



**PATIENT**

Smokey Ricks

**SPECIES**

Canine

**BREED**

Weimaraner Mix

**SEX**

Male Neutered

**AGE**

11.11 years

**WEIGHT**

58.2lbs

**INTERPRETED BY**

Maggie Machen Lamy,  
DVM, DACVIM  
(Cardiology)

**IMAGING PERFORMED BY**

Loetitia St-Jacques,  
LVT/RVT

**HOSPITAL NAME**

Animal Medical  
Center of Reno

**REFERRING VET**

Dr. Chen

**INVOICE**

32111

**DATE**

8/2/23

**PRESENTING CLINICAL SIGNS**

History: Grade 3/6 heart murmur. Chronic cough. BP: 200mmHg.

**RADIOGRAPHIC FINDINGS** \*NOTE: Images submitted for supplemental cardiac information only.

Normal cardiac silhouette. No obvious evidence of CHF.

**ELECTROCARDIOGRAPHIC FINDINGS**

A six lead ECG is available at 50mm/s; 10mm/mV. The average heart rate is 90bpm (range 66-130bpm). 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: Sinus bradycardia with respiratory variation.

**ECHOCARDIOGRAM FINDINGS**

2D, m-mode, color flow and doppler imaging is available. Minimal diffuse thickening of mitral valve leaflets with no obvious prolapse into the left atrial lumen. No mitral regurgitation is identified. Normal left atrial dimension. Normal LV diameter with adequate myocardial function. No LV hypertrophy. The tricuspid valve appears subjectively normal, with trace tricuspid regurgitation. The right heart is normal (subjective). No overt evidence of pulmonary arterial hypertension. The pulmonic and aortic valves are normal in morphology and mobility. No aortic abnormalities identified, however the LVOT velocity is mildly elevated. Normal pulmonic outflow velocities. Trace aortic and pulmonic insufficiency. No pericardial or pleural effusion noted. No cardiac tumors observed.

**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	NA	NA	NM	1.3			0.69
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	NM	2.0	1.3	26.4	2.9		
*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)
*Note: All measurements based upon multi-modal images and methods. An average value is reported.				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**

Essentially normal cardiac structure and function. Trace TR is appreciated; however, no obvious pulmonary hypertension is identified. The only cause of a murmur identified is increased flow velocity through the LVOT/aortic root. No obvious subaortic ridge or valvular abnormalities are visualized, and in the absence of structural abnormalities this is considered a benign flow murmur. If this is a new murmur, it is reasonable to monitor periodically via recheck echocardiography in the future. Additionally screening for fluid status abnormalities (dehydration, anemia, etc.) is recommended through routine lab work as these abnormalities would make this finding more prevalent. No additional issues are identified.

The ECG is largely unremarkable with a respiratory sinus arrhythmia. This is most consistent with high vagal tone, which may be secondary to reported respiratory signs.

The reported blood pressure is significantly elevated, and a small aortic insufficiency is identified. Ideally obtain serial measurements in a controlled, low stress environment and continue until 3 consecutive readings plateau within 5mmHg of variability. If persistently >160mmHg despite a relatively calm demeanor, recommend institution of amlodipine to effect. Additionally, if deemed accurate, screening for predisposing underlying causes of SHT is recommended (Cushings, PLN, adrenal tumor, etc.), as primary disease is relatively uncommon and a rule out diagnosis.

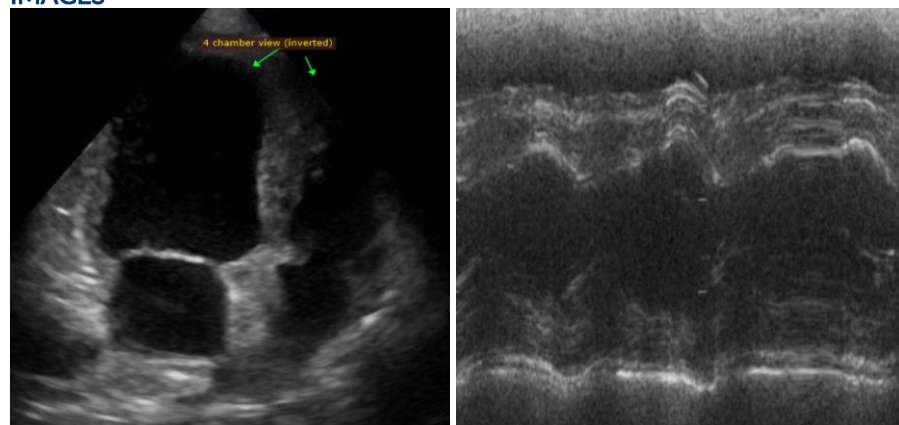
Given these findings, the cough is unlikely to be cardiac in origin and primary respiratory causes should be considered. Consider further respiratory work up/treatment (hydrocodone, taper course of steroids, Enrofloxacin, TTW/BAL, etc.). Chronic respiratory disease can lead to development of PAH over time, and monitoring for signs of significantly elevated pulmonary pressures is recommended (exertional dyspnea or syncope).

**PLAN**

Reassess BP as discussed. If persistently elevated, considered Amlodipine as dictated by Internal Medicine. Full systemic evaluation is recommended. Consider baseline lab work. Further cough work-up/treatment as discussed.

Recommend conservative monitoring with a recheck echocardiogram in 1 year, 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

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