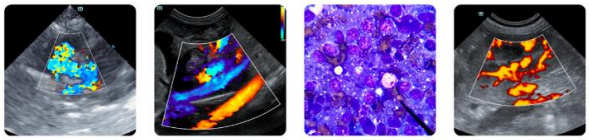


SonoPath.com info@sonopath.com 1.800.838.4268

PATIENT
Doug Reiten

SPECIES
Canine

BREED
Shih Tzu Mix

SEX
Male Neutered

AGE
10.8 years

WEIGHT
20.9lbs

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

IMAGING PERFORMED BY
Greg Kuhlman, DVM

HOSPITAL NAME
Red River Animal Emergency Hospital & Referral Center

REFERRING VET
Dr. Kuhlman

INVOICE
46234

DATE
12/17/25

PRESENTING CLINICAL SIGNS

History: Presented 12/15/25 following a syncopal episode that occurred during a morning walk. Was walking a few steps ahead of the owner and pulling on the leash when he began coughing and gagging. He then appeared to recover briefly and continued walking before sitting down and subsequently collapsing. The owner picked him up and held him for a short period, after which he recovered and returned to normal. During the episode, the owner noted pale gums. Has had an acute onset of coughing and gagging for the past 2–3 weeks, typically exercise-induced. No cough on tracheal palpation today. Grade 4/6 heart murmur. ALKP 579 U/L on 12/15/25. CXR showed cardiomegaly and CHF. BP: 140mmHg.
-Current medications: Pimobendan 2.5mg PO BID and Furosemide 20mg PO BID; started 12/15/25.

RADIOGRAPHIC FINDINGS *NOTE: Images submitted for supplemental cardiac information only.

Mild cardiomegaly. 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, 20mm/mV. The average heart rate is 150bpm. The rhythm is sinus in origin, with a p for every QRS complex and vice versa. The P and QRS morphologies are positive. No ectopic beats, pauses or other dysrhythmias observed.
ECG diagnosis: Normal sinus rhythm.

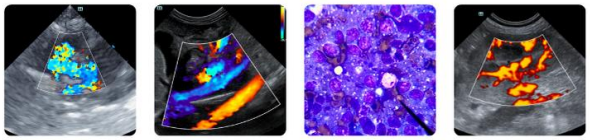
ECHOCARDIOGRAM FINDINGS

2D, m-mode, color flow and doppler imaging is available. Diffuse thickening of mitral valve leaflets (anterior>posterior) with mild prolapse into the left atrial lumen. Moderate eccentric mitral regurgitation with moderate left atrial dilation (LA:Ao >1.6). Mildly increased LV diameter with hyperdynamic myocardial function. The tricuspid valve appears mildly thickened, with trace tricuspid regurgitation. Normal velocity. Normal right atrial and ventricular diameter. The pulmonic and aortic valves are normal in morphology and mobility. Normal pulmonic and aortic outflow velocities. No aortic and trace 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	NM	2.0	NM	1.6	57	90	NM

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	1.2	0.7	9.5	1.75	3.0	1.3
*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 *Note: All measurements based upon multi-modal images and methods. An average value is reported.				5	1.40 (4.5)	2.74 (5.2)	1.60 (4.7)
				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)



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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	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)

INTERPRETATION OF THE FINDINGS & FURTHER RECOMMENDATIONS

Chronic degenerative valve disease causing moderate mitral and trace tricuspid regurgitation. Moderate left atrial enlargement indicates there is relatively low risk for imminent complication; however, risk for progression to spontaneous congestive heart failure in the future is elevated. No additional issues such as pulmonary hypertension are identified. The ECG is unremarkable with a normal sinus rhythm.

Given these findings, continued Pimobendan is indicated in this patient as below. Assessment of progression in the future will help predict long term outcome; however, prognosis is guarded at this stage (B2). Fifty percent of stage B2 patients typically develop CHF within 2-2.5 years of diagnosis. The median time to development of CHF in B2 cases treated with pimobendan is 3.5 years.

