

**PATIENT**

Alex Cocchiara

**SPECIES**

Canine

**BREED**

Shih Tzu Poodle Mix

**SEX**

Male Intact

**AGE**

12.5 years

**WEIGHT**

9.1lbs

**INTERPRETED BY**

Maggie Machen Lamy,  
 DVM DACVIM  
 (Cardiology)

**IMAGING PERFORMED BY**

Crystal Hill, RVT

**HOSPITAL NAME**

Beatties PH Stoney  
 Creek

**REFERRING VET**

Dr. Song

**INVOICE**

46720

**DATE**

2/5/26

**PRESENTING CLINICAL SIGNS**

History: Progressive, now grade 5/6 heart murmur with a thrill, lungs difficult to auscultate. Has been on Pimobendan 0.1mg/kg BID since 1/31/2026. Cough; typically, in middle of night. CXR show LA enlargement. No CHF.

**ELECTROCARDIOGRAPHIC FINDINGS**

A six lead ECG is available at 25mm/s; 10mm/mV. The average heart rate is 120bpm. 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. No ectopic beats, pauses or dysrhythmias observed. ECG diagnosis: Normal sinus rhythm with respiratory variation.

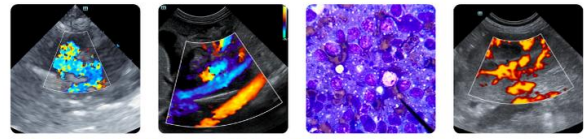
**ECHOCARDIOGRAM FINDINGS**

2D, m-mode, color flow and doppler imaging is available. Mild diffuse thickening of mitral valve leaflets with mild prolapse into the left atrial lumen. Mild eccentric mitral regurgitation with mild left atrial dilation. Normal LV diameter with adequate myocardial function. The tricuspid valve appears normal with trace tricuspid regurgitation. Normal velocity. 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**

| <b>CANINE CARDIAC PARAMETERS</b>  | <b>MR VMAX</b><br>(m/s) | <b>TR VMAX</b><br>(m/s) | <b>LA/AO</b><br>(Boon method) | <b>LA/AO</b><br>(Heart Base; Swe) | <b>FS</b><br>(%)                                | <b>EF</b><br>(%)                                      | <b>EPSS</b><br>(cm)                                   |
|---|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---|---|---|
| <b>NORMAL PARAMETER</b>   | 4.5-5.5                 | <2.7                    | 1.3                           | <1.6                              | 28-40   | 40-100  | <0.6  |
| <b>PATIENT</b>  | NM                      | 2.2                     | 1.3                           | 1.5                               | 55  | 88  | 0.25  |
| <b>CANINE CARDIAC PARAMETERS</b>  | <b>HR</b><br>(BPM)      | <b>AV VMAX</b><br>(m/s) | <b>PV MAX</b><br>(m/s)        | <b>BODY WEIGHT</b><br>(kg)        | <b>LA</b><br>2D short axis<br>Base view<br>(cm) | <b>LVIDd</b><br>Avg; 2D and m-mode short axis<br>(cm) | <b>LVIDs</b><br>Avg; 2D and m-mode short axis<br>(cm) |
| <b>NORMAL PARAMETER</b>   | 50-100                  | 0.7-1.7                 | 0.7-1.6                       | BELOW                             | BELOW   | BELOW   | BELOW   |
| <b>PATIENT</b>  | 140                     | 1.5                     | 1.0                           | 4.1                               | 1.8   | 2.2   | 1.2   |
| *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



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**INTERPRETATION OF THE FINDINGS & FURTHER RECOMMENDATIONS**

Chronic degenerative valve disease causing mild mitral and trace tricuspid regurgitation. Lack of significant left atrial enlargement indicates the current risk for complication is low. No concurrent issues such as systolic dysfunction or pulmonary hypertension are noted in this study. The ECG is unremarkable with a respiratory sinus arrhythmia.

These findings would suggest the cough is unlikely to be cardiac in origin and primary respiratory causes should be considered. Consider further respiratory work up/treatment (hydrocodone, taper course of steroids, Enrofloxacin, TTW/BAL, etc.). A poorly controlled cough can lead to development of pulmonary hypertension over time, and monitoring for associated clinical signs is recommended (primarily exertional syncope/dyspnea).

Typically, no cardiac medications are indicated with this degree of disease. That being said, Pimobendan can decrease chamber sizes, and it may be reasonable to continue. Assessment of progression in the future will help predict long term prognosis, which is highly variable at this stage. Omega fatty acid supplementation and mild salt restriction may be of some long-term benefit. Monitor for development of a cough, labored breathing, exercise intolerance or collapse episodes.

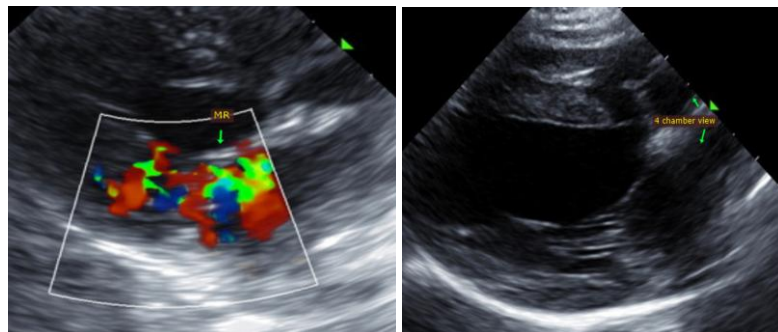
Anesthetic risk is considered mild if needed. Cardiac protective drug choices (opioid/benzodiazepine premedication, propofol or alfaxalone induction, isoflurane gas) are recommended. Pre-oxygenate for 5-10 minutes prior to induction. Monitor for arrhythmias, hypotension, and hypoxia both intra and post-operatively and intervene as necessary. Mild IV fluid restriction is recommended to avoid fluid overload. Avoid heart rate stimulating drugs such as atropine unless clinically indicated.

**PLAN**

Baseline BP is recommended. Continue Pimobendan 0.3mg/kg PO q12h.

Recommend conservative monitoring with a recheck echocardiogram in 6 months, sooner if any development of clinical signs.

**IMAGES**





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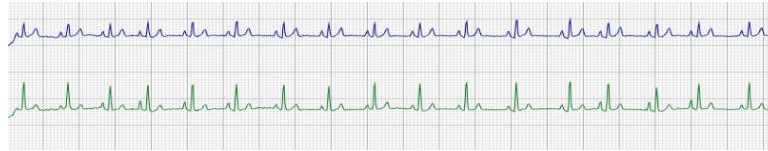
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**The information and recommendations provided are based on the images presented by the referring veterinarian. No evaluation can be communicated regarding pathology that was not visible in the image/video clips provided.**

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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