

**PATIENT PRESENTING CLINICAL SIGNS**

Sassy Lott  
History: vomiting in the mornings and on and off diarrhea meds: sulcrate  
Abnormal PE/Chem/CBC/UA Results: Elevated SDMA Decreased albumin and TP Bile Acids -  
preprandial elevated and post is normal UPCr 0.3 slightly elevated

**SPECIES**

Canine

**BREED**

Yorkshire Terrier

**SEX**

Spayed Female

**AGE**

5 years

**WEIGHT**

3 kg

**INTERPRETED BY**

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

**IMAGING PERFORMED BY**

Kelly Reschny

**HOSPITAL NAME**

Snelgrove VS

**REFERRING VET**

Dr. McQueen

**INVOICE**

11258

**DATE**

7.22.22

**ULTRASONOGRAPHIC EXAMINATION OF THE ABDOMEN**

**Urinary System**

The **urinary bladder** wall is normal in thickness and the mucosal surface is smooth. The bladder lumen is moderately distended with anechoic urine. No masses, inflammatory changes or calculi are observed. The region of the trigone and the visible portion of the proximal urethra are normal.

The **left kidney** is normal size (3.27 cm in length); normal shape and architecture with smooth peripheral margins. There is a normal 1:3 cortex to medulla ratio with normal corticomedullary distinction. There is no evidence of pyelectasia, nephroliths, infarcts or hydronephrosis. Renal vasculature is normal.

The **right kidney** is normal size (3.20 cm in length); normal shape and architecture with smooth peripheral margins. There is a normal 1:3 cortex to medulla ratio with normal corticomedullary distinction. There is no evidence of pyelectasia, nephroliths, infarcts or hydronephrosis. Renal vasculature is normal.

**Adrenal Glands**

The **left adrenal gland** is normal size (0.48 cm at cranial pole) (0.42 cm at caudal pole) (1.18 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.

The **right adrenal gland** is normal size (1.06 cm at cranial pole) (0.42 cm at caudal pole) (1.32 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.

**Spleen**

The **spleen** is normal in size (0.97 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.

**Liver**

The **liver** is normal to slightly prominent in size with normal curvilinear peripheral contours. There is appropriate echogenicity and echotexture. No overt structural evidence of inflammatory, infiltrative, or regenerative pathology is evident. Vascular and biliary tracts are of normal volume with no evidence of congestion. No pathological hepatic lymphadenopathy observed.

The **gall bladder** is mildly distended. The wall is thickened (up to 0.21 cm) with a “double-walled” effect. Luminal contents are mostly anechoic. The cystic and common bile ducts are normal.

**Gastrointestinal**

The **gastric lumen** is minimally distended with ingesta. The gastric wall and pylorus are normal in thickness with a normal layering pattern. The small intestinal lumen is segmentally dilated with chyme. The small intestinal wall is diffusely thickened (up to 0.44 cm) with apparent retention of the normal layering pattern. There is evidence of mucosal speckling, fogging and occasional striations. Discreet masses are not identified. The colonic wall is normal. There is no evidence of an obstructive pattern.



**PATIENT**

Sassy Lott

**Pancreas**

Portions of the pancreas may be obscured by the free fluid and reactive mesentery. In the visualized portions, no obvious abnormalities are seen.

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**Free Abdomen**

The mesentery throughout the abdomen is hyperechoic. A small to moderate amount of anechoic free fluid is observed. The abdominal **lymph nodes** are normal/not visible.

**BREED**

Yorkshire Terrier

**Other**

Pleural effusion is noted.

**ULTRASONOGRAPHIC FINDINGS**

**Primary Findings**

**SEX**

Spayed Female

- The clinical history in combination with the sonographic changes, are consistent with a protein-losing enteropathy. Top differentials include lymphangiectasia, inflammatory bowel disease, infectious/parasitic disease and infiltrative neoplasia (i.e., lymphoma). Diffuse peritonitis is present, likely secondary to bowel pathology and/or chronic ascites.

**AGE**

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- The pleural effusion may be secondary to hypoalbuminemia. However increased hydrostatic pressure (i.e., due to congestive heart failure) or increased vascular permeability cannot be excluded.

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**Secondary Findings**

- The gall bladder wall changes may be secondary to hypoalbuminemia, cholecystitis, artifact (i.e., due to lack of full repletion), anaphylaxis (less likely), other.

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**INTERPRETATION OF THE FINDINGS & FURTHER RECOMMENDATIONS**

Concerning the sonographic changes, consider the following:

1. Fecal evaluation for ova and Giardia
2. Prophylactic deworming with fenbendazole
3. GI panel including serum cobalamin and folate, TLI and PLI (send to Texas A&M)
4. Low-dose fat limited antigen diet trial (consider nutritional consultation (i.e., University of (send to the University of TN)).

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Ultimately, GI biopsies may be warranted. Surgical biopsies are more likely to yield a definitive diagnosis. If surgical biopsies are pursued, consider a liver biopsy to rule out concurrent hepatic disease.

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Thoracic radiographs are also recommended to assess the degree of pleural effusion.

**REFERRING VET**

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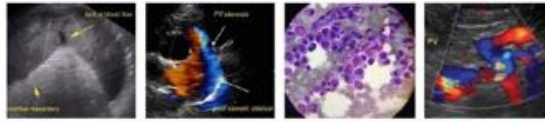
A resting cortisol level can also be considered to screen for hypoadrenocorticism. However, this differential is considered less likely in light of the sonographic bowel changes.

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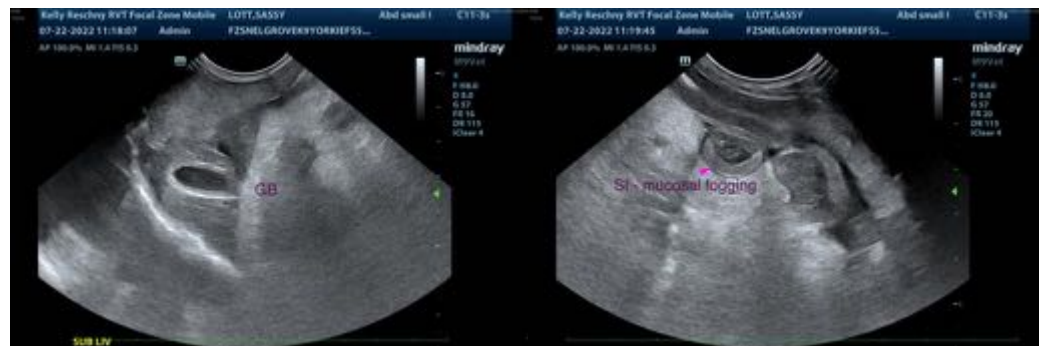
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The information and recommendations provided are based on the images presented by the referring veterinarian/sonographer. No evaluation can be communicated regarding pathology that was not visible in the image/video clips provided.

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 Nicastro, MPH, DVM, Diplomate DACVIM (Small Animal Internal Medicine)**  
info@SonoPath.com