



**PATIENT**

Hannah Al-Ghalayini

**PRESENTING CLINICAL SIGNS**

History: History of a heart murmur. Coughing. Assess prior to anesthesia for spay.  
-Radiographs: Cardiomegaly. No CHF.

**SPECIES**

Canine

**BREED**

Pomeranian

**ECHOCARDIOGRAM FINDINGS**

2D, m-mode, color flow and doppler imaging is available. Continuous flow detected with color Doppler in the pulmonary artery in the region of the ductus arteriosus. High velocity shunt primarily L-R (max 5m/s). Moderate volume overload of the left heart with adequate systolic function. Increased LV sphericity. Moderate LA dilation. Trace central MR. No obvious TR. Mildly elevated pulmonic outflow velocities; no pulmonic insufficiency. MPA and branch dilation. The PV appears normal. Mildly elevated aortic outflow velocities with no AI. No pericardial or pleural effusion noted. No obvious cardiac masses.

**SEX**

Female Intact

**CARDIAC CHART**

**AGE**

7 years

**WEIGHT**

6lbs

**INTERPRETED BY**

Maggie Machen Lamy,  
DVM, DACVIM  
(Cardiology)

**IMAGING PERFORMED BY**

Sarah Pender, CVT

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	1.7	33	64	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	100	2.0	1.9	2.7	1.9	2.8	1.5
*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)

**INTERPRETATION OF THE FINDINGS & FURTHER RECOMMENDATIONS**

The cause of the murmur is a patent ductus arteriosus (PDA). This is a congenital condition where a blood vessel present in the fetus remains open after birth. When patent, this allows blood to recirculate through the lungs inappropriately and volume overloads the left heart chambers as is seen here. No additional issues are identified.

Given moderate LA/LV dilation, this patient is at risk for progression to CHF, arrhythmias, PDA reversal due to development of pulmonary hypertension, exertional syncope, and/or sudden death at home in the future. Monitor sleeping respiratory rates at home to screen for progression to CHF.

**HOSPITAL NAME**

SVS Imaging QC

**REFERRING VET**

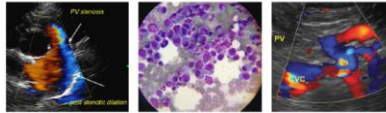
Dr. Shields

**INVOICE**

29086

**DATE**

2/17/23

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Gold standard therapy is surgical closure of the vessel. This can be done interventionally or through a thoracotomy, and consultation with a local Cardiologist is recommended if sought (**highly recommended**). Success rates for the procedure are generally high, particularly given the asymptomatic status and a good chance for a normal life if closed appropriately. Regardless of whether or not surgery is elected, cardiac support with Pimobendan is recommended for long term benefit. If surgery is not an option, prognosis is guarded to poor long term and close monitoring is advised.

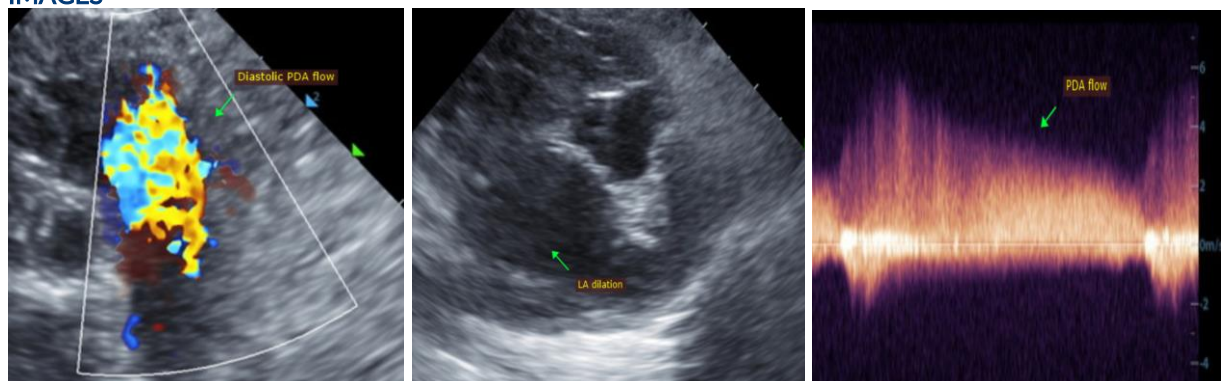
While mainstem bronchi compression may certainly be contributing to a chronic increase in coughing, other primary airway contributions should also be considered (tracheal collapse, COPD/chronic bronchitis, etc). Consider hydrocodone for any mechanical component due to cardiomegaly. Screening chest radiographs are recommended.

Omega fatty acid supplementation and mild salt restriction may be of some long term benefit. Monitoring of sleeping breathing rates is recommended as the best way to screen for progression to CHF at home. Mild activity restriction is advised. Monitor at home for breathing changes, worsening cough, fainting episodes, exertional dyspnea.

**PLAN**

Institute Pimobendan 0.3mg/kg PO q12h. Further address the cough as discussed. Recommend referral to a local Cardiologist for surgical consultation.

If not an option, reassess structure and function every 6 months lifelong to assess need for additional medications, sooner if clinical signs arise (progressive cough, labored breathing, syncope).

**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. 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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