



**PATIENT**

Hershey LaVaglia

**SPECIES**

Canine

**BREED**

Lab Mix

**SEX**

Male Neutered

**AGE**

11 years

**WEIGHT**

81lbs

**INTERPRETED BY**

Maggie Machen Lamy,  
DVM, DACVIM  
(Cardiology)

**IMAGING PERFORMED BY**

Diane McFadden

**HOSPITAL NAME**

Tranquility Veterinary  
Clinic

**REFERRING VET**

Dr. Kurapati

**INVOICE**

20710

**DATE**

8/24/21

**PRESENTING CLINICAL SIGNS**

History: Chronic cough started in June. History of bronchitis, improved on Temeril-P.  
-Abnormal PE/Chem/CBC/UA Results: ALKP 456, ALT 367, amylase 1251, K+ 5.8, Na/K decreased 25.  
-CXR report: Cardiomegaly with biventricular enlargement. PA distention. No CHF.

**ECHOCARDIOGRAM FINDINGS**

2D, m-mode, color flow and doppler imaging is available. Mild left ventricular dilation with diminished systolic function and increased sphericity. Decreased LV wall thickness. Increased EPSS. Severe left atrial enlargement. The mitral valve appears mildly thickened, with no obvious prolapse into the left atrial lumen. Mild central mitral regurgitation. Decreased velocity. Tricuspid valve appears normal in form and function. Moderate right atrial and ventricular dilation. Mild tricuspid regurgitation. The aortic valve is normal in morphology and mobility. Normal LVOT and RVOT outflow velocities. No aortic or pulmonic insufficiency. No pericardial or pleural effusion noted. No obvious cardiac tumors.

**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	4.7	NM	2.0	2.7	8	19	1.2	
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	1.1	NM	36.7	4.2	4.6	4.2	
*Normal chamber parameters expressed as a mean value (SD)								
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					3	1.27 (5.3)	2.46 (2.46)	1.36 (5.5)
Rishniw M and Hollis NE, J Vet Intern Med 2000; 14:429-435					5	1.40 (4.5)	2.74 (5.2)	1.60 (4.7)
Hansson et al, Vet Rad and Ultrasound 2002					10	1.50 (3.8)	3.27 (3.5)	2.06 (3.1)
Bonagura et al. Echocardiography: principles of interpretation, Vet Clin North Am 15:1177, 1995					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**

Unfortunately, this patient has significant cardiomyopathy and systolic dysfunction. This is causing dilation and volume overload of both the left and right heart. Mild MR and mild TR are noted, which are suspected to be secondary to annular stretch. The severity of dysfunction and pump failure is significant, and the patient is at high risk for decompensating into congestive



