



**PATIENT**

Ginger Soares

**SPECIES**

Canine

**BREED**

Chihuahua Mix

**SEX**

Female Spayed

**AGE**

11 years

**WEIGHT**

14.5lbs

**INTERPRETED BY**

Maggie Machen  
 Lamy, DVM, DACVIM  
 (Cardiology)

**IMAGING PERFORMED BY**

Jenna Walsh, CVT

**HOSPITAL NAME**

H & H Veterinary  
 Care

**REFERRING VET**

Dr. Henery

**INVOICE**

22526

**DATE**

2/11/22

**PRESENTING CLINICAL SIGNS**

History: (6-09-2021) Grade 2/6 systolic murmur. (2-04-2022) Grade 4/6 systolic murmur.  
 -Current medications: Enalapril Maleate 5mg q24hr. Pimobendan 1.875mg q12hr.

**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 80bpm (range 60-94bpm). 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 dysrhythmias observed. ECG diagnosis: Normal sinus rhythm with respiratory variation.

**ECHOCARDIOGRAM FINDINGS**

2D, m-mode, color flow and doppler imaging is available. Diffuse thickening of mitral valve leaflets with prolapse into the left atrial lumen. Mild eccentric mitral regurgitation with mild left atrial dilation. Normal MR velocity. Normal LV diameter with adequate myocardial function. The tricuspid valve appears mildly thickened with mild to moderate tricuspid regurgitation. TR velocity consistent with moderate pulmonary hypertension. Mild right atrial and ventricular prominence. MPA appears normal. The pulmonic and aortic valves are normal in morphology and mobility. Normal pulmonic and aortic outflow velocities with laminar flow. No obvious aortic or pulmonic insufficiency. 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   | 5.8           | 3.8           | 1.3                 | 1.2                     | 63                              | 94                                       | 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            | 1.5           | 0.93                | 6.6                     | 1.75                            | 2.7                                      | 1.0                                      |
| *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)                               |
|   |               |               |                     | 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



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**INTERPRETATION OF THE FINDINGS & FURTHER RECOMMENDATIONS**

Chronic degenerative valve disease causing mild mitral and mild to moderate tricuspid regurgitation. Mild left atrial enlargement indicates the current risk for spontaneous congestive heart failure is low. Moderate TR with moderate pulmonary hypertension is also documented, despite a reportedly asymptomatic patient in this predisposed breed. The right heart support this finding, with early compensatory changes identified. No additional issues are identified.

The ECG is most consistent with a respiratory sinus arrhythmia. This commonly develops secondary to primary airway disease which may be brewing in this patient. No treatment is advised.

The underlying genesis of PAH is poorly understood in cases other than heartworm infestation, though it occurs with increased frequency in a variety of forms of chronic lung disease and in patients with idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis. Primary PAH is also possible in certain breeds as well. If not performed, a heartworm antigen test is highly recommended.

Given the combination of MV disease and moderate pulmonary arterial hypertension, continue Pimobendan in this patient as below. Sildenafil is not yet indicated in an asymptomatic patient. There is no known benefit to ACE-I therapy at this time and this can be safely discontinued (pending BP measurement). It is important to note that the primary clinical sign of pulmonary hypertension is exertional dyspnea/syncope, not coughing, although a cough will certainly lead to worsening PAH. Monitoring for any clinical changes respiratory in origin is recommended. Prognosis is guarded given the combination of issues, and patient will always be at risk for progression to right or left-sided CHF, development of arrhythmias, collapse, etc. going forward.

Anesthetic risk is considered mildly elevated. Cardiac protective drug choices (opioid/benzodiazepine premedication, propofol or alfaxalone induction, iso or sevoflurane gas) are recommended. **Pre-oxygenate 5-10 minutes prior to induction.** 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.

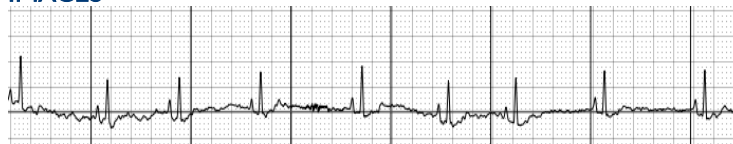
Omega fatty acid supplementation and mild salt restriction may also be of some long-term benefit. Monitor for development of a progressive cough, labored breathing, exercise intolerance or collapse episodes.

**PLAN**

Baseline BP recommended. Continue Pimobendan 0.3mg/kg PO q12h. Unless SHT is present, consider discontinue Enalapril as discussed.

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

**IMAGES**





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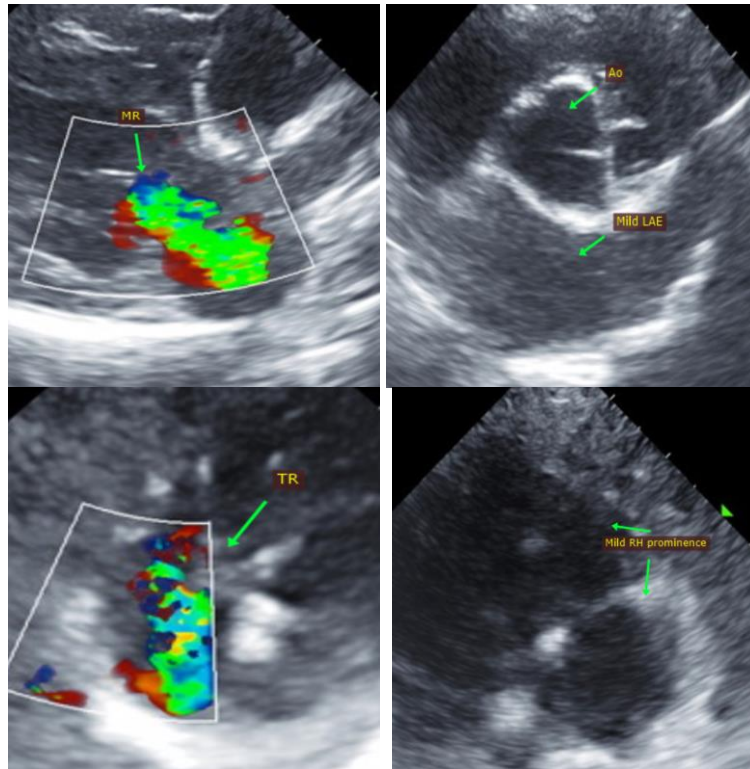
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The information and recommendations provided are based on the images presented by the referring veterinarian. No evaluation can be communicated regarding pathology that was not visible in the image/video clips provided.

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**  
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