

**PATIENT PRESENTING CLINICAL SIGNS**

Hannah Evans History: No sedation. fell asleep during scan. History: History of seizures for many years. Controlled on Phenobarbital and Potassium Bromide. Recently has been showing ataxia. Large jump in ALP on labwork Physical exam findings: BAR, ataxic gait, otherwise neurologic exam is WNL. Abnormal CBC values: WNL Abnormal Chemistry Values: moderate elevation in Chloride. Moderate elevation in ALP (749). ALP was 282 in february Abnormal UA Values: USG 1028. 2+ protein Radiograph Findings(email radiographs if available): Reason for Ultrasound: Evaluate for elevation of ALP

**SPECIES**

Canine

**BREED**

Australian Shepherd

**SEX**

Female, spayed

**AGE**

7 Years

**WEIGHT**

55.5 Pounds

**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. Ureteral papillae and visualized portion of the proximal urethra, visible to a depth of 2 cm, are normal.

The left kidney is normal size (6.16 cm in length); normal shape and architecture with smooth peripheral margins. There is a normal 1:3 cortex to medulla ratio with minimal loss of corticomedullary distinction. There is no evidence of pyelectasia, nephroliths, infarcts or hydroureter.

The right kidney is normal size (6.08 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 hydroureter. Renal vasculature is normal.

*Adrenal Glands*

The left adrenal gland is normal size (0.38 cm at cranial pole) (0.59 cm at caudal pole); 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 (0.98 cm at cranial pole) (0.67 cm at caudal pole); 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.

**INTERPRETED BY**

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

**IMAGING PERFORMED BY**

Loetitia Saint-Jacques, RVT

**HOSPITAL NAME**

Alpine AH

*Spleen*

The spleen is normal in size (1.92 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.

**REFERRING VET**

Dr. Sjoloin

*Liver*

The liver is subjectively normal in size with normal curvilinear peripheral contours. The parenchyma is hypoechoic relative to the spleen. A small (1.01 cm) hyperechoic nodule is visualized. The remaining parenchyma is homogeneous. Vascular and biliary tracts are of normal volume with no evidence of congestion. The gall bladder lumen is moderately distended. The wall is thin and smooth. Luminal contents are anechoic. The cystic and common bile ducts are normal/not seen.

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*Gastrointestinal*



**PATIENT**

Hannah Evans

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 segmentally dilated with chyme (mild). 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.

**SPECIES**

Canine

***Pancreas***

The region of the pancreas is isoechoic relative to surrounding omental fat. No obvious parenchymal abnormalities are observed. There is no evidence of regional inflammation or effusion.

**BREED**

Australian Shepherd

***Free Abdomen***

**SEX**

Female, spayed

The peritoneal cavity is normal. There is no evidence of inflammation or effusion. The abdominal lymph nodes are normal/not visible.

***Other***

**AGE**

7 Years

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

**WEIGHT**

55.5 Pounds

**ULTRASONOGRAPHIC FINDINGS**

- The hyperechoic hepatic nodule trends toward the benign (i.e., regenerative nodule) with a low possibility of emerging neoplasia.
- An obvious cause for the elevated ALP is not identified in this study. However, given the sonographic appearance of the liver as well as the normal ALT, a benign process (i.e., regenerative nodular hyperplasia, low-grade vacuolar hepatopathy) is considered likely with a lower possibility of more insidious pathology (i.e., inflammatory disease, infiltrative neoplasia). The hyperechoic hepatic nodule trends toward the benign (i.e., regenerative nodule) with a low possibility of emerging neoplasia.

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**INTERPRETATION OF THE FINDINGS & FURTHER RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 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.
- Given the proteinuria, a UPC is recommended.

