

PATIENT PRESENTING CLINICAL SIGNS

Stella Miller

History: Sudden onset of productive cough, not eating, lethargic, weak, obese. ECG showed atrial fibrillation (Avg. HR ~280 bpm). Radiographs show cardiomegaly but no pulmonary edema. Medication: Pimobendan 15 BID, Lasix 120 BID, Diltiazem 75 TID

SPECIES

Canine

ECHOCARDIOGRAPHIC FINDINGS

2D, M-mode, and Doppler study.

BREED

Bouvier

There is mild left atrial dilation. The mitral valve appears normal, though mild mitral regurgitation is present. There is severe ventricular dilation. Left ventricular systolic function is severely depressed. The aorta and aortic valve are normal. Right atrial and right ventricular dimensions are normal. The tricuspid valve appears normal, though mild tricuspid regurgitation is present. The pulmonary artery and pulmonic valve are normal. No heartworms are visualized. No pericardial effusion or cardiac masses are seen.

SEX

FS

AGE

9 years

LA - 54.2 mm
LVIDd - 69.6 mm
LVIDs - 63.3 mm
FS - 9%

WEIGHT

148#

LVOT - 1.00 m/s
RVOT - 1.10 m/s
TR - 2.59 m/s

INTERPRETED BY

Keith Blass, DVM,
MS, DACVIM

ASSESSMENT/RECOMMENDATIONS

Dilated cardiomyopathy (DCM)
Atrial fibrillation

IMAGING PERFORMED BY

Rebekah Jakum, RVT,
CVT ARDMS/RVT

This examination demonstrates severe depression of Stella's left ventricular systolic function. It's likely that she is suffering from a primary genetic-based form of DCM, however, careful evaluation of her diet is recommended to rule out the possibility of a diet-associated cardiomyopathy being present. Secondary to her myocardial dysfunction, Stella has severe dilation of her left ventricle and mild dilation of her left atrium, and her ECG shows that she has developed atrial fibrillation. While Stella's radiographs show no evidence of cardiogenic pulmonary edema, she is at high risk for the development of left- and/or right-sided congestive heart failure, and her lethargy/weakness is likely cardiogenic in origin. In addition, Stella is at risk for the development of syncope, therefore, careful monitoring for this symptom is recommended.

HOSPITAL NAME

Rush UC

A diet change and whole blood or plasma taurine level is recommended if Stella has been receiving a diet that has been linked to the development of cardiomyopathy in dogs (ex. boutique brand, exotic meat source, grain-free).

REFERRING VET

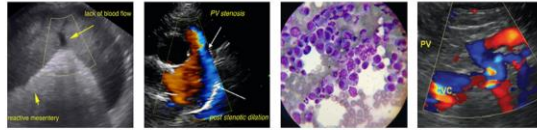
Dr. Milot

Stella's current medications are appropriate, as is therapy with enalapril (35 mg BID) and spironolactone (75 mg BID).

DATE

2.20.2022

A renal/electrolyte profile and ECG are recommended in two weeks, with the goal of diltiazem therapy being a reduction of Stella's average in-hospital heart rate to less than ~145 bpm. A recheck echocardiogram is recommended in 6 months. Repeat thoracic/abdominal radiographs are recommended if clinical signs compatible with congestive heart failure develop.



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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. 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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