



## PATIENT

Aspen Mills

## SPECIES

Reptile

## BREED

Bearded Dragon

## SEX

Female

## AGE

4 years

## WEIGHT

1.078 lbs

## INTERPRETED BY

Dr. Alicia Angosto  
Guerrero

## IMAGING PERFORMED BY

Heidi Putnam, LVT

## HOSPITAL NAME

Northwest Exotic Pet  
Vet

## REFERRING VET

Dr. Ramsell

## INVOICE

68819

## DATE

11/18/25

## PRESENTING CLINICAL SIGNS

History: -Pt has months long history of not eating on own dating back to 9/23/25 visit (wasn't eating on own since a month before the visit) -Sudden onset of anorexia per o BW and radiographs were performed 9/23/25. -BW 9/23/25 elevated glucose (1381 mg/dL) and CPK (4,793), slightly elevated total WBC count, heterophils and azuric monocytes -9/23/25 rads had no obvious findings -Pt started on Baytril, meloxicam, and syringe feeding -O still complains of pt not being able to eat on own and letting syringe feeding fall out of mouth, and stools being grayish/greenish/ yellowish - 11/8/25 BW bile acids 8.4 (normal), GLC still elevated at 1,965 mg/dL, HCT low at 8% -11/8/25 started p on ceftazidime injections q 48 hr for 10 tx -Fecal complete (float and smear) negative for parasites  
Abnormal PE/Chem/CBC/UA Results: -BW 9/23/25 elevated glucose (1381 mg/dL) and CPK (4,793), slightly elevated total WBC count, heterophils and azuric monocytes -9/23/25 rads had no obvious findings - 11/8/25 BW bile acids 8.4 (normal), GLC still elevated at 1,965 mg/dL, HCT low at 8%

## ULTRASONOGRAPHIC EXAMINATION OF THE ABDOMEN

### Urinary System

The cloacal lumen normally distended. The wall appears thin and smooth, and the urine is anechoic. A moderate accumulation of organized urates is also present within the lumen.

Both kidneys are normal in size, shape, and echogenicity.

- Left kidney, cranial lobe (transverse view): 0.88x0.44 cm (height x width).
- Right kidney, caudal lobe (transverse view): 0.96x0.55 cm (height x width).

### Reproductive System

The gonads are not clearly visualized. No follicles are observed, likely due to non-cycling status secondary to illness and poor body condition.

### Spleen

The spleen measured 1.11 x 0.89 cm and was heterogeneous.

### Liver

The liver is subjectively normal in size, with sharp margins and a regular contour. The parenchyma is uniform and hyperechoic compared to the fat bodies, with a fine echotexture.

Several hypoechoic nodules are identified within the parenchyma, measuring: 0.91 x 0.80 cm, 0.97 x 0.56 cm, and 0.60 x 0.41 cm

The gallbladder lumen is markedly distended. The wall is thin, and the contents are primarily anechoic. No dilation of the cystic duct or common bile duct is observed.



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## *Gastrointestinal*

The stomach is minimally distended, containing a small amount of semi-liquid ingesta ingesta (due to assisted feeding). A mildly heterogeneous, hypoechoic intraluminal mass is present, measuring at least 2.87×1.54 cm.

Duodenum: 1.74 mm, empty. The remaining small intestinal loops are normally distended, containing and show a normal mural pattern. Intestinal wall thickness ranges from 1.12–1.20 mm.

## *Coelomic Cavity*

Two hypoechoic nodules without a clear organ of origin are noted: 0.70×0.80 cm and 0.69×0.49 cm (this seems to be in the fat body).

No free coelomic effusion is observed.

## *Thoracic Cavity*

A subpleural hypoechoic nodule is identified, measuring 2.13×3.70 mm.

## ULTRASONOGRAPHIC FINDINGS

- Multiple hypoechoic hepatic nodules (0.91×0.80 cm, 0.97×0.56 cm, 0.60×0.41 cm).
- Large hypoechoic intraluminal gastric mass (2.87×1.54 cm).
- Two additional coelomic hypoechoic nodules (0.70×0.80 cm and 0.69×0.49 cm).
- Subpleural hypoechoic nodule in one of the lungs (2.13×3.70 mm).

## INTERPRETATION OF THE FINDINGS & FURTHER RECOMMENDATIONS

The presence of a sizeable intraluminal gastric mass, several hypoechoic hepatic nodules, additional coelomic nodules, and a subpleural thoracic nodule strongly suggest a multifocal disseminated neoplastic disease.