While mainstem bronchi compression may certainly be contributing to an increase in coughing, other primary airway contributions should also be considered (tracheal collapse, COPD/chronic bronchitis, etc.). Consider hydrocodone for any mechanical component due to cardiomegaly. If the cough is poorly controlled and/or progresses long term, pulmonary hypertension (PAH) can develop secondarily. Signs of clinically relevant PAH include exertional dyspnea or exertional syncope. It is important to note that PAH does not cause the cough; rather, the cough leads to PAH. In the absence of CHF, Lasix is unnecessary. If there is any question, CXR review by a Radiologist is suggested.

Omega fatty acid supplementation and mild salt restriction may also be of some long-term benefit. Monitor for development of a progressive cough, labored breathing, exercise intolerance or collapse episodes.

Anesthetic risk is considered mildly elevated. Pre-oxygenate for 5-10 minutes prior to induction. Cardiac protective drug choices (opioid/benzodiazepine premedication, Propofol or alfaxalone induction, iso or sevo gas) are recommended. Monitor for arrhythmias, hypotension, and/or hypoxia both intra and post-operatively and intervene as necessary. Judicious IV fluid rates are recommended to avoid fluid overload. Avoid heart rate stimulating drugs such as atropine unless clinically indicated.

PLAN

Continue Pimobendan 0.3mg/kg PO q12h. Unless CHF is confirmed, discontinue Lasix. Consider hydrocodone and/or further cough evaluation as indicated.

Recommend monitor for progression with a recheck echocardiogram in 6 months, sooner if any development of additional clinical signs in the interim.

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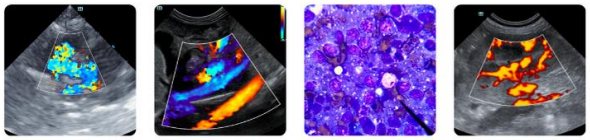

Clinical Sonography & Telecytology
Educational Teleconsultation Services™

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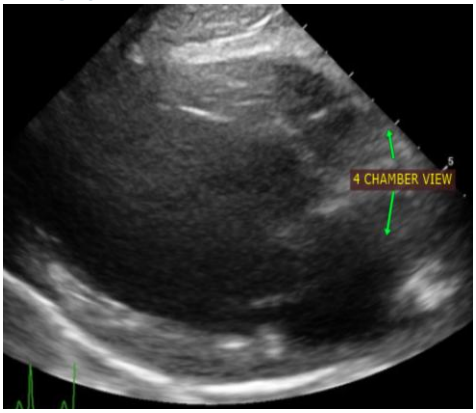

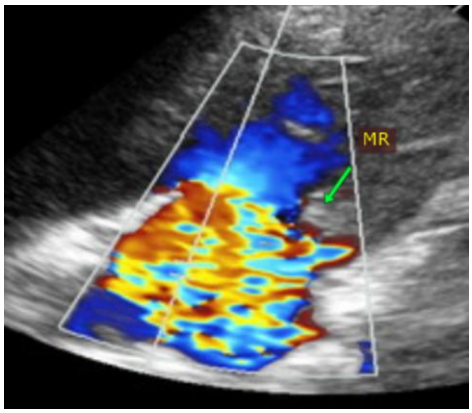

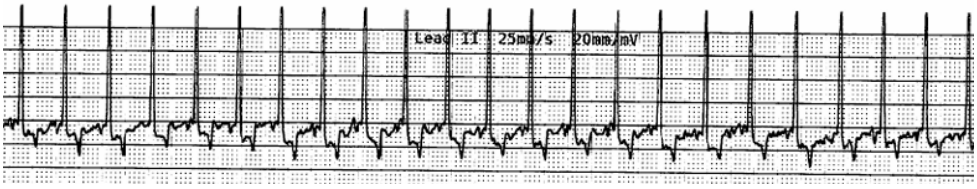

The information and recommendations provided are based on the images presented by the referring veterinarian. No evaluation can be communicated regarding pathology that was not visible in the image/video clips provided.

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)
info@sonopath.com