



PATIENT

Shotzey Thijssen

SPECIES

Canine

BREED

GSP Mix

SEX

FS

AGE

15 years

WEIGHT

63.4lbs

INTERPRETED BY

Maggie Machen Lamy,
DVM, DACVIM
(Cardiology)

IMAGING PERFORMED BY

Amanda Lacey-Crook

HOSPITAL NAME

River's Edge Pet
Medical Center

REFERRING VET

Dr. Gray

INVOICE

24108

DATE

5/9/22

PRESENTING CLINICAL SIGNS

History: No clinical symptoms - previous hx of panting at rest but attributed to pain/arthritis. Cursorsy echo done about 6 months ago Doppler BP today: 146 Current Medications: Proin 50 mg BID, caprofen 50 mg BID, gabapentin 300 mg PRN
Abnormal PE/Chem/CBC/UA Results: Pre-op from 5/9/22 is WNL other than ALKP which is slightly elevated (272 U/L) No current radiographs
ECG report Idexx: RSA with sinus arrest. Atropine challenge recommended.

ELECTROCARDIOGRAPHIC FINDINGS

Pre and Post atropine ECGs are submitted.
PRE-atropine: A six lead ECG is available; 25mm/s, 5mm/mV. The average heart rate is 100bpm (range 48-125bpm). The rhythm is sinus in origin, with a p for every QRS complex and vice versa. The P and QRS morphologies are positive with a normal dimension. Sinus pauses throughout; no obvious AV block. No ectopic beats or other dysrhythmias observed.
ECG diagnosis: Normal sinus rhythm with profound respiratory variation and brief sinus arrest.

Post-atropine (0.04mg/kg IV, 15 min later): A six lead ECG is available; 25mm/s, 10mm/mV. The average heart rate is 150bpm with a regular rhythm. The rhythm is sinus in origin, with a p for every QRS complex and vice versa. The P and QRS morphologies are positive. No ectopic beats, pauses or other dysrhythmias observed.
ECG diagnosis: Normal sinus rhythm following atropine administration.

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 eccentric mitral regurgitation with mild left atrial dilation. Normal MR velocity. 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 and trace 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	5.5	2.7	1.1	1.3	36	70	0.66
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		1.8	0.98	28.8	2.9	3.9	2.5
*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				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)



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**Note: All measurements based upon multi-modal images and methods. An average value is reported.*

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.

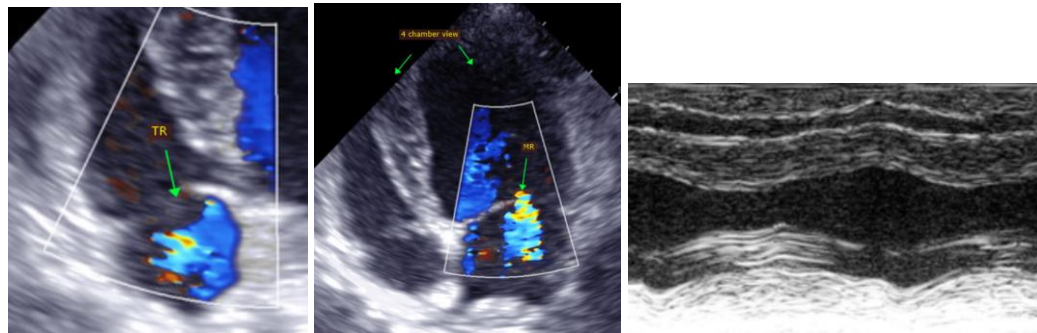
While the initial ECG does show brief sinus pauses, the atropine challenge reveals a normal response. This would indicate high vagal tone is the cause of the initial findings. This is benign and does not warrant therapy. Causes of high vagal tone can be considered (GI/neurologic/respiratory disease v normal finding) as clinically indicated.

In an asymptomatic dog with no 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. Due to high vagal tone, recommend **pre-medicate with a vagolytic**. 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.

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

IMAGES





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Pre-atropine



Post-atropine

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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