In bearded dragons, large gastric or proximal intestinal masses are most commonly associated with neuroendocrine carcinomas, adenocarcinomas, or lymphoma, though the gastric location, heterogeneous hypoechoic appearance, and concurrent multifocal metastasis-like nodules make a neuroendocrine carcinoma (gastric neuroendocrine tumor) with hepatic and coelomic metastases the leading differential.

The hypoechoic liver nodules are highly suspicious for metastatic deposits. The spleen typically measures around 0.5 cm in this species; in this case, it appears enlarged and somewhat heterogeneous, which may suggest infiltrative disease. The coelomic nodules may represent additional metastatic foci within the fat bodies or possible lymphoid involvement. The small subpleural thoracic nodule further increases suspicion for metastatic dissemination to the lungs.



**PATIENT**

Aspen Mills

The marked anorexia, profound hyperglycemia, and very low HCT are clinically consistent with advanced systemic disease and are commonly observed in aggressive gastrointestinal neuroendocrine tumors in reptiles.

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Reptile

**Recommendations**

- Fine-needle aspirates of the gastric mass and hepatic nodules (if feasible) for cytology. If pursuing definitive diagnosis: consider biopsy (endoscopic or surgical), though patient stability may limit feasibility.
- Discuss prognosis with the owner – likely grave to poor given suspected metastatic disease.

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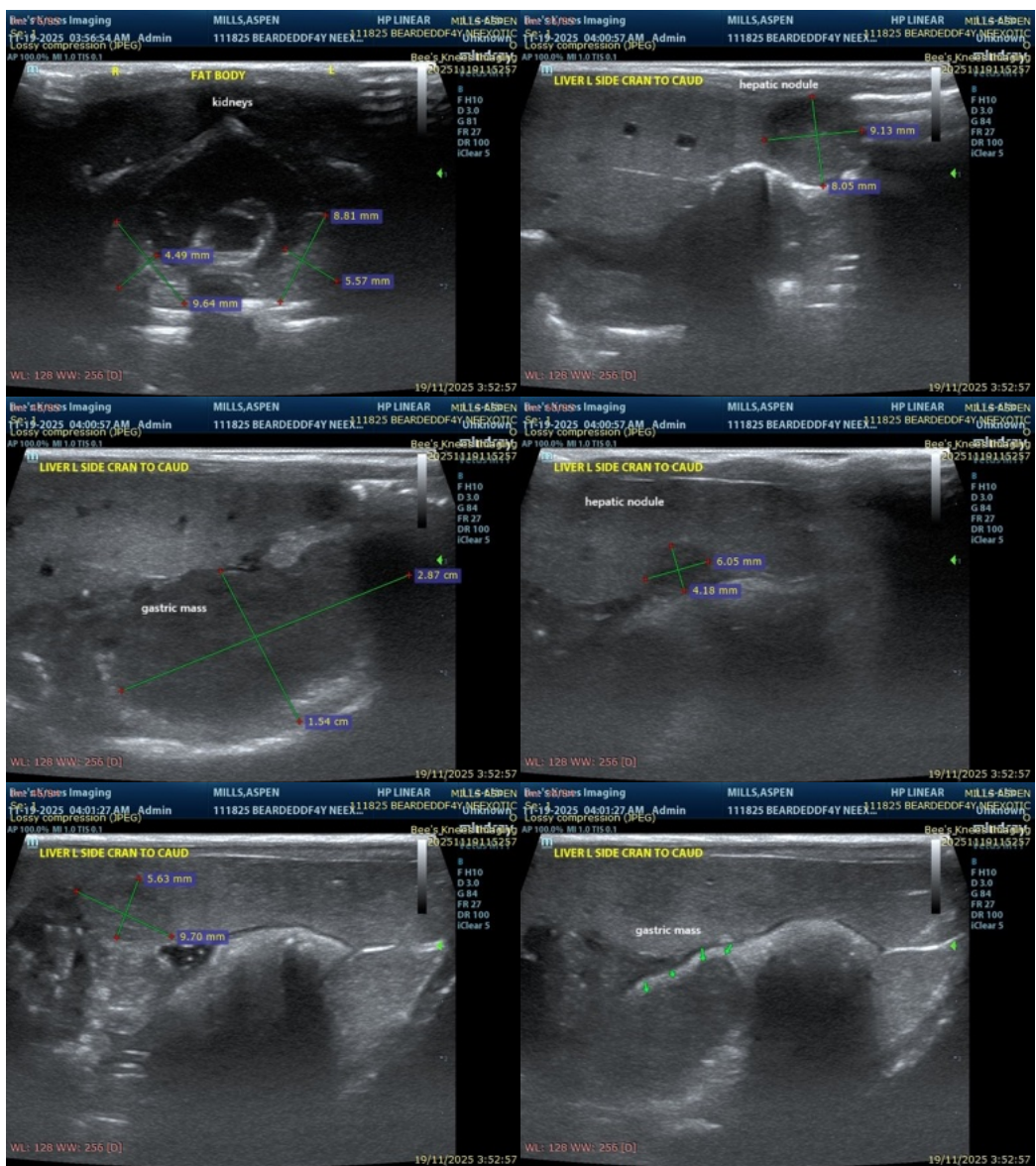
Dr. Ramsell

