



**PATIENT**

Sasha Medina

**PRESENTING CLINICAL SIGNS**

History: Murmur. Distended abdomen.  
-Current medications: Furosemide.

**SPECIES**

Canine

**ELECTROCARDIOGRAPHIC FINDINGS** \*Note: Single lead ECGs are evaluated as a rhythm strip. Morphology/MEA cannot be definitively commented on.

A single lead ECG is available; 50mm/s, 20mm/mV. The average heart rate is 80bpm (range 40-157bpm). 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: Profound respiratory sinus arrhythmia.

**BREED**

Schnauzer

**SEX**

Male Neutered

**ECHOCARDIOGRAM FINDINGS**

2D, m-mode, color flow and doppler imaging is available. Mild thickening of mitral valve leaflets with no prolapse into the left atrial lumen. Mild eccentric mitral regurgitation with minimal left atrial dilation. Normal MR velocity. Normal LV diameter with adequate myocardial function. The tricuspid valve appears mildly thickened with moderate tricuspid regurgitation. TR velocity consistent with moderate pulmonary hypertension. Mild right atrial and ventricular prominence. MPA appears normal. 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.

**AGE**

11 years

**WEIGHT**

22.6lbs

**CARDIAC CHART**

**INTERPRETED BY**

Maggie Machen Lamy,  
DVM, DACVIM  
(Cardiology)

CANINE CARDIAC PARAMETERS	MR VMAX (m/s)	TR VMAX (m/s)	LA/AO (Boon method)	LA/AO (Heart Base; Swe)	FS (%)	EF (%)	EPSS (cm)
<b>NORMAL PARAMETER</b>	4.5-5.5	<2.7	1.3	<1.6	28-40	40-100	<0.6
<b>PATIENT</b>	4.7	4.3	NM	1.3	50	94	NM
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)
<b>NORMAL PARAMETER</b>	50-100	0.7-1.7	0.7-1.6	BELOW	BELOW	BELOW	BELOW
<b>PATIENT</b>	NM	2.0	NM	10.3	1.8	3.0	1.5
<b>*Normal chamber parameters expressed as a mean value (SD)</b>				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

**IMAGING PERFORMED BY**

Dana Alterman,  
RDCS, LVT

**HOSPITAL NAME**

Eubank Animal Clinic

**REFERRING VET**

Dr. Glassman

**INVOICE**

25624

**DATE**

8/8/22



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**INTERPRETATION OF THE FINDINGS & FURTHER RECOMMENDATIONS**

Chronic degenerative valve disease causing mild mitral and moderate tricuspid regurgitation. Lack of left atrial enlargement indicates the current risk for spontaneous congestive heart failure is low. Moderate TR with moderate pulmonary hypertension is also documented, despite no reported symptoms. The right heart and MPA support this finding, with early compensatory changes identified. No additional issues are identified.

The ECG shows a profound respiratory sinus arrhythmia. This is likely due to high vagal tone; however, should the heart rate not stimulate appropriately with light exercise or stress, further evaluation may be warranted such as an Atropine challenge.

The underlying genesis of PAH is poorly understood in cases other than heartworm infestation, though it occurs with increased frequency in a variety of forms of chronic lung disease and in patients with idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis. Primary PAH is also possible in certain breeds as well. All possibilities should be considered without a respiratory history provided. If not performed, a heartworm antigen test is highly recommended.

Given the combination of mild right heart enlargement and moderate pulmonary arterial hypertension, reasonable to institute Sildenafil in this patient as below. Abdominal distention is noted; however, ascites is not assessed in this exam. If ascites is in fact present, it is unclear if this is secondary to congestion or alternative issues. Sampling would be advised in this instance, as a lack of severe right heart enlargement would not support CHF. Lasix is certainly not indicated unless a cardiogenic origin is suspected. Prognosis is guarded given the combination of issues, and patient will always be at risk for progression to right or left-sided CHF, development of arrhythmias, collapse, etc. going forward.

Anesthetic risk is considered mildly elevated. Cardiac protective drug choices (opioid/benzodiazepine premedication, propofol or alfaxalone induction, iso or sevoflurane gas) are recommended. Pre-oxygenate 5-10 minutes prior to induction. Monitor for arrhythmias, hypotension, and hypoxia both intra and post-operatively and intervene as necessary. Judicious IV fluid rates are recommended to avoid fluid overload. **Pre-medicate with a vagolytic.**

Omega fatty acid supplementation and mild salt restriction may also be of some long-term benefit. Monitor for development of a progressive cough, labored breathing, exercise intolerance or collapse episodes.

**PLAN**

Baseline BP recommended. Unless ascites is confirmed and suspected to be cardiogenic in origin, Lasix is not indicated at this time. Institute Sildenafil 1-2mg/kg PO q12h. Consider further workup as discussed.

Recommend monitor for progression with a recheck echocardiogram in 6 months, sooner if any development of clinical signs.



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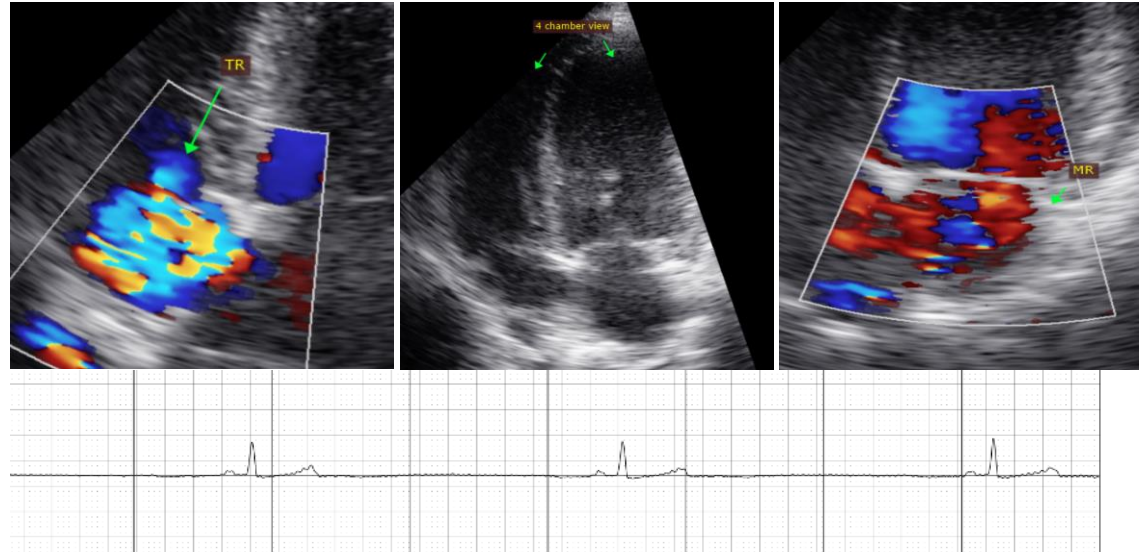
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**IMAGES**



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.

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