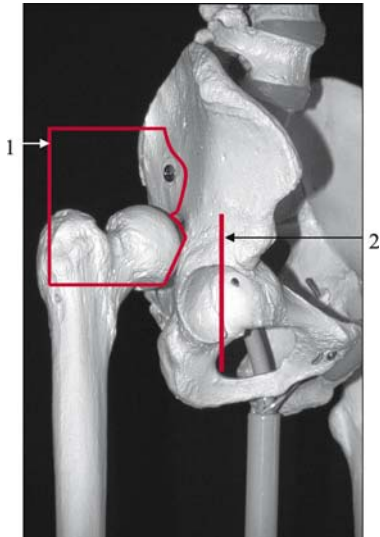


3 The Standard Plane



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3.1 The Principle of the “Standard Plane”

In order to be reproducible the same sonographic section through the hip joint must always be used. This will be explained more precisely in Sect. 3.2. To define a plane, one requires three points in space to be defined.

For hip ultrasound these points are:

1. The lower limb of the bony ilium in the depth of the acetabular fossa (Figs. 3.1–3.4).
2. The mid portion of the acetabular roof.
3. The acetabular labrum.

If any one of these points is missing or not clearly shown, the sonogram is worthless and must not

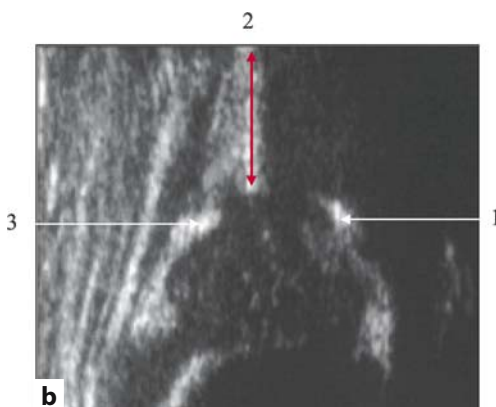
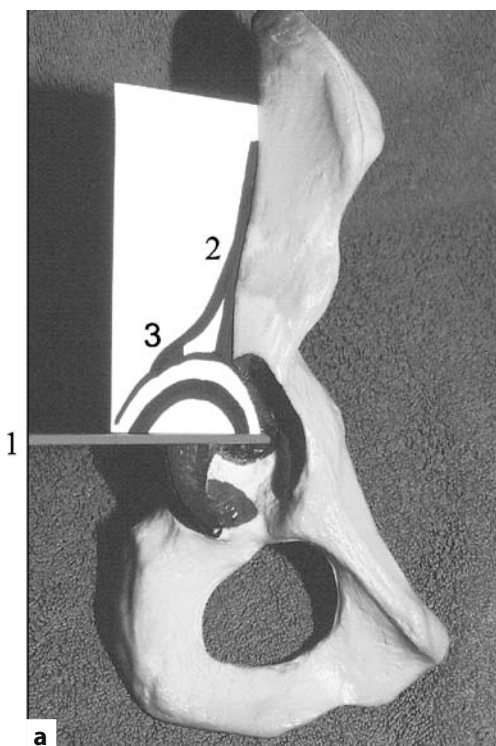


Fig. 3.1. a The sonographic image of the infant hip in the coronal plane has three landmarks: 1, lower limb of os ilium as rotating axis for the sectional plane; 2, mid part of the acetabular roof (standard sectional plane); 3, acetabular labrum. b 1, lower limb of the os ilium; 2, correct plane; 3, labrum

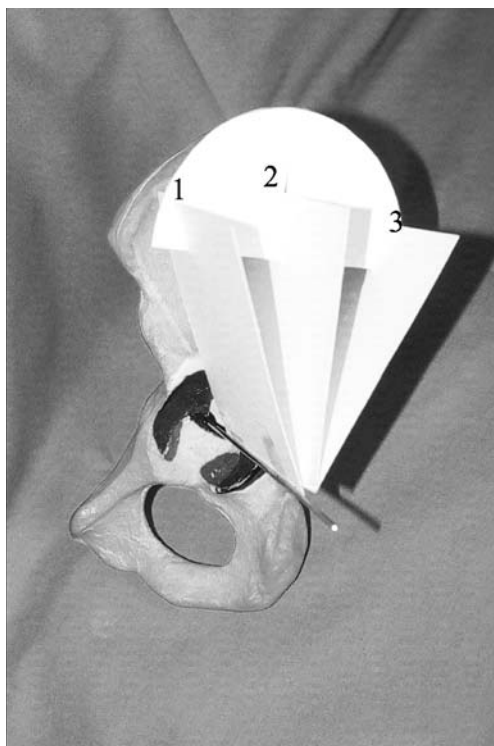


Fig. 3.2. Sonographic images of different sectional planes through the acetabulum. The rotational axis is through the lower limb of the os ilium. 1, Anterior plane; 2, standard (middle) plane; 3, posterior plane