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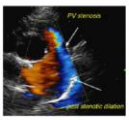
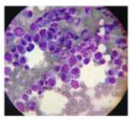
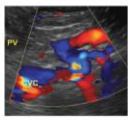




SonoPath
Clinical Sonography & Telecytology
EDUCATIONAL TELECONSULTATION SERVICES™
1-800-838-4268 info@sonopath.com SonoPath.com

PATIENT
Gus Malkin

SPECIES
Canine

BREED
English Bulldog

SEX
Male Neutered

AGE
6 years

WEIGHT
50lbs

INTERPRETED BY
Maggie Machen Lamy, DVM, DACVIM (Cardiology)

IMAGING PERFORMED BY
Sarah Pender, CVT

HOSPITAL NAME
SVS Imaging QC

REFERRING VET
Dr. Neumeister

INVOICE
21546

DATE
10/15/21

PRESENTING CLINICAL SIGNS
History: Dyspnea, tachypnea.
-Current medications: Carprofen and Vetmedin.

RADIOGRAPHIC FINDINGS *NOTE: Images submitted for supplemental cardiac information only.
Severe cardiomegaly with biventricular involvement. No obvious evidence of CHF.

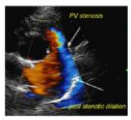
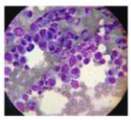
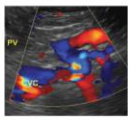
ELECTROCARDIOGRAPHIC FINDINGS *Note: Single lead ECGs are evaluated as a rhythm strip. Morphology/MEA cannot be definitively commented on.
A single lead ECG is available; 25mm/s, 10mm/mV. The average heart rate is 160bpm with a largely regular rhythm. The rhythm is sinus in origin, with a p for every QRS complex and vice versa. The P and QRS morphologies are positive. Isolated VPCs are noted; five in a 60 second tracing. The VPCs are monomorphic, singles only.
ECG diagnosis: Normal sinus tachycardia with isolated VPCs.

ECHOCARDIOGRAM FINDINGS
2D, m-mode, color flow and doppler imaging is available. Marked left ventricular dilation with diminished systolic function and increased sphericity. FS 10%. Decreased LV wall thickness. Increased EPSS. Severe left atrial enlargement. The mitral valve appears mildly thickened, with no obvious prolapse into the left atrial lumen. Mild central mitral regurgitation. Tricuspid valve appears normal in form and function. Moderate right atrial and ventricular dilation. Mild tricuspid regurgitation. Borderline velocity. The aortic valve is normal in morphology and mobility. No aortic or pulmonic insufficiency. Normal RVOT and LVOT velocities. No pericardial or pleural effusion noted. No obvious cardiac tumors.

CARDIAC CHART

CANINE CARDIAC PARAMETERS	MR VMAX (m/s)	TR VMAX (m/s)	LA/AO (Boon method)	LA/AO (Heart Base; Swe)	FS (%)	EF (%)	EPSS (cm)
NORMAL PARAMETER	4.5-5.5	<2.7	1.3	<1.6	28-40	40-100	<0.6
PATIENT	4.5	3.0	2.2	2.0	10	20	1.3
CANINE CARDIAC PARAMETERS	**HR** (BPM)	**AV VMAX** (m/s)	**PV MAX** (m/s)	**BODY WEIGHT** (kg)	**LA** 2D short axis Base view (cm)	**LVIDd** Avg; 2D and m-mode short axis (cm)	**LVIDs** Avg; 2D and m-mode short axis (cm)
NORMAL PARAMETER	50-100	0.7-1.7	0.7-1.6	BELOW	BELOW	BELOW	BELOW
PATIENT	130	1.0	0.9	22.7	4.0	5.4	4.9
*Normal chamber parameters expressed as a mean value (SD)				3	1.27 (5.3)	2.46 (2.46)	1.36 (5.5)
BODY WEIGHT DEPENDENT PARAMETERS				5	1.40 (4.5)	2.74 (5.2)	1.60 (4.7)
**Note: All measurements based upon multi-modal images and methods. An average value is reported.*				10	1.50 (3.8)	3.27 (3.5)	2.06 (3.1)
				15	1.83 (2.0)	3.71 (2.4)	2.43 (2.1)
				20	2.02 (1.9)	4.14 (2.2)	2.80 (2.0)
				25	2.18 (2.4)	4.48 (2.9)	3.10 (2.5)
				30	2.33 (3.3)	4.83 (3.9)	3.39 (3.4)
				35	2.48 (4.3)	5.17 (5.0)	3.69 (4.5)
				40	2.62 (5.2)	5.48 (6.1)	3.96 (5.4)
				50	2.88 (7.1)	6.07 (8.3)	4.46 (7.4)

Adapted from June Boon, Veterinary Echocardiography, 1998
Rishniw M and Hollis NE, J Vet Intern Med 2000; 14:429-435
Hansson et al, Vet Rad and Ultrasound 2002
Bonagura et al. Echocardiography: principles of interpretation, Vet Clin North Am 15:1177, 1995

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INTERPRETATION OF THE FINDINGS & FURTHER RECOMMENDATIONS

Unfortunately, this patient has end-stage cardiomyopathy and systolic dysfunction. This is causing dilation and volume overload of both the left and right heart. Small leaks in the mitral and tricuspid valves are secondary to dilation. Regardless, the severity of dysfunction and pump failure is significant, and the patient is at exceedingly high risk for decompensating into congestive failure. Patient will always be at risk for right and/or left-sided CHF, development of arrhythmias/syncope and/or sudden death going forward.

