OBJECTIVE: The purpose of this article is to present the potentials and limits of contrast-enhanced ultrasonography (CEUS) in the characterization of pancreatic tumors, usually hypoechoic or cystic at B-mode ultrasound. CONCLUSION: As regards hypoechoic lesions at B-mode ultrasound, CEUS often can distinguish among adenocarcinoma, islet cell tumor and serous microcystic adenoma. As regards cystic lesions, CEUS in most cases doesn’t add significative diagnostic information; therefore CT, MR or endoscopic US are almost always necessary for their proper characterization.

Key Word:
contrast-enhanced ultrasonography, pancreatic tumors