


**PATIENT**

Nugget Herth

**SPECIES**

Canine

**BREED**

Boston Terrier

**SEX**

Male Neutered

**AGE**

12 years

**WEIGHT**

21lbs

**INTERPRETED BY**

 Maggie Machen Lamy,  
 DVM, DACVIM  
 (Cardiology)

**IMAGING PERFORMED BY**

Kelly Romero

**HOSPITAL NAME**

 Midtown Veterinary  
 Medical Center

**REFERRING VET**

Dr. Walhquist

**INVOICE**

27708

**DATE**

11/30/22

**PRESENTING CLINICAL SIGNS**

History: Was getting ready to undergo a mass removal when an arrhythmia was auscultated. In August, he had a grade II mast cell tumor removed. An abdominal ultrasound at that time showed many small hypochoic nodules throughout as well as a cystic structure in the left dorsal liver. Two FNA's were taken the following week. The clinical pathology report is not available but was reportedly unremarkable. No murmur auscultated. Blood pressure average systolic was 179mmHg.

**ELECTROCARDIOGRAPHIC FINDINGS**

A six lead ECG is available at 50mm/s; 5mm/mV. The average heart rate is 160bpm (range 120-200bpm). The rhythm is sinus in origin, with a p for every QRS complex and vice versa. The P wave morphology is positive with a normal dimension. Normal PR. The QRS morphology is positive with normal dimension. MEA is normal. Isolated VPCs are identified; singles only. No APCs, pauses or other dysrhythmias observed.

ECG diagnosis: Normal sinus rhythm with respiratory variation. Isolated VPCs.

**ECHOCARDIOGRAM FINDINGS**

2D, m-mode, color flow and doppler imaging is available. Normal mitral valve leaflets with no obvious prolapse into the left atrial lumen. No mitral regurgitation is identified. Normal left atrium. Normal LV diameter with adequate myocardial function. The tricuspid valve appears normal with no tricuspid regurgitation. The right heart appears normal (subjective). No overt evidence of pulmonary arterial hypertension. The pulmonic and aortic valves are normal in morphology and mobility. Normal pulmonic and aortic outflow velocities. No aortic or pulmonic insufficiency. No pericardial or pleural effusion noted. No cardiac tumors observed.

**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	1.1	60	91	0.2
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	1.3	0.84	9.5	1.7	2.7	1.1
*Normal chamber parameters expressed as a mean value (SD)				3	1.27 (5.3)	2.46 (2.46)	1.36 (5.5)
<b>BODY WEIGHT DEPENDENT PARAMETERS</b>				5	1.40 (4.5)	2.74 (5.2)	1.60 (4.7)
<i>*Note: All measurements based upon multi-modal images and methods. An average value is reported.</i>				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



<b>PATIENT</b>	<b><u>INTERPRETATION OF THE FINDINGS &amp; FURTHER RECOMMENDATIONS</u></b>
Nugget Herth	Overtly normal cardiac structure and function. No significant valve issues are noted. No right heart dilation or structural issues are identified. No additional issues are identified.
<b>SPECIES</b>	Isolated ventricular premature contractions were identified on the ECG. VPCs are generated from abnormal conductive or fibrotic tissue in the ventricles of the heart muscle, and even frequent single VPCs will often cause no clinical signs in dogs. When sustained however, ventricular tachycardia can lead to symptoms such as lethargy and collapse.
Canine	
<b>BREED</b>	VPCs are a very non-specific finding. They can be primary in origin, be secondary to significant cardiac disease (not present in this study) or be extra-cardiac in origin, i.e., due to pain, stress, inflammation, cancer, GI disease, DIC/sepsis, etc. In a senior small breed dog, primary arrhythmias are possible (yet uncommon); however, all differentials should be ruled out. Consider full systemic evaluation, <b>including repeat abdominal ultrasound given the history</b> . Unfortunately, there is always an elevated risk for collapse and sudden death in any arrhythmic patient, and even on medications this risk unfortunately still persists. VPCs carry a HIGHLY variable prognosis, with some dogs able to remain asymptomatic for extended periods of time, and others developing exercise intolerance, syncopal episode, and refractory arrhythmias/sudden death imminently.
Boston Terrier	
<b>SEX</b>	Based strictly upon the amount of arrhythmia present on the available ECG in this asymptomatic dog, anti-arrhythmic therapy is not clearly indicated. A holter monitor can be considered as the next step to allow monitoring of the rhythm throughout 24 hours of a normal day and help determine if treatment is indicated. An alternative approach would be to simply monitor for clinical signs and recheck ECG in 6 months. Discussion with the owner is advised.
Male Neutered	
<b>AGE</b>	Fish oil supplementation is recommended for dogs with arrhythmias (1000mg of omega 3 and 6 once to twice daily). Mild activity/stress restriction is advised.
12 years	Monitor at home for collapse, exercise intolerance, and/or lethargy.
<b>WEIGHT</b>	If a holter monitor is elected, this will dictate whether therapy is needed and follow up protocol. I would not recommend anesthesia until the results are available if elected. If declined, an ECG should be monitored during general anesthesia and lidocaine administered in the event of sustained VT or malignant arrhythmias. Avoid stimulants such as atropine or glycopyrrolate unless indicated.
21lbs	No cardiac medications are indicated at this time. Monitor for any development of cough, labored breathing or exercise intolerance.
<b>INTERPRETED BY</b>	<b><u>PLAN</u></b>
Maggie Machen Lamy, DVM, DACVIM (Cardiology)	Consider Holter monitor as discussed. Consider systemic evaluation as discussed. If a holter is declined, recommend a recheck ECG is recommended in 6 months (sooner if any collapse episodes occur).
<b>IMAGING PERFORMED BY</b>	A recheck echocardiogram is recommended should a murmur be ausculted in the future.
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Midtown Veterinary Medical Center	
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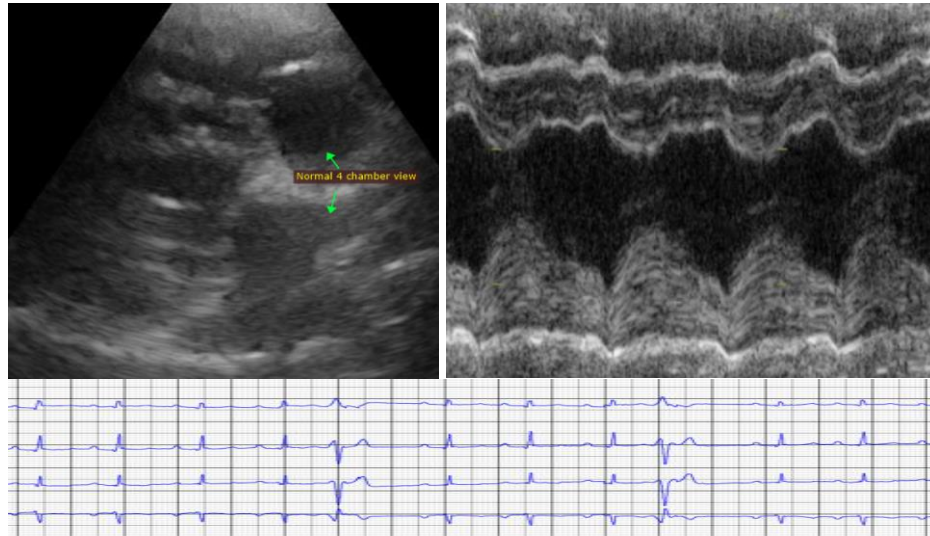
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**IMAGES**



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.

**Maggie Machen Lamy, DVM**  
Diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine (Cardiology)  
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