



**PATIENT**

Bella Botsaris

**SPECIES**

Cnine

**BREED**

Golden Retriever

**SEX**

Female Spayed

**AGE**

9.24.10

**WEIGHT**

69.2lbs

**INTERPRETED BY**

Maggie Machen Lamy,  
DVM, DACVIM  
(Cardiology)

**HOSPITAL NAME**

Everhart Veterinary  
Hospital

**REFERRING VET**

Dr. Rubinstein

**INVOICE**

29209

**DATE**

2.23.23

**PRESENTING CLINICAL SIGNS**

History: Presents for mass near hind end which bleeds. Pt also has newly diagnosed arrhythmia.

-Pertinent abnormal PE/Chem/CBC/UA Results: ALP 2380, ALT 134, K 5.7, proteinuria.

-Current medications: Cefpodoxime started 2/20/23.

-Blood pressure: 170mmHg.

-Sedation used: Not required to complete full diagnostic ultrasound.

-Pertinent previous ultrasound results: No previous.

-STAT: Not requested

-Imaging performed by: Stephanie Warga RDCS, RVT.

**ELECTROCARDIOGRAPHIC FINDINGS**

A six lead ECG is available at both 25 and 50mm/s; 2mm/mV. The average heart rate is 100bpm (range 79-136bpm). The rhythm is sinus in origin, with a p for every QRS complex and vice versa. The P wave morphology is positive with a normal dimension. Normal PR. The QRS morphology is positive with normal dimension. MEA is normal. VPCs throughout, primarily singles with occasional tight couplets. No supraventricular ectopic beats, pauses or other dysrhythmias observed.

ECG diagnosis: Normal sinus rhythm with respiratory variation. Frequent single and couplet VPCs.

**ECHOCARDIOGRAM FINDINGS**

2D, m-mode, color flow and doppler imaging is available. Mild diffuse thickening of mitral valve leaflets with no prolapse into the left atrial lumen. No mitral regurgitation with no left atrial dilation. Normal LV diameter with adequate myocardial function. The tricuspid valve appears normal with no tricuspid regurgitation. Normal right atrial and ventricular diameter and morphology indicating no overt evidence of pulmonary arterial hypertension. 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			NM	1.3	37	67	NM
CANINE CARDIAC PARAMETERS	HR (BPM)	AV VMAX (m/s)	PV MAX (m/s)	BODY WEIGHT (kg)	LA70 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	111	1.5	0.90	31.4	2.6	3.7	2.3
*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)

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

## INTERPRETATION OF THE FINDINGS & FURTHER RECOMMENDATIONS

Overtly normal cardiac structure and function. The dimensions and valve morphology are largely normal. No obvious cardiac tumors were identified; however, it should be noted that small epicardial or pericardial masses are easily missed without the presence of effusion.

The ECG did confirm the arrhythmia to be single and couplet ventricular premature contractions (VPCs). VPCs are generated from abnormal conductive or fibrotic tissue in the ventricles of the heart muscle, and even frequent single VPCs will often cause no clinical signs in dogs. When sustained however, ventricular tachycardia can lead to symptoms such as lethargy and collapse.

VPCs are a very non-specific finding. They can be primary (a rule out diagnosis), secondary to significant cardiac disease (not present in this study) or be extra-cardiac in origin, i.e., due to pain, stress, inflammation, cancer, GI disease, DIC/sepsis, etc. In this older dog without structural disease, all differentials should be ruled out. An abdominal ultrasound to monitor for any underlying abnormalities, in addition to tick titers and cardiac troponin level can be considered. Additionally, a thoracic CT can be considered to screen for masses or abnormalities too small to find easily on echocardiogram. Unfortunately, there is always an elevated risk for collapse and sudden death in any arrhythmic patient, and even on medications this risk unfortunately still persists.

Based upon what is seen here, anti-arrhythmic therapy is warranted using Sotalol as below. Following institution of therapy, a holter monitor is the recommended next step, to allow monitoring of the rhythm throughout 24 hours of a normal day and assess response to medication. If declined, certainly this should be reconsidered if the patient has any syncope in the future.

Fish oil supplementation is recommended for dogs with arrhythmias (500-1000mg of omega 3 and 6 once to twice daily).

Monitor at home for collapse, exercise intolerance, and/or lethargy. Mild activity restriction is advised. If a holter monitor is elected, this will dictate whether therapy is needed and follow up protocol.

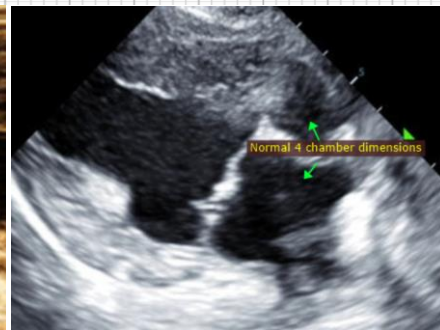
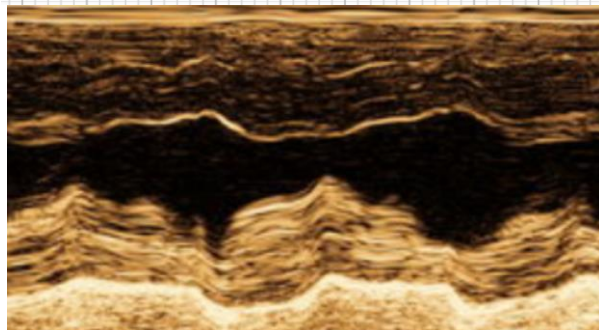
Anesthetic risk is considered moderately elevated. Avoid ketamine, telazol, Dexdomitor (or other alpha-2 agonists) and acepromazine. Recommend having lidocaine CRI available for use in the event of worsening ventricular arrhythmias under anesthesia (CRI 50–75mcg/kg/min).

## PLAN

Consider full systemic workup. Consider thoracic CT. Institute Sotalol 1-2mg/kg PO q12h with reassessment of an ECG or ideally a holter monitor in 2-4 weeks.

A recheck ECG is recommended in 3-4 months and an echocardiogram in 1 year, sooner if any clinical signs arise.

## 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. 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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