Systolic failure can be primary in nature (DCM) or secondary to taurine deficiency, myocarditis, tachycardia-induced cardiomyopathy, thyroid disease, or infiltrative disease such as lymphoma. In a relatively young bulldog, primary disease is possible; however, consider testing for primary causes that may be treatable. A troponin (cTnI) level can be submitted to further investigate infiltrative/inflammatory contribution (myocarditis). Additionally, a taurine level may be helpful (screen for malabsorption issue), and a thorough diet history given the recent correlation with grain free/boutique brand/exotic ingredient diets. Finally, further systemic evaluation for underlying infiltrative contribution such as neoplasia is also reasonable (abdominal ultrasound, etc.). Regardless of cause, prognosis is poor at this stage in the disease process, with an average survival time of <6 months. The only treatable cause of systolic failure is diet/taurine deficiency, which is uncommon on commercially formulated dog foods. If the diet is of concern, highly recommend immediate diet change and taurine supplement regardless of blood taurine results. Please see the FDA website for more information.

Even without overt CHF on the chest radiographs, the respiratory signs are concerning for impending CHF and immediate institution of full cardiac supportive medications is recommended as below due. If the breathing worsens or the patient appears unstable, consider hospitalization for stabilization. Cases of systolic failure are at high risk for malignant tachyarrhythmias (such as VT or rapid AF) and/or sudden death. Activity restriction is advised.

Isolated VPCs are noted on the ECG which are not surprising given the severity of disease in a patient in crisis. No treatment is warranted based upon what is seen here; however, reassessment is advised. Certainly, ventricular arrhythmias increase the risk for sudden death, and this should be expressed to the owner.

Elective anesthesia is not advised due to exceedingly high risk for complications.

Omega fatty acid supplementation and mild salt restriction may be of some long-term benefit. Monitor for development of a cough, worsening labored breathing, abdominal distention, exercise intolerance or collapse episodes in the future. Monitoring of sleeping breathing rates at home is recommended to assess response to medications and recurrence of CHF in the future.

PLAN

Baseline BP recommended. Consider hospitalization if needed for injectable Lasix, oxygen support, etc. Initiate aldosterone antagonist Spironolactone 1-2mg/kg PO q12h. Institute furosemide 1-2mg/kg PO q12h. Institute Pimobendan 0.3mg/kg PO q12h. Institute taurine 1000mg PO q12h. Diet history/change as discussed.

Monitor a renal panel, blood pressure and ECG in 1-2 weeks to ensure tolerance. If BP >130mmHg, institute ACEI 0.5mg/kg PO q12h. Consider cTnI, taurine level, AUS as discussed above. If VPCs persists, a holter monitor should be considered at this point.

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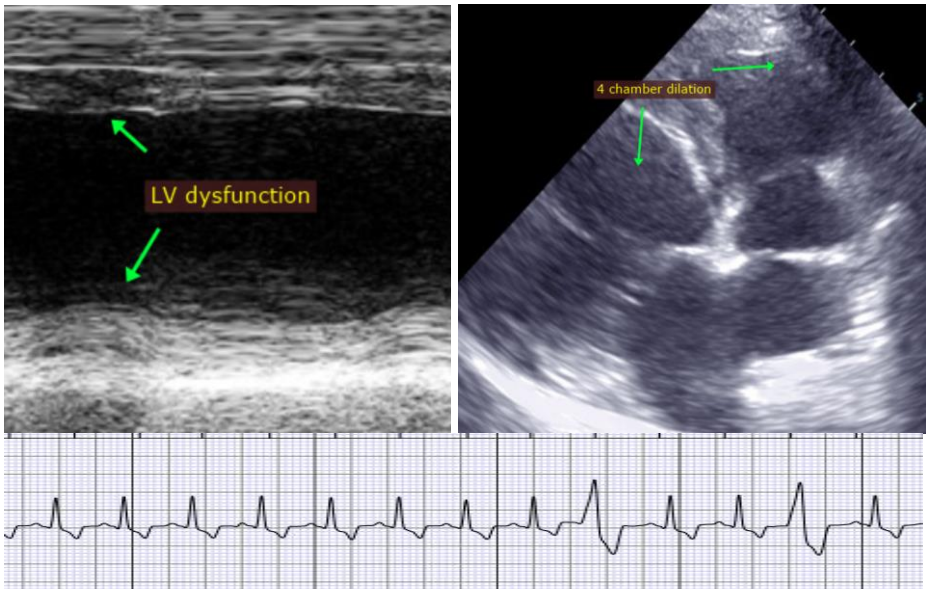
A recheck echocardiogram is recommended in 6 months to screen for progression, sooner if clinical issues arise in the interim.

IMAGES



The information and recommendations provided are based on the images presented by the referring veterinarian. No evaluation can be communicated regarding pathology that was not visible in the image/video clips provided.

Thank you for this referral. If the clinical or image interpretation does not parallel your findings or if I can be of any further assistance, please contact me.

Maggie Machen Lamy, DVM
Diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine (Cardiology)
info@sonopath.com