



PATIENT

Bella Barton

SPECIES

Canine

BREED

Yorkie Mix

SEX

Female

AGE

6 months

WEIGHT

6.6lbs

INTERPRETED BY

Maggie Machen Lamy,
DVM, DACVIM
(Cardiology)

IMAGING PERFORMED BY

Jacquie Pankatz, DVM

HOSPITAL NAME

Mountain Vista
Veterinary Hospital

REFERRING VET

Dr. Pankatz

INVOICE

45727

DATE

11/12/25

PRESENTING CLINICAL SIGNS

History: Intermittent episodes of ataxia/disorientation with no identifiable trigger. Grade 2-3/6 heart murmur.

ECHOCARDIOGRAM FINDINGS

2D, m-mode, color flow and doppler imaging is available. Continuous flow detected with color Doppler in the pulmonary artery in the region of the ductus arteriosus. High velocity shunt primarily L-R (max >4m/s). Moderate volume overload of the left heart with adequate systolic function. Increased LV sphericity. Moderate LA dilation. No MR. No obvious TR. Normal aortic and pulmonic outflow velocities. No aortic or pulmonic insufficiency. MPA and branch dilation. The PV appears normal. No pericardial or pleural effusion noted. No obvious cardiac masses.

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	NA	NA	NM	1.7	42	80	0.04
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	NM	1.6	0.8	3.0	1.8	2.6	1.5
*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)
Adapted from June Boon, Veterinary Echocardiography, 1998				25	2.18 (2.4)	4.48 (2.9)	3.10 (2.5)
Rishniw M and Hollis NE, J Vet Intern Med 2000; 14:429-435				30	2.33 (3.3)	4.83 (3.9)	3.39 (3.4)
Hansson et al, Vet Rad and Ultrasound 2002				35	2.48 (4.3)	5.17 (5.0)	3.69 (4.5)
Bonagura et al. Echocardiography: principles of interpretation, Vet Clin North Am 15:1177, 1995				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)

INTERPRETATION OF THE FINDINGS & FURTHER RECOMMENDATIONS

The cause of the murmur is a patent ductus arteriosus (PDA). This is a congenital condition where a blood vessel present in the fetus remains open after birth. When patent, this allows blood to recirculate through the lungs inappropriately and volume overloads the left heart chambers as is seen here. It is important to note that other small congenital defects can be easily missed in these cases (suspicion is low as image quality is excellent). Advanced imaging with a Cardiologist could be considered.

Given moderate LA/LV dilation, this patient is at risk for progression to CHF, arrhythmias, PDA reversal due to development of pulmonary hypertension, exertional syncope, and/or sudden death at home in the future. Monitor sleeping respiratory rates at home to screen for progression to CHF.



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Gold standard therapy is surgical closure of the vessel. This can be done interventionally or through a thoracotomy; however, given the young age of the patient, the latter is likely necessary. Consultation with a local Cardiologist is recommended if sought (**highly recommended**). Success rates for the procedure are generally high, particularly given the asymptomatic status and a good chance for a normal life if closed appropriately. Regardless of whether or not surgery is elected, cardiac support with Pimobendan is recommended for long term benefit. If surgery is not an option, prognosis is guarded to poor long term and close monitoring is advised.

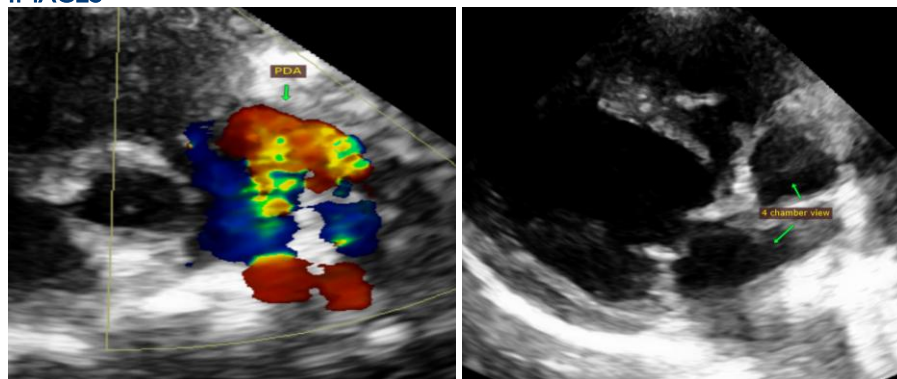
The vast majority of PDA patients are asymptomatic prior to CHF, and it is unclear if the disease is related to the reported episodes. A BP/ECG are recommended. Should they persist despite pimobendan and/or ideally surgical closure certainly further work up is advised.

Omega fatty acid supplementation and mild salt restriction may be of some long-term benefit. Monitoring of sleeping breathing rates is recommended as the best way to screen for progression to CHF at home. Mild activity restriction is advised. Monitor at home for breathing changes, worsening cough, fainting episodes, exertional dyspnea.

PLAN

Institute Pimobendan 0.3mg/kg PO q12h. BP/ECG. Recommend referral to a local Cardiologist for surgical consultation. If not an option, reassess structure and function every 6 months lifelong to assess need for additional medications, sooner if clinical signs arise (progressive cough, labored breathing, syncope).

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. This report was generated using transcription software, and minor dictation errors may be present. If the clinical or image interpretation does not parallel your findings or if I can be of any further assistance, please contact me.

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