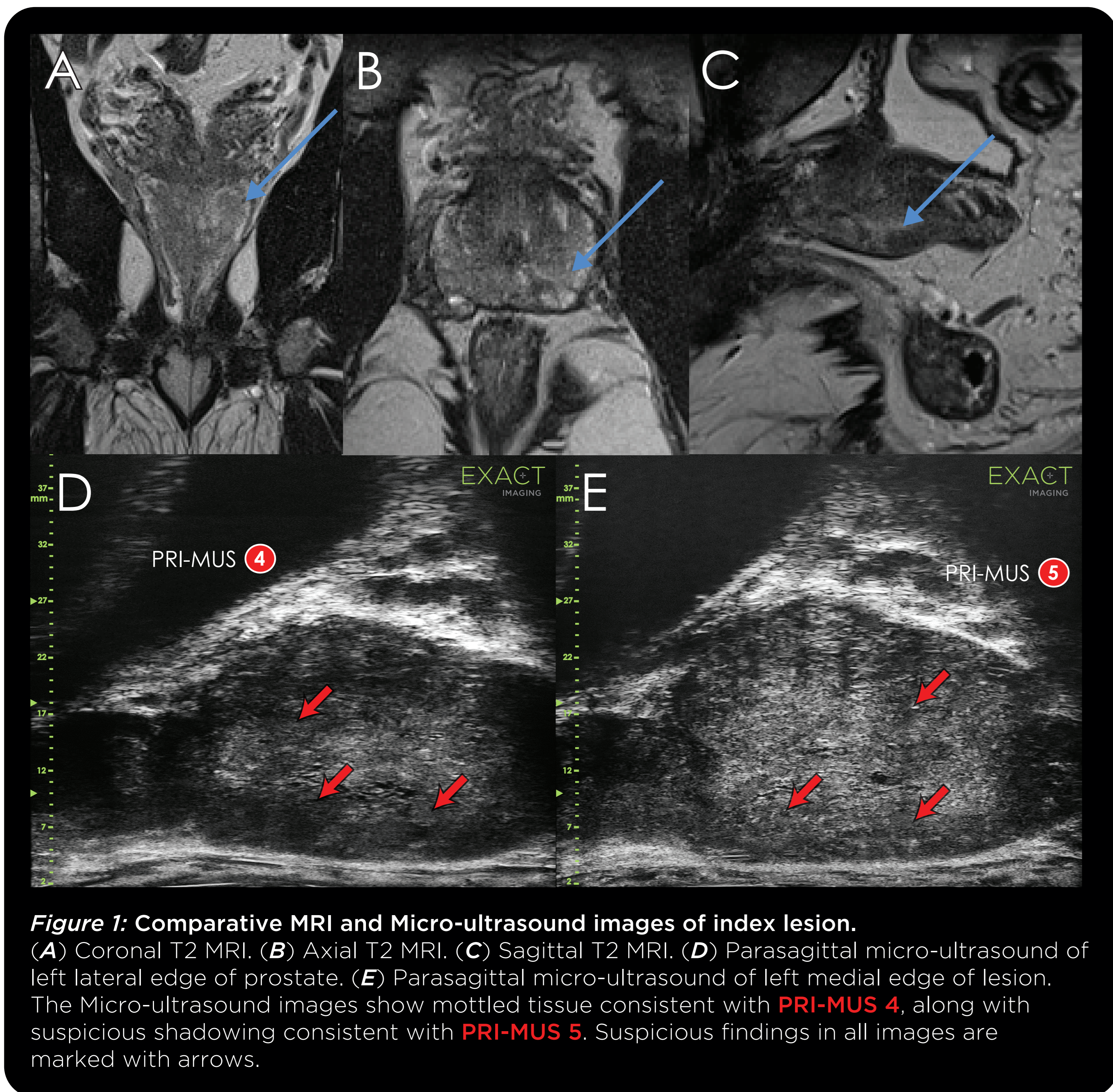
¹Instituto Clinico Humanitas, Rozzano, Italy, ²Urología Clínica, Clínica IMQ Zorrotzaurre, Spain, ³Polyclinique Reims-Bezannes, Reims, France, ⁴Charité Universitätsmedizin Berlin, Berlin, Germany, ⁵Groupe Urologie Saint-Augustin, Bordeaux, France, ⁶Glickman Urological Institute, Cleveland Clinic, Cleveland, USA, ⁷Sunnybrook Hospital, Toronto, Canada, ⁸Urology of Virginia, Virginia Beach, USA,

INTRODUCTION & OBJECTIVES:

This study aims to compare the sensitivity, specificity, NPV and PPV of mpMRI with the novel **high-resolution micro-ultrasound** imaging modality. This approach offers the benefits of simplicity, a single intervention for imaging and biopsy, leveraging the low cost of ultrasound. Micro-ultrasound may be used to image suspicious lesions and **target biopsies in real-time with or without additional MRI-based targets**.

MATERIAL & METHODS:

- 8 institutions in Europe and the USA participating, totaling **784** subjects
- All subjects received both mpMRI and **ExactVu™ micro-ultrasound** imaging.
- mpMRI targets sampled per site preference:
 - cognitive fusion with micro-ultrasound
 - separate software-fusion system
 - software-fusion using micro-ultrasound **FusionVu™**
- Micro-Ultrasound targets and systematic samples taken using the **ExactVu™ micro-ultrasound system**.
- Clinically significant cancer was any **Gleason Sum > 6** and targeted samples were taken for **PI-RADS™ > 2** or **PRI-MUS™¹ > 2** lesions with at least 2 samples per lesion



CONCLUSIONS:

- **Micro-ultrasound is an attractive option for screening and targeted biopsy. Sensitivity and NPV appear superior to MRI, but specificity is mildly reduced.**
- Further larger-scale studies are required for validation of these findings.

