

**DATE PRESENTING CLINICAL SIGNS**

11/2/21

History: lethargy, elevating liver enzymes.

Current Medications: Denamarin.

**PATIENT**

Lab Results: elevating ALT, GGT, alk phos over 2 weeks

Radiographs: Not provided by the veterinarian.

Biscuit Rose Serpe

Date of Previous IntraPet Ultrasound: No previous IntraPet scans.

Sedation: Torbugesic and Alfaxan for FNA.

Stat Report: STAT report requested.

**SPECIES**

Canine

**ULTRASONOGRAPHIC EXAMINATION OF THE ABDOMEN****BREED****Urinary System**

Jack Russell Terrier

The urinary bladder, trigone, and pelvic urethra are normal in thickness and the mucosal surface is smooth. The bladder lumen is moderately distended. A small amount of suspended echogenic debris is observed within the lumen. No masses, inflammatory changes or calculi are observed. Ureteral papillae and visualized portion of the proximal urethra, visible to a depth of 2 cm, are normal.

**SEX**

Female, spayed

The left kidney is normal in size (5.54 cm in length) with a normal shape, smooth peripheral margins and normal internal architecture. There is mild loss of corticomedullary distinction. Several hyperechoic shadowing diverticular foci are observed. There is no evidence of pyelectasia, infarcts or hydronephrosis. Renal vasculature is normal.

**AGE**

11/2/2013

**WEIGHT**

26.2 lbs.

The right kidney is normal in size (6.30 cm in length) with a normal shape, smooth peripheral margins and normal internal architecture. There is mild loss of corticomedullary distinction. Several hyperechoic shadowing diverticular foci are observed. There is no evidence of pyelectasia, infarcts or hydronephrosis. Renal vasculature is normal.

**INTERPRETED BY**

Andrea Nicastro, DVM,  
 Diplomate ACVIM  
 (Small Animal Internal  
 Medicine)

**Adrenal Glands**

The left adrenal gland is enlarged (0.89 cm at cranial pole) (0.83 cm at caudal pole) (3.14 cm in length); normal shape; homogenous parenchyma. The glandular echogenicity and detail are unremarkable. Capsule, cortex, and medullary definition are normal. The phrenicoabdominal vein and surrounding vasculature are normal.

**HOSPITAL NAME**

Eastern AH

The right adrenal gland is enlarged (0.82 cm at cranial pole) (0.78 cm at caudal pole) (2.96 cm in length); normal shape; homogenous parenchyma. The glandular echogenicity and detail are unremarkable. Capsule, cortex, and medullary definition are normal. The phrenicoabdominal vein and surrounding vasculature are normal.

**REFERRING VET**

Dr. Kaufman

**Spleen**

The spleen is normal in size (1.68 cm in width at the level of the hilus) with a normal capsular contour. There is appropriate echogenicity and echotexture. No focal lesions are observed. Splenic vasculature is normal.

**INVOICE**

12466

**Liver**

The liver is subjectively prominent in size with swollen curvilinear peripheral contours. The parenchyma is isoechoic relative to the spleen and exhibits mild heterogeneity. No distinct focal lesions are observed. Hepatic vasculature and biliary tracts are of normal volume with no evidence of congestion. The

gallbladder is of normal contours. A moderate amount of echogenic debris is observed within the lumen, some of which is gravity-dependent and some of which is adhered to the luminal wall. The wall is normal in thickness. No choleliths are observed. The cystic and common bile ducts are normal. A fine needle aspirate of the liver was performed during the study without incident.

### ***Gastrointestinal***

The stomach and intestine are free of stasis and exhibit normal peristaltic activity. The gastric lumen is not distended. The gastric wall and pylorus are normal in thickness with a normal layering pattern. The pyloric outflow tract is patent. The small intestinal lumen is not dilated. The small intestinal wall thickness is normal with a normal layering pattern and appropriate mural detail. Discreet masses are not identified. The colonic wall is normal. No obstructive disease is noted.

### ***Pancreas***

The right limb of the pancreas is visible/prominent with slightly irregular peripheral contours. The parenchyma is subtly hypoechoic relative to surrounding omental fat. No distinct focal lesions are observed. The pancreatic duct is borderline dilated (up to 0.43 cm). Surrounding mesentery is mildly hyperechoic.

### ***Free Abdomen***

There is no evidence of free fluid. The abdominal lymph nodes are normal/not visible.

## **ULTRASONOGRAPHIC FINDINGS**

### **Primary Findings:**

- An obvious cause for the elevated liver enzymes is not identified in the study. However, a microscopic hepatopathy (i.e., bacterial cholangiohepatitis, Leptospirosis, chronic active hepatitis, copper-associated hepatotoxicity, infiltrative neoplasia (less likely)) should be considered.
- Gallbladder debris, non-mucocele.
- The pancreatic changes are consistent with mild acute or chronic active pancreatitis.

