


**PRESENTING CLINICAL SIGNS**

History: Grade 4/6 left-sided systolic murmur. Pre-anesthetic evaluation (dental).

**DATE**

11/25/21

**ECHOCARDIOGRAPHIC FINDINGS**

Multiple 2D, M-mode, and Doppler video loops and still images are submitted for review.

**PERFORMED BY:**

Crystal Hill

There is mild left atrial dilation. The mitral valve leaflets are thickened and exhibit systolic prolapse. A mild to moderate jet of eccentric mitral regurgitation is present. There is mild left ventricular dilation. Left ventricular systolic function is hyperdynamic. The aorta and aortic valve are normal. Right atrial and right ventricular dimensions are normal. The tricuspid appears normal, though trace tricuspid regurgitation is present. The pulmonary artery and pulmonic valve are normal. No heartworms are visualized. No pericardial effusion or cardiac masses are seen.

**INTERPRETED BY**

 Keith Blass, DVM,  
 MS, DACVIM  
 (Cardiology)

 LA - 26.6 mm  
 LVIDd - 25.2 mm  
 LVIDs - 13.1 mm  
 FS - 48%  
 LVOT - 1.07 m/s  
 RVOT - 0.69 m/s  
 TR - 2.48 m/s

**PATIENT**

Nica McVittie

**ELECTROCARDIOGRAPHIC FINDINGS**

A single lead ECG is submitted for review.

**SPECIES**

Canine

 HR: 110 bpm  
 Rhythm: Sinus arrhythmia

Sinus arrhythmia is present throughout this recording. All complex amplitudes and intervals are within normal limits. No premature beats or conduction blocks are seen.

**BREED**

Min. Dachshund

**ASSESSMENT/RECOMMENDATIONS**

Degenerative mitral valve disease

**SEX**

FS

This examination demonstrates mild to moderate regurgitation of blood across Nica's mitral valve resulting from degenerative valve disease. Secondary to her regurgitation, Nica has mild dilation of both her left atrium and left ventricle, though her left ventricular systolic function is well-preserved. As only mild left heart chamber dilation is present, Nica's current risk for the development of clinical signs of cardiac dysfunction, such as coughing, exercise intolerance, syncope, and labored breathing, appears to be relatively low, though careful monitoring for these signs is recommended.

**AGE**

13 y

Nica's ECG demonstrates no abnormalities.

**WEIGHT**

3.8 kg

Nica's cardiovascular risk for general anesthesia is mildly to moderately increased based on this exam, therefore, precautions should be taken in order to minimize this risk. I recommend avoiding the use of alpha-2 agonists, ketamine, and telazol in the anesthetic protocol, as well as reducing the IV fluid rate by at least 25%. If possible, monitoring of heart rhythm, blood pressure, and pulse oximetry are recommended during the procedure.

**HOSPITAL NAME**

Graham AH

I recommend starting Nica on pimobendan (1.25 mg BID), as this medication should help to slow the progression of her mitral valve disease, as well as decrease her risk for general anesthesia.

**REFERRING VET**

Dr. Lukacs

A recheck echocardiogram is recommended in 9 months. Thoracic radiographs are recommended if Nica experiences respiratory clinical signs.



DATE

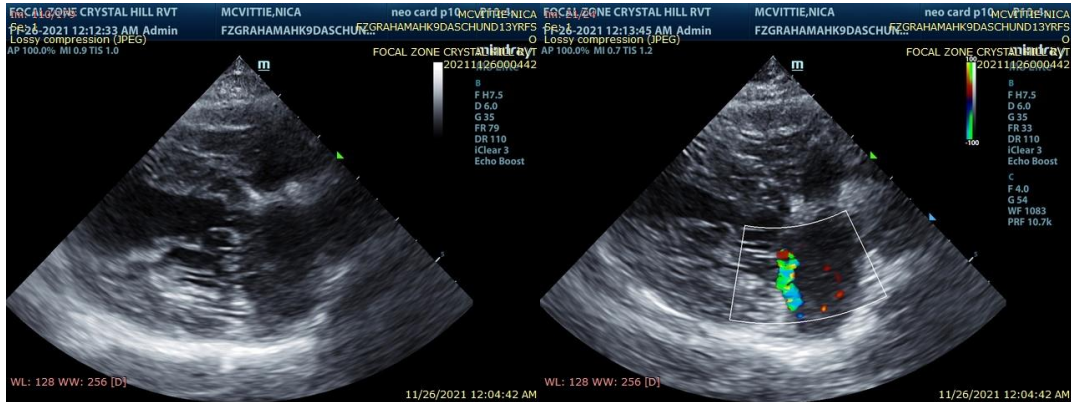
11/25/21

PERFORMED BY:

Crystal Hill

INTERPRETED BY

Keith Blass, DVM,  
MS, DACVIM  
(Cardiology)



PATIENT

Nica McVittie

SPECIES

Canine

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.

Keith Blass, DVM, MS, DACVIM (Cardiology)

KeithBlass@gmail.com

631-804-5754

BREED

Min. Dachshund

SEX

FS

AGE

13 y

WEIGHT

3.8 kg

HOSPITAL NAME

Graham AH

REFERRING VET

Dr. Lukacs