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Alpine AH

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**PATIENT**

Hannah Evans

**SPECIES**

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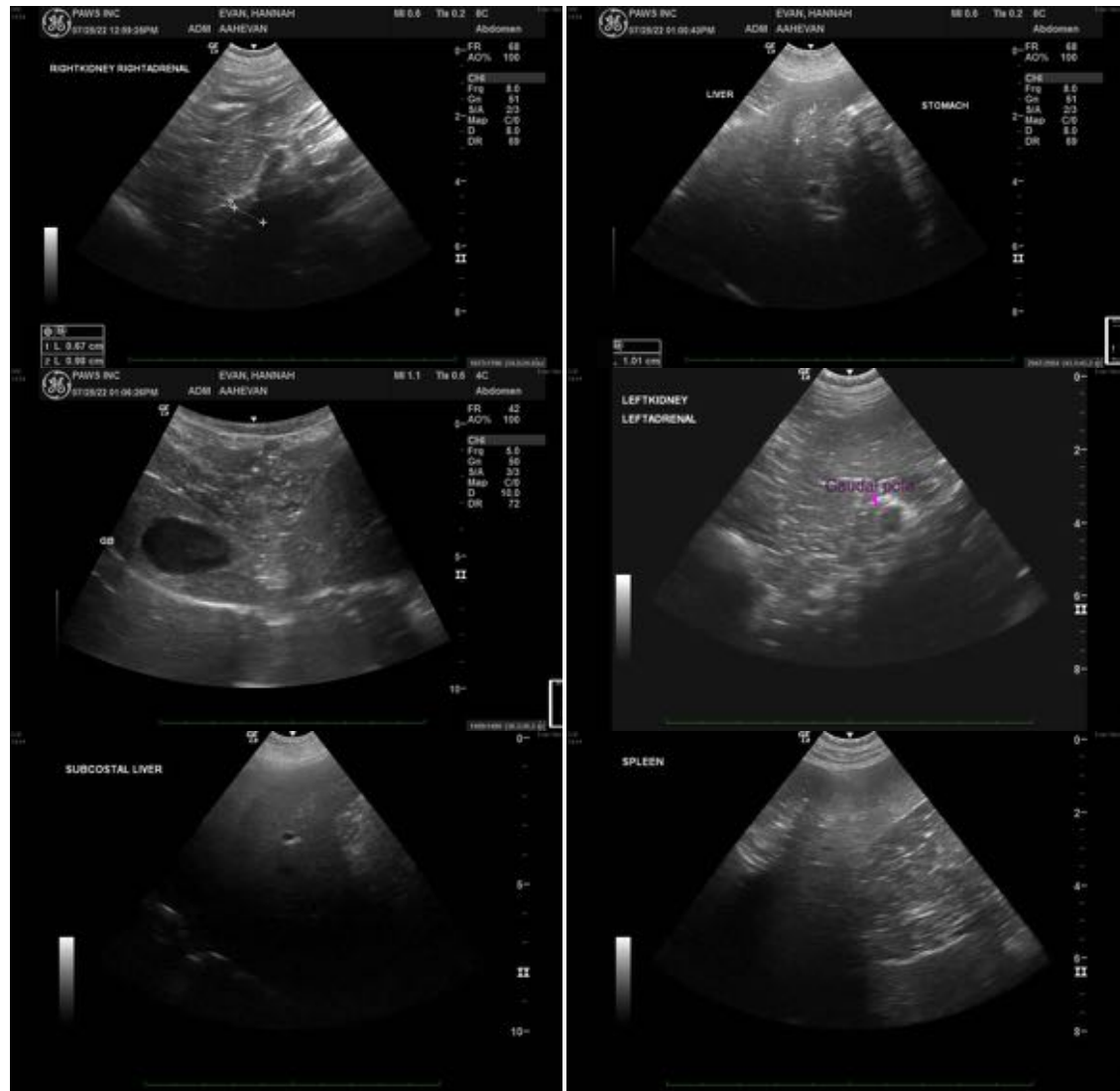
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The information and recommendations provided are based on the images presented by the referring veterinarian/sonographer. No evaluation can be communicated regarding pathology that was not visible in the image/video clips provided.

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.

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