### **Secondary Findings:**

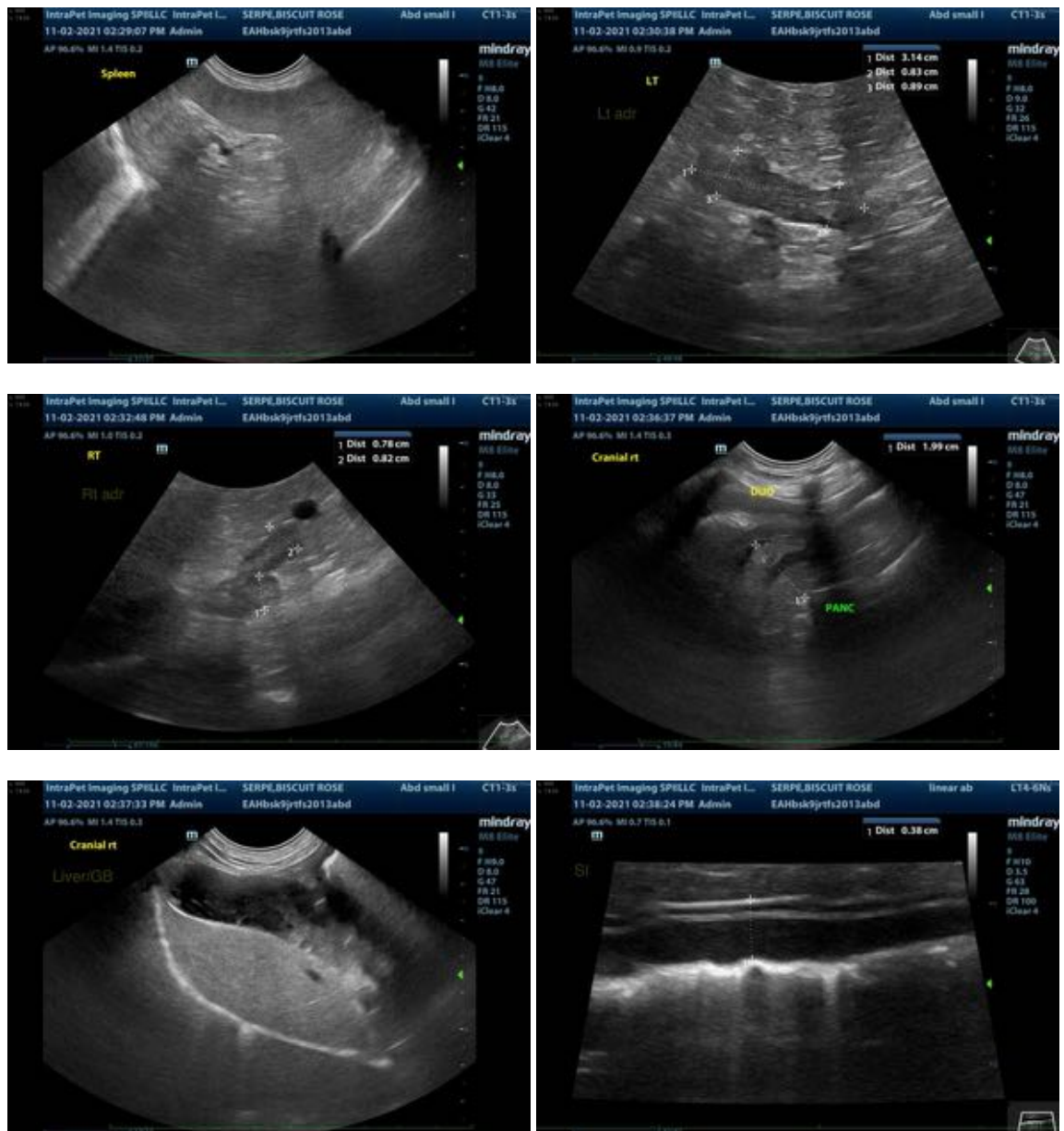
- Mild bilateral adrenomegaly.
- Bilateral age-related renal changes with dystrophic mineralization.

## **INTERPRETATION OF THE FINDINGS & FURTHER RECOMMENDATIONS**

- If hepatic cytology results are inconclusive, a surgical liver biopsy with aerobic and anaerobic bile cultures +/- acquisition of additional hepatic tissue samples for possible copper quantitation may be necessary to get a definitive diagnosis. Also consider Leptospirosis testing (i.e., blood and urine

PCR, serology). Consider empirical treatment for bacterial cholangiohepatitis (i.e., Amoxicillin-clavulanic acid, Denamarin) while awaiting cytology results.

- Supportive care for pancreatitis is also warranted, particularly if the patient is exhibiting clinical signs.
- Given the patient's age, three-view thoracic radiographs are recommended to assess cardiopulmonary status.





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. If the clinical or image interpretation does not parallel your findings or if I can be of any further assistance please contact me.

Andrea Nicastro, DVM, Diplomate ACVIM (*Small Animal Internal Medicine*)

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