



PATIENT

Chula Powell

SPECIES

Canine

BREED

Chihuahua

SEX

Female Spayed

AGE

14.7 years

WEIGHT

5.6lbs

INTERPRETED BY

Maggie Machen Lamy,
DVM, DACVIM
(Cardiology)

IMAGING PERFORMED BY

Loetitia St-Jacques,
LVT/RVT

HOSPITAL NAME

Truckee Meadows
Veterinary Hospital

REFERRING VET

Dr. Kuester

INVOICE

26462

DATE

9/20/22

PRESENTING CLINICAL SIGNS

History: Grade 4/6 heart murmur. Presented to ER 9/18/22 in respiratory distress. Bilateral MPLs Hepatomegaly.

-Current medications: Vetmedin 1.25mg 1/2 T PO BID, Furosemide 12.5mg 1/2 T PO BID.

-Chest radiograph from ER (9/18/22): Showed cardiomegaly with concern for CHF.

ECHOCARDIOGRAM FINDINGS

2D, m-mode, color flow and doppler imaging is available. Mild thickening of mitral valve leaflets with no obvious prolapse into the left atrial lumen. No obvious mitral regurgitation with a normal left atrial dimension. Normal LV diameter with adequate myocardial function. Subtle septal flattening in systole. The tricuspid valve appears thickened with mild to moderate tricuspid regurgitation. Moderate right atrial enlargement; moderate right ventricular dilation and hypertrophy consistent with pulmonary arterial hypertension. TR velocity consistent with moderate PAH, however suspected to be underestimated. The pulmonic and aortic valves are normal in morphology and mobility. Moderate main PA and branch dilation. Trace pulmonic insufficiency. Normal pulmonic and aortic outflow velocities. No pericardial or pleural effusion. 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	4.8	4.2	NM	1.0	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)
NORMAL PARAMETER	50-100	0.7-1.7	0.7-1.6	BELOW	BELOW	BELOW	BELOW
PATIENT	NM	0.9	0.6	2.5	1.0	1.2	0.6
*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)
<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



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INTERPRETATION OF THE FINDINGS & FURTHER RECOMMENDATIONS

The most significant findings is moderate to severe pulmonary hypertension (PAH), as evidenced by an elevated TR velocity and right heart/MPA enlargement. This is causing hypertrophy and dilation of the right heart and MPA (indicating right-heart pressure overload). The left heart dimensions are normal without significant pathology. No tumors or effusions are appreciated.

Clinical signs of weakness and dyspnea are attributed to PAH. 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. If not performed, a heartworm antigen test is recommended. Given the signalment, COPD/chronic bronchitis and/or upper airway disease as an underlying cause with an acute secondary exacerbating insult (infectious or inflammatory) is suspected. Patients with this degree of PAH and pulmonary disease can develop right-sided congestive heart failure (ascites/pleural effusion), debilitating cyanosis, labored breathing and exertional syncope if poorly controlled. That being said, CHF is not suspected in this case at this time. Given the recent history of respiratory signs, the most common cause is an infectious or inflammatory insult causing a decline in already poor oxygenation status. A PTE cannot be ruled out. Coverage with broad spectrum pulmonary antibiotic (fluoroquinolone) is recommended if any symptoms persist, in addition to aggressive vasodilation using pimobendan and sildenafil. Diuretic therapy is not recommended, as decreasing blood volume can further decrease preload and worsen clinical signs.

There may be risk for right-sided CHF in the future; however, no effusions are noted making this unlikely. If the patient experiences any additional respiratory compromise, continued hospitalization for oxygen support and IV antibiotics may be necessary. Once stable, use of theophylline and/or taper course of anti-inflammatory steroids can also be beneficial in these cases, to treat exertional dyspnea or acute flare ups and decrease the inflammatory component as much as possible. PRN use of cough suppressants may also be beneficial.

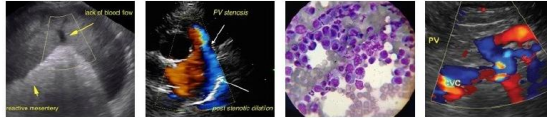
Unfortunately, the prognosis overall is guarded to poor; however, I am hopeful we can provide some medical relief going forward.

Omega fatty acid supplementation (anti-inflammatory) may be of some long-term benefit. Monitor for worsening of labored breathing, exercise intolerance or collapse episodes.

PLAN

Discontinue Lasix. Administer Pimobendan 0.3mg/kg PO q12h. Institute Spironolactone 1-2mg/kg PO q12h. Institute sildenafil (Viagra) 1-2mg/kg PO q8h. Consider course of Baytril or similar antibiotic and oxygen support depending on persistence of clinical signs. Consider ancillary therapy such as hydrocodone and/or theophylline depending on chronic clinical signs of cough/exertional dyspnea.

Recommend recheck echocardiogram in 6 months to reassess pulmonary pressures, sooner if any recurrent clinical signs arise.



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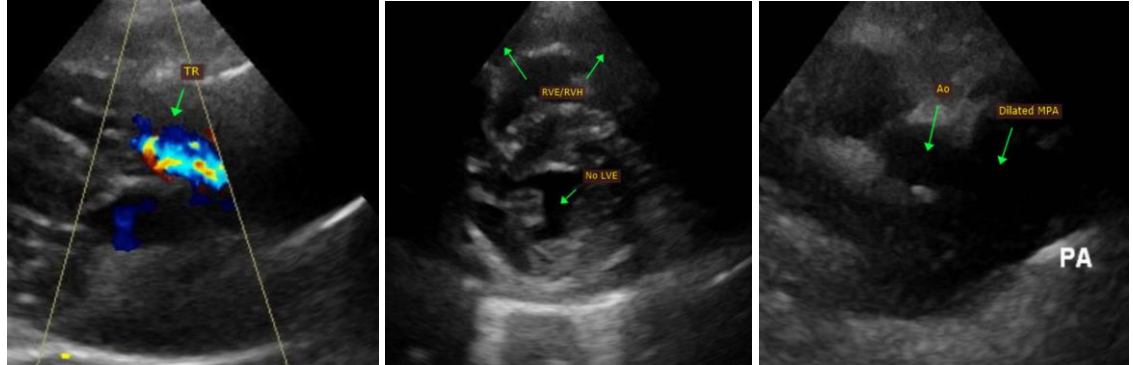
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IMAGES



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
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