



**PATIENT**

Lucy Lobo

**SPECIES**

Canine

**BREED**

Dachshund

**SEX**

Female Spayed

**AGE**

16

**WEIGHT**

11.9 lbs

**INTERPRETED BY**

Andrea Nicastrò DVM  
Diplomate ACVIM  
(Sm Animal Internal Med)

**IMAGING  
PERFORMED BY**

Andrea Nicastrò DVM  
Diplomate ACVIM  
(Sm Animal Internal Med)

**HOSPITAL NAME**

Foxbank VH

**REFERRING VET**

Dr Gent

**INVOICE**

22679

**DATE**

3-12-26

**PRESENTING CLINICAL SIGNS**

Patient has recently had episodes of diarrhea. A few weeks ago, had an episode of suspected pancreatitis. Since then, has had a reduced appetite. Historically, has had an elevated ALP. Recently the ALT has increased slightly. Has also recently developed ataxia.

**ULTRASONOGRAPHIC EXAMINATION OF THE ABDOMEN**

**Urinary System**

The urinary bladder wall is normal in thickness. The mucosal surface is smooth. The bladder is moderately distended. A small amount of echogenic debris is observed within the lumen. No cystic calculi are observed. The region of the trigone and visible portion of the proximal urethra are normal.

The left kidney is normal in size (4.10 cm in length) with a normal shape, architecture and smooth peripheral margins. There is a normal 1:3 cortex to medulla ratio with mild- to moderate loss of corticomedullary distinction. At least one septated cortical cyst is seen. There is no evidence of pyelectasia, nephroliths, infarcts or hydronephrosis. Renal vasculature is normal.

The right kidney is normal in size (4.34 cm in length) with a normal shape, architecture and smooth peripheral margins. There is a normal 1:3 cortex to medulla ratio with mild- to moderate loss of corticomedullary distinction. A few, small cortical cysts are seen. There is no evidence of pyelectasia, nephroliths, infarcts or hydronephrosis. Renal vasculature is normal.

**Adrenal Glands**

The left adrenal gland is enlarged (0.55 cm at cranial pole) (0.78 cm at caudal pole) with swollen peripheral contours. Glandular echogenicity and detail are normal. The phrenicoabdominal vein and surrounding vasculature are normal.

The right adrenal gland is mildly enlarged (1.07 cm at cranial pole) (0.56 cm at caudal pole) with slightly swollen peripheral contours. Glandular echogenicity and detail are normal. The phrenicoabdominal vein and surrounding vasculature are normal.

**Spleen**

The spleen is normal in size (0.93 cm in width at the level of the hilus) with a normal capsular contour. There is appropriate echogenicity and echotexture. Varying-sized hyperechoic nodules are observed throughout the organ (one of the largest measuring 0.88 cm in its longest dimension). Splenic vasculature is normal.

**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 portal vein to caudal vena cava ratio is approximately 1: 1.

The gallbladder lumen is moderately distended. The wall is thin and smooth. A small- to moderate amount of mobile echogenic debris is observed within the lumen. The cystic and common bile ducts are normal/not seen.

**Gastrointestinal**

The gastric lumen is mildly gas-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 segmentally gas-distended. The small intestinal wall is normal in thickness with a normal layering pattern. There is evidence of mucosal speckling in some segments. Discreet masses are not identified. The ileoceocolic junction and



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colonic wall are normal. The colonic lumen contains some shadowing fecal material. There is no obvious evidence of an obstructive pattern.

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**Pancreas**

The right limb of the pancreas is visible with normal curvilinear peripheral contours. The parenchyma is largely isoechoic relative to surrounding omental fat and slightly heterogenous in appearance. The pancreatic duct is visible but not overtly dilated. There is no evidence of peripancreatic inflammation or effusion.

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**Lymph Nodes**

The abdominal lymph nodes are normal/not visible.

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**Free Abdomen**

There is no obvious evidence of free fluid.

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A brief echocardiogram reveals no evidence of pericardial effusion or obvious right atrial/auricular mass.

**Other**

**ULTRASONOGRAPHIC FINDINGS**

**WEIGHT**

11.9 lbs

**Primary Findings**

- The small intestinal mucosal speckling could be consistent with enteritis or may be a normal variant for this patient.
- The diffuse hepatic changes are non-specific and could be consistent with vacuolar hepatopathy, regenerative nodular hyperplasia, and/or age-related remodeling. Inflammatory disease, infiltrative neoplasia and other hepatopathies are considered less likely.
- Gallbladder debris, non-mucocele
- Mild bilateral adrenomegaly
- The pancreatic changes are most consistent with age-related parenchymal remodeling, potentially secondary to a prior inflammatory episode, early fibrosis or chronic pancreatitis.