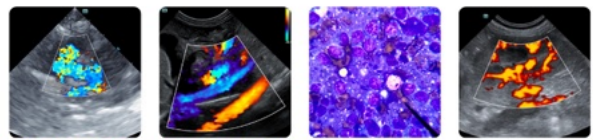
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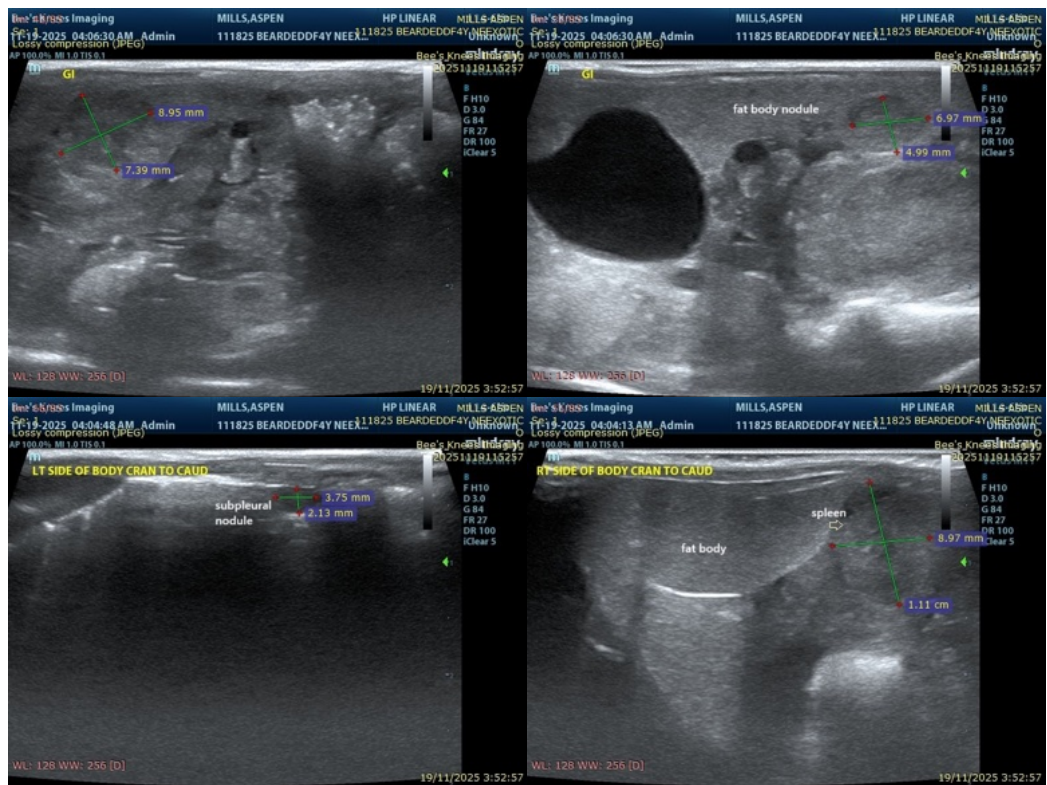
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The information and recommendations provided are based on the images presented by the referring veterinarian/sonographer. No evaluation can be communicated regarding pathology that was not visible in the image/video clips provided.

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.

Alicia Angosto Guerrero, DMV, PgDip, MSc.

MV Esp Ultrasound in Domestic and Wild Animals

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