<b>PATIENT</b>	failure. Patient will always be at risk for right and/or left-sided CHF, development of arrhythmias/syncope and/or sudden death going forward.
Hershey LaVaglia	
<b>SPECIES</b>	Systolic failure can be primary in nature (DCM) or secondary to taurine deficiency, myocarditis, tachycardia-induced cardiomyopathy, thyroid disease, or infiltrative disease such as lymphoma. In a relatively young atypical breed (uncommon signalment for DCM), consider testing for primary causes that may be treatable. A troponin (cTnI) level can be submitted to further investigate infiltrative/inflammatory contribution (myocarditis). Additionally, a taurine level may be helpful (screen for malabsorption issue), and a thorough diet history given the recent correlation with grain free/boutique brand/exotic ingredient diets. Finally, further systemic evaluation for underlying infiltrative contribution such as neoplasia is also reasonable (abdominal ultrasound, etc.). Regardless of cause, prognosis is poor at this stage in the disease process, with an average survival time of <6 months. The only treatable cause of systolic failure is diet/taurine deficiency, which is uncommon on commercially formulated dog foods. If the diet is of concern, highly recommend immediate diet change and taurine supplement regardless of blood taurine results. Please see the FDA website for more information.
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<b>WEIGHT</b>	The chronic cough is likely due to airway disease as was mentioned in the Radiology report. That being said, there is evidence of early hepatic congestion and institution of full cardiac supportive medications is recommended as below including diuretic therapy. Ideally, I would avoid steroids in this patient and utilize Hydrocodone as an alternative cough suppression. If the breathing worsens or the patient appears unstable, consider hospitalization for stabilization. Cases of systolic failure are at high risk for malignant tachyarrhythmias (such as VT or rapid AF) and sudden death, and this should be expressed to the owner. Activity restriction is advised, and a baseline ECG recommended.
81lbs	
<b>INTERPRETED BY</b>	Elective anesthesia is not advised due to exceedingly high risk for complications.
Maggie Machen Lamy, DVM, DACVIM (Cardiology)	
<b>IMAGING PERFORMED BY</b>	Omega fatty acid supplementation and mild salt restriction may be of some long-term benefit. Monitor for development of a cough, worsening labored breathing, abdominal distention, exercise intolerance or collapse episodes in the future. Monitoring of sleeping breathing rates at home is recommended to assess response to medications and recurrence of CHF in the future.
Diane McFadden	
<b>HOSPITAL NAME</b>	<b>PLAN:</b>
Tranquility Veterinary Clinic	Baseline BP and ECG are recommended. Initiate aldosterone antagonist Spironolactone 1-2mg/kg PO q12h. Institute furosemide 1-2mg/kg PO q12h. Institute Pimobendan 0.3mg/kg PO q12h. Institute taurine 1000mg PO q12h. Diet history/change as discussed. Discontinue Temeril-P, utilize Hydrocodone if needed for quality of life.
<b>REFERRING VET</b>	Monitor a renal panel and blood pressure in 1-2 weeks than every 3-4 months life-long. Do not utilize an ACE-I in this patient.
Dr. Kurapati	
<b>INVOICE</b>	A recheck echocardiogram is recommended in 6 months to screen for progression, sooner if clinical issues arise in the interim.
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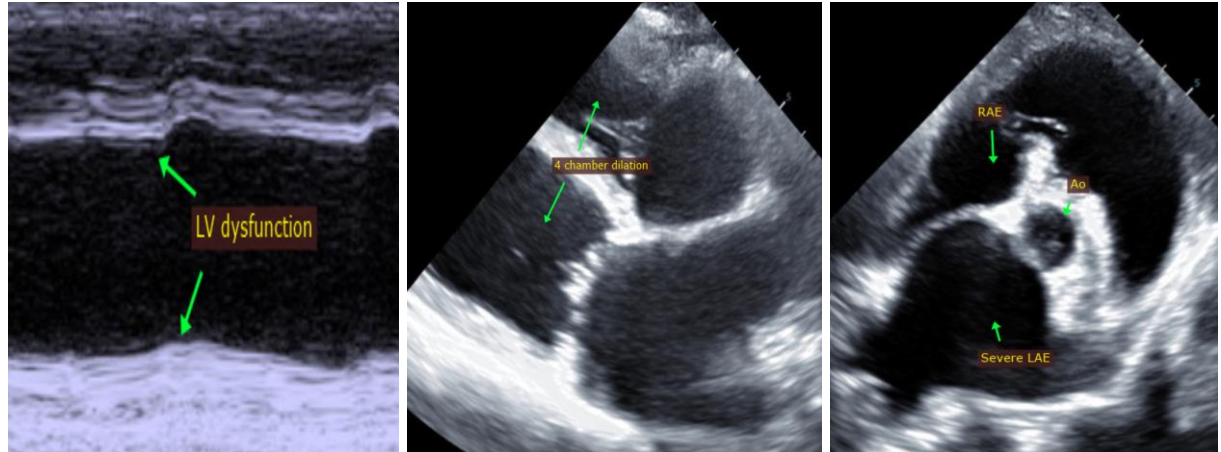
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**IMAGES**



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.

**Maggie Machen Lamy, DVM**  
**Diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine (Cardiology)**  
info@sonopath.com