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**Secondary Findings**

- The hyperechoic splenic nodules likely represent benign myelolipomas, with a lower possibility of more insidious splenic pathology.
- Bilateral nonspecific age-related renal changes with cortical cysts

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\*\*An obvious cause for the patient's intermittent diarrhea is not definitively identified in this study.

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Considerations include a primary enteropathy (i.e., food allergy/intolerance, inflammatory bowel disease, infectious/parasitic disease), underlying metabolic issue (i.e., chronic pancreatitis), other.

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**INTERPRETATION OF THE FINDINGS & FURTHER RECOMMENDATIONS**

- Regarding the GI signs, a full work-up can be considered (including a GI panel, fecal evaluation, prophylactic deworming with fenbendazole, limited antigen diet trial, +/- GI biopsies). However, given the patient's age, symptomatic/palliative care can also be considered.



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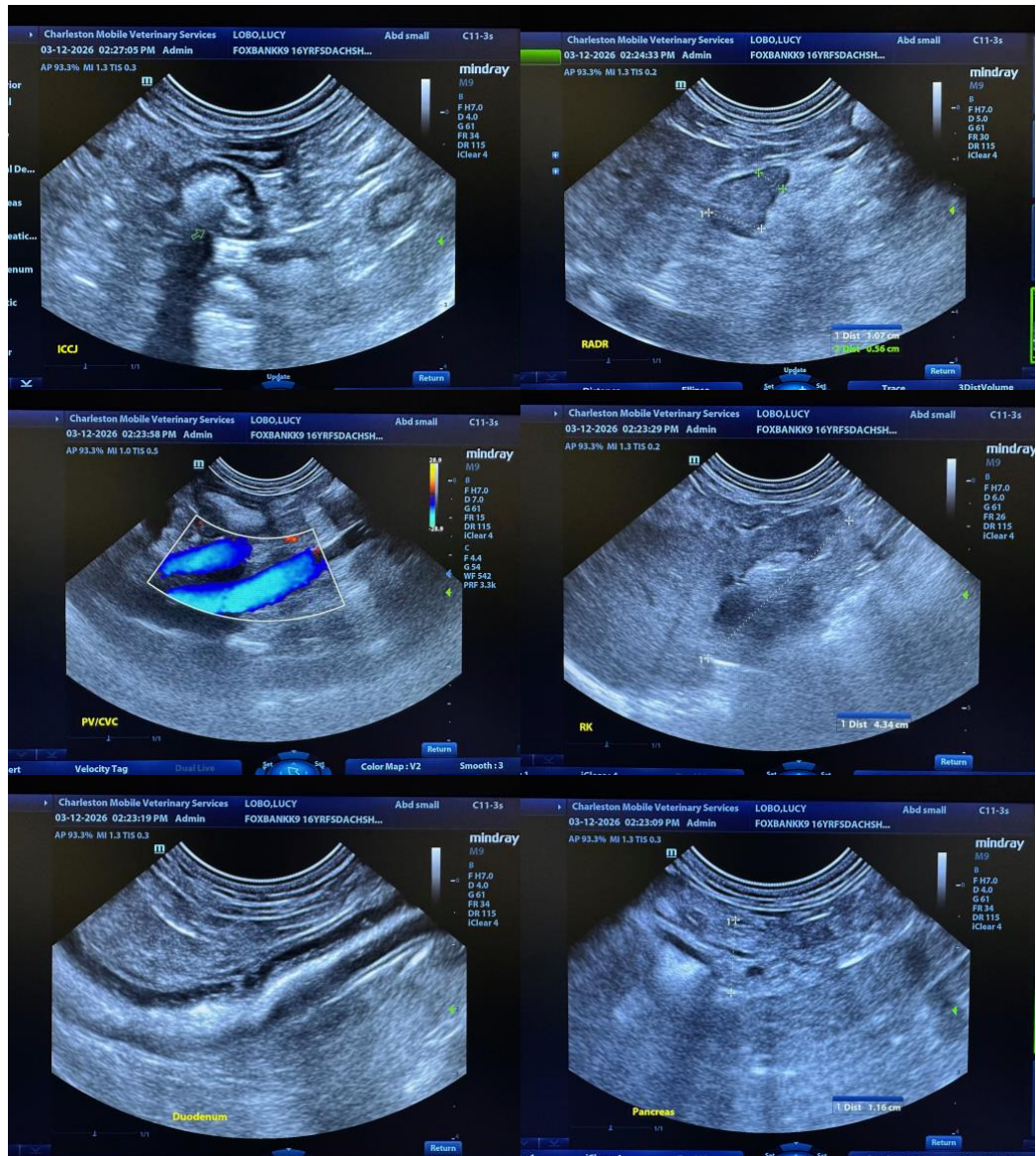
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- Serial monitoring (i.e., every 3-4 months) of the patient's liver values is recommended. If liver values continue to increase, a repeat abdominal ultrasound +/- hepatic tissue sampling may be warranted.
- Consider testing for hyperadrenocorticism with a low-dose dexamethasone suppression test or ACTH stimulation test if clinical signs (i.e., PU/PD) develop in the future.