RESULTS:

- 40% of cases were positive for clinically significant PCa
- mpMRI sensitivity 89% and NPV 75%
- **Micro-ultrasound sensitivity 94%** and **NPV 83%** both higher ($p < 0.01$)
 - Micro-ultrasound less specific (19% vs 23% for mpMRI)
 - PPV 44% for both

Modality	Sensitivity	Specificity	PPV	NPV
mpMRI	89%	23%	44%	75%
Micro-ultrasound	94%	19%	44%	83%

Table 1: Summary statistics comparing ability to detect clinically significant prostate cancer (Gleason > 6) between mpMRI and micro-ultrasound.

Micro-ultrasound demonstrated a higher sensitivity than mpMRI ($p < 0.01$), as well as a higher negative predictive value (NPV). Positive predictive value (PPV) was equivalent between the two modalities, while specificity was low on both though slightly lower with micro-ultrasound suggesting a higher rate of false positives.

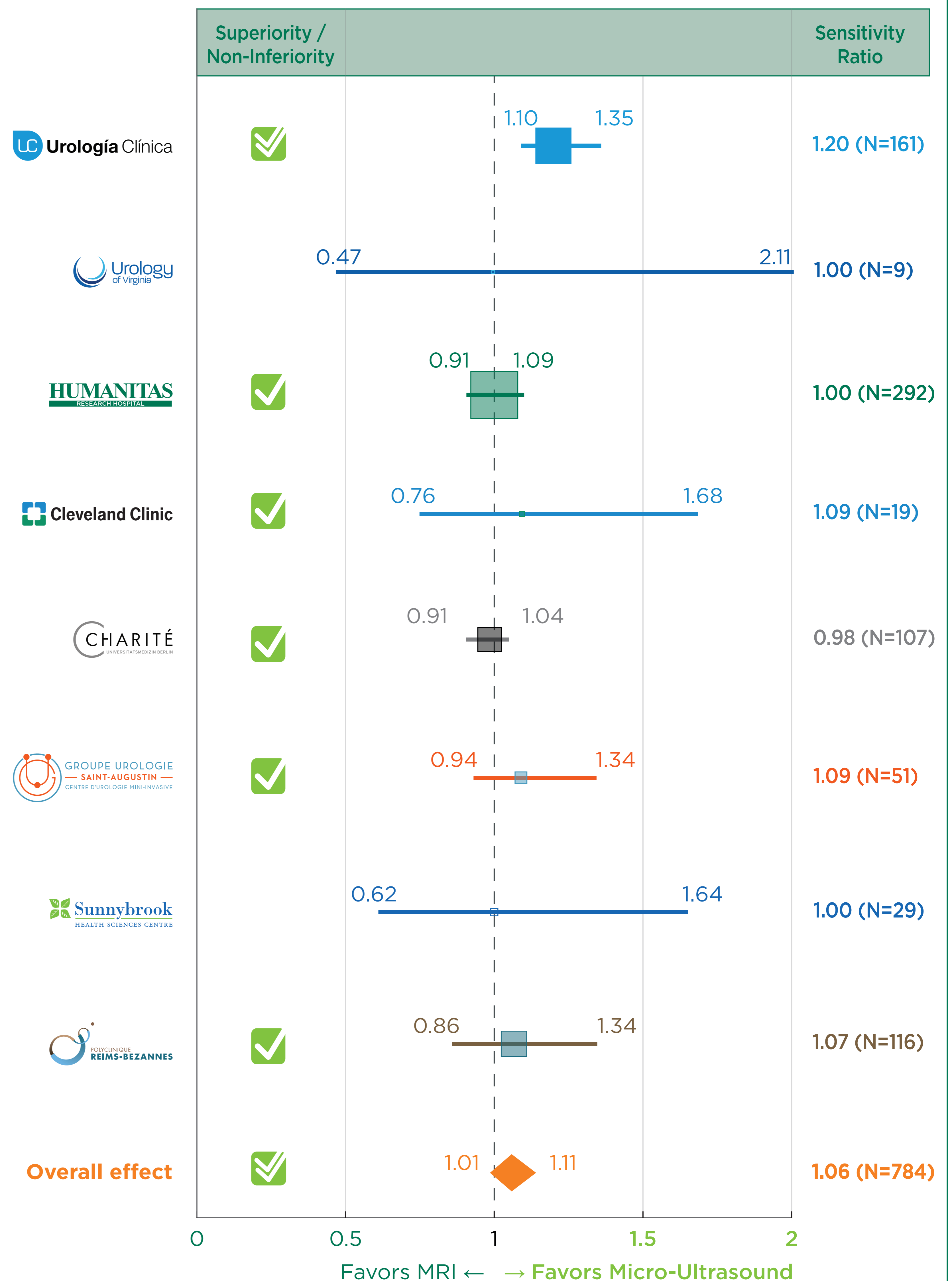


Figure 2: Forest plot showing results for each institutional cohort. Most groups achieved non-inferiority independently with aggregate results showing **superiority sensitivity of micro-ultrasound over MRI with sensitivity ratio of 1.06** ($p = 0.007$).

REFERENCES:

1. Ghai S, Eure G, Fradet V, et al: **Assessing Cancer Risk on Novel 29 MHz Micro-Ultrasound Images of the Prostate: Creation of the Micro-Ultrasound Protocol for Prostate Risk Identification.** J. Urol. 2016; 196: 562-569.