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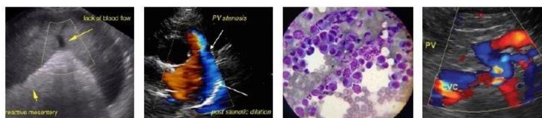


THE FOCAL ZONE
IMAGING PERFORMED BY
289-808-2608 info@thefocalzone.com

PATIENT
Shiloh Ruetten

SPECIES
Canine

BREED
Shepherd Mix

SEX
Male Neutered

AGE
10 years

WEIGHT
85.3lbs

INTERPRETED BY
Maggie Machen Lamy, DVM DACVIM (Cardiology)

IMAGING PERFORMED BY
Crystal Hill, RVT

HOSPITAL NAME
Preston Animal Clinic

REFERRING VET
Dr. Coghlan

INVOICE
23536

DATE
4/8/22

PRESENTING CLINICAL SIGNS

History: Increased panting, heavy breathing going on for several months, getting worse. No known source of pain. Hypothyroid, on Levothyroxine. No heart murmur noted.
-Abnormal PE/Chem/CBC/UA Results: Mild increase in ALT and alk phos.
-Radiographs; Mild cardiomegaly, no other abnormalities.

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. Mild mitral regurgitation with mild left atrial dilation. Mild LV dilation in both systole and diastole. Borderline myocardial function. The tricuspid valve appears normal with mild tricuspid regurgitation. Prominent right heart. TR velocity indicative of early 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.

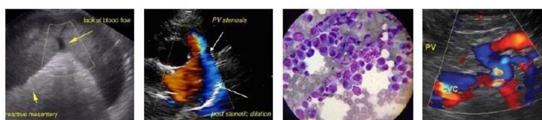
CARDIAC CHART

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	3.0	1.0	1.4	26	50	0.7
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	140	1.2	2.0	38.7	3.4	5.6	4.1
*Normal chamber parameters expressed as a mean value (SD)				3	1.27 (5.3)	2.46 (2.46)	1.36 (5.5)
BODY WEIGHT DEPENDENT PARAMETERS **Note: All measurements based upon multi-modal images and methods. An average value is reported.* 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				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)

INTERPRETATION OF THE FINDINGS & FURTHER RECOMMENDATIONS

Chronic degenerative valve disease causing mild mitral and tricuspid regurgitation. Lack of significant left atrial enlargement indicates the current risk for complication is low. The LV function is borderline, and the LV dimensions are more increased than is suspected with simple mild valve disease. Consider screening for underlying issues, such as a non-traditional diet. Mild pulmonary hypertension is also noted, which is likely due to suspect airway disease. No concurrent issues are noted in this study.

Given these findings, the heavy breathing is certainly non-cardiogenic in origin. Respiratory disease is considered most likely. If the symptom is poorly



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controlled/progresses long term, this can certainly lead to worsening of PAH. Clinical signs of significant PAH include exertional dyspnea/collapse. Continued monitoring is advised. If either is noted, a Sildenafil trial can be initiated to assess response. If needed, cough control is recommended lifelong (hydrocodone, intermittent AI prednisone, fluoroquinolone for acute flare up, etc.).

In a dog without significant left atrial enlargement, no cardiac medications are clearly indicated. Assessment of progression in the future will help predict long term prognosis, which is highly variable at this stage (B1). 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.

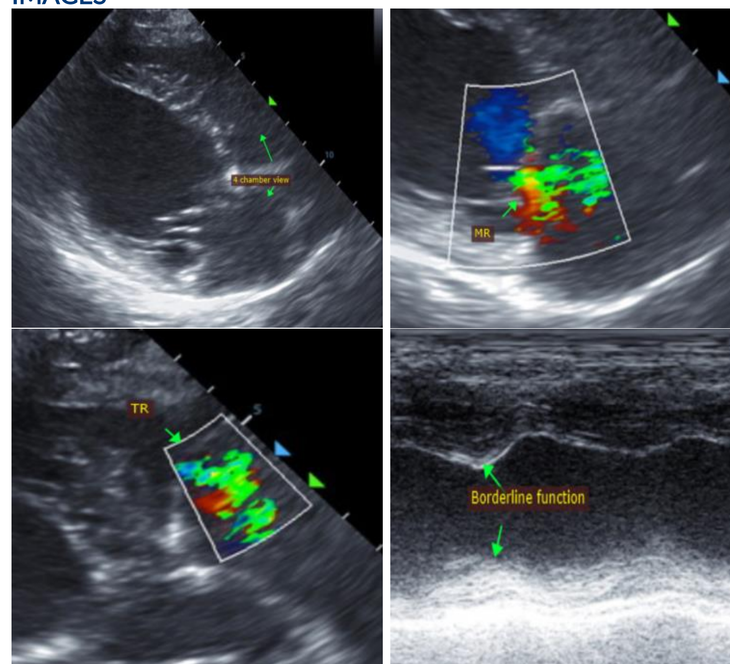
Anesthetic risk is considered mild if needed. Cardiac protective drug choices (opioid/benzodiazepine premedication, propofol or alfaxalone induction, isoflurane gas) are recommended. **Pre-oxygenate for 5-10 minutes prior to induction.** Monitor for arrhythmias, hypotension, and hypoxia both intra and 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.

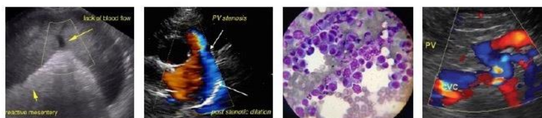
PLAN

Consider diet history as discussed. Consider causes of labored breathing, such as respiratory disease, etc. If no significant findings are identified, a Sildenafil trial can be instituted to assess response. Give 1-2mg/kg PO q8h for 2 weeks. If no improvement, discontinue.

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

IMAGES





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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
Diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine (Cardiology)
info@sonopath.com