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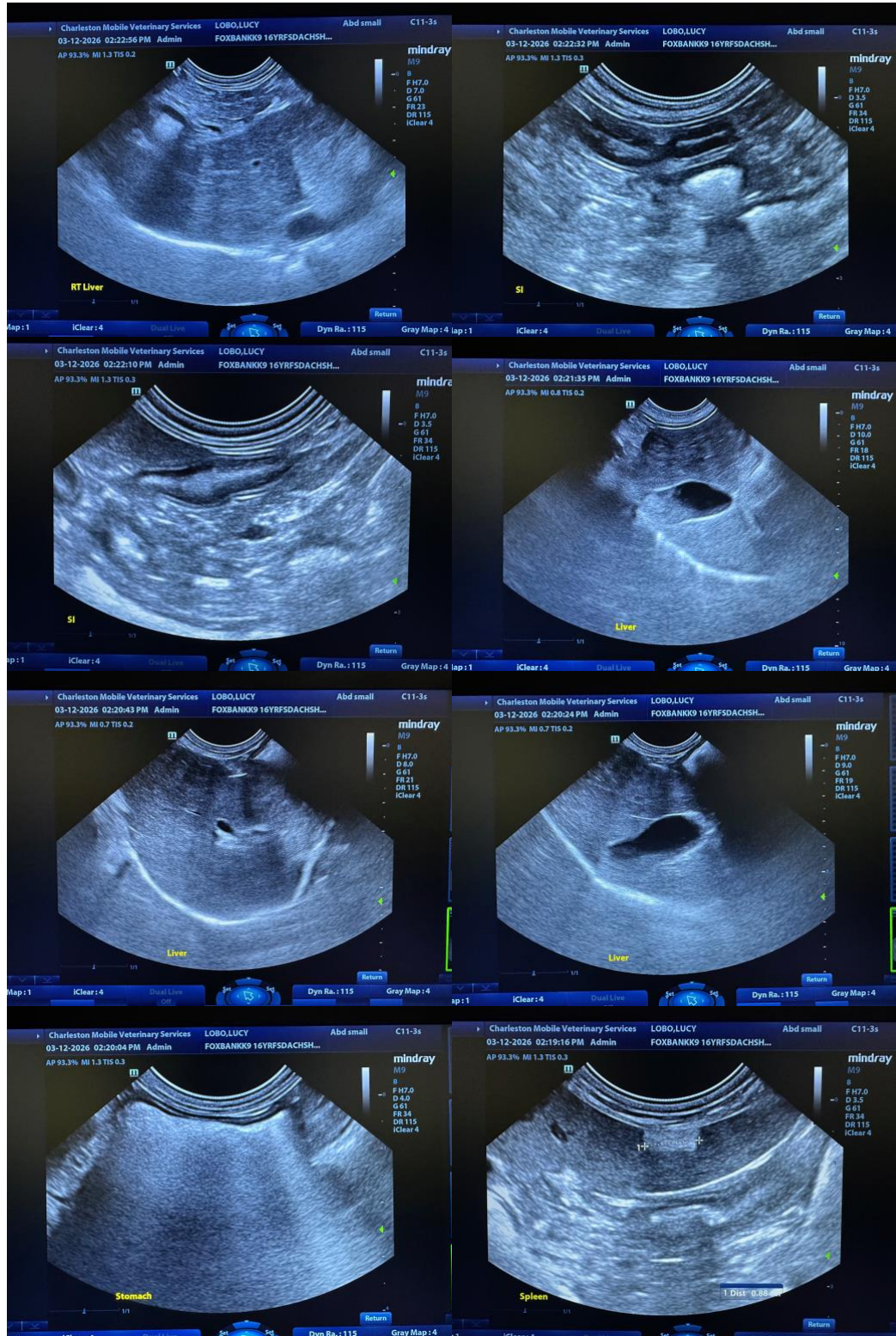
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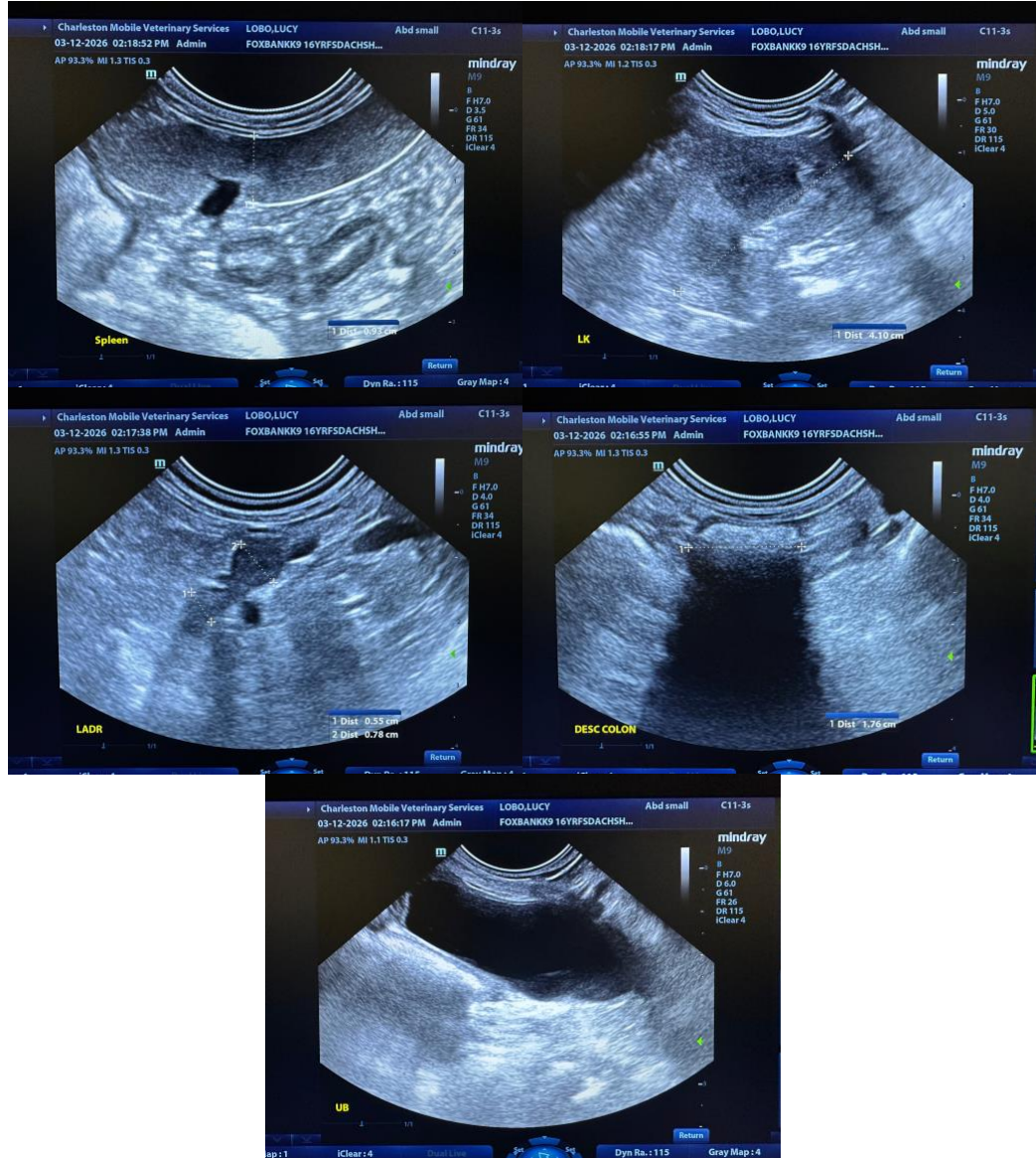
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The information and recommendations provided are based on the images presented by the referring veterinarian/sonographer. No evaluation can be communicated regarding pathology that was not visible in the image/video clips provided.

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.

**Andrea Nicastrò, MPH, DVM, Diplomate DACVIM (Small Animal Internal Medicine)**  
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