Refferal for fetal echocardiography in the era of cardiac screening training
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Objectives
Since 2008, training courses have been conducted in Romania, with the purpose of raising the recognition of congenital heart defects (CHD). Our objective was to detect the main reasons of referral for fetal echocardiography to our tertiary centre, from Targu Mures, Romania and to corroborate them with our sonographic findings.

Methods
We performed a retrospective study on 717 patients, who were referred to our centre between 2007-2018. We devised this time span into two equal periods of 6 years, namely 2007-2012 and 2013-2018, due to the ongoing training process, and compared them in terms of referral reasons and ultrasonographical findings of the cardiac screening, using Fisher’s exact test.

Results
We observed an approximately fivefold increase in the number of cases referred for fetal echocardiography between 2013-2018, as compared to 2007-2012 (599 versus 118). In both periods, the main reason for referral was the suspicion of cardiac anomaly, raised by abnormal cardiac views (71% of cases between 2007-2012, 76% between 2013-2018), followed by failure of fetal cardiac screening (17% between 2007 and 2012, 11% between 2013 and 2018).

Conclusions
Training of the examiners regarding ultrasonographical cardiac views can lead to a considerable increase in prenatal detection rates, as seen from our study.