

PATIENT

Holly Reimer

PRESENTING CLINICAL SIGNS

History: Grade IV/VI heart murmur noted. Reported history of coughing. CXR showed cardiomegaly, VHS: 11. On Cytopoint 20mg PRN

SPECIES

Canine

RADIOGRAPHIC FINDINGS *NOTE: Images submitted for supplemental cardiac information only. Mild cardiomegaly. Increased soft tissue opacity at the heart base. No obvious evidence of CHF.

BREED

Shih Tzu Mix

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. Severe eccentric mitral regurgitation with moderate to severe left atrial dilation. Normal MR velocity. Mildly increased LV diameter with hyperdynamic myocardial function. The tricuspid valve appears mildly thickened, with mild tricuspid regurgitation. Velocity consistent with moderate pulmonary hypertension. Mild right heart enlargement. 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.

SEX

Female Spayed

AGE

13.11 years

CARDIAC CHART

WEIGHT

14.3lbs

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	5.0	3.8	1.7	1.9	38	70	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	170	1.0	0.5	6.5	2.6	3.1	1.9
*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)
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)

INTERPRETED BY

Maggie Machen Lamy, DVM, DACVIM (Cardiology)

IMAGING PERFORMED BY

Shari Reffi, CVT

HOSPITAL NAME

Leck Veterinary Hospital

REFERRING VET

Dr. Doyle

INVOICE

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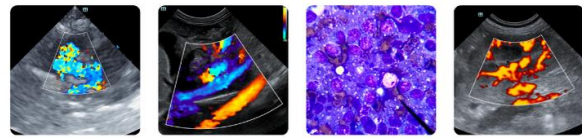
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12/9/25

INTERPRETATION OF THE FINDINGS & FURTHER RECOMMENDATIONS

Chronic degenerative valve disease causing severe mitral and mild tricuspid regurgitation. Moderate to severe 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. Moderate pulmonary hypertension is noted, which is likely due to a combination of chronic LA pressure elevation and a reported cough. No additional issues are identified.

There is some concern for an increased opacity at the heart base on the included chest radiographs. While a heart-based tumor is not evident in this image set, it is important to note



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that extra-cardiac lesions are easily missed on 2D ultrasound. Highly recommend a Radiologist review of 3-view films to determine if suspicion is persistent. If so, a thoracic CT scan may be necessary.

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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.

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Given the risk for progression and results of the EPIC trial, Pimobendan is indicated in this patient as below. Additionally, an ACEI is reasonable pending BP assessment, although the benefit is theoretical. 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.

AGE

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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.

WEIGHT

14.3lbs

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Maggie Machen Lamy,
 DVM, DACVIM
 (Cardiology)

Once on the medications for 3-5 days, anesthetic risk is considered moderately elevated. Cardiac protective drug choices (opioid/benzodiazepine premedication, Propofol or alfaxalone induction, iso or sevo gas) are recommended. Monitor for arrhythmias, hypotension, and 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. Avoid alpha 2 agonists such as Dexdomitor.

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Shari Reffi, CVT

PLAN

Institute heart muscle support Pimobendan 0.25-0.3mg/kg PO q12h. Baseline BP recommended. If BP>150mmHg, institute an ACEI 0.5mg/kg PO q12h. Further cough workup as discussed. Recommend a 3-view CXR review as discussed.

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

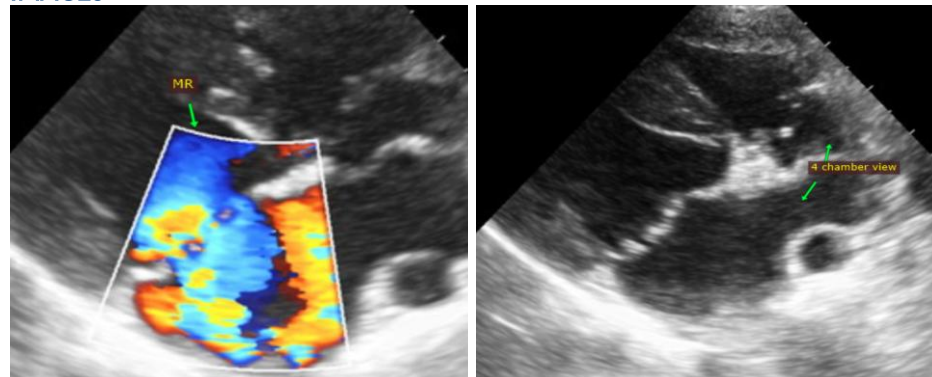
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Dr. Doyle

IMAGES

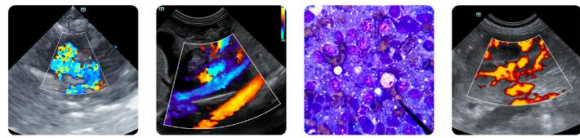
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The information and recommendations provided are based on the images presented by the referring veterinarian. No evaluation can be communicated regarding pathology that was not visible in the image/video clips provided.

SPECIES

Canine

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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