



**PATIENT PRESENTING CLINICAL SIGNS**

**PATIENT**  
Burt Witt  
**SPECIES**  
Canine  
**BREED**  
Bulldog mix  
**SEX**  
Male, neutered  
**AGE**  
12/12/14  
**WEIGHT**  
55 lbs.

-Chronic diarrhea, watery, ~3mo  
- mild weight loss,  
- Mild lethargy

**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 prostate is normal in size (1.35 cm in width) and shape. Parenchyma is homogenous. The prostatic urethra appears normal without evidence of dilation or obstruction.

The left kidney is normal size (6.27 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 hydronephrosis. Renal vasculature is normal.

The right kidney is normal size (6.73 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 hydronephrosis. Renal vasculature is normal.

**INTERPRETED BY**

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

**Adrenal Glands**

The left adrenal gland is normal size (0.52 cm at cranial pole) (0.72 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.

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The right adrenal gland is normal size (0.74 cm at cranial pole) (0.67 cm at caudal pole) (xxx 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.

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River Oaks AH

**Spleen**

The spleen is normal in size (1.95 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.

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Dr. Pennington

**Liver**

The liver is subjectively normal in size with normal contours and structure. 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 portal vein to caudal vena cava ratio is approximately 1:1. The gallbladder is of normal contours and contains some dependent echogenic debris. The wall is normal in thickness. No choleliths are observed. The cystic and common

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**PATIENT** bile ducts are normal.

Burt Witt *Gastrointestinal*

**SPECIES** The gastric lumen is moderately distended with ingesta. 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. The small intestinal wall is diffusely thickened (up to 0.58 cm) with retention of the normal layering pattern. There is evidence of mucosal speckling, fogging +/- striations in most segments. Discreet masses are not identified. The colonic wall is normal. The lumen of the descending colon is severely fluid distended. There is evidence of slight narrowing in one region. However, this region does change in diameter.

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### *Pancreas*

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A portion of the pancreas is obscured by the gastric distention. In the visualized portion of the left limb, the pancreas is visible/prominent with minimal deviation from the normal peripheral contours. The parenchyma is largely isoechoic relative to surrounding omental fat and mottled in appearance. No distinct focal lesions are observed. The pancreatic duct is not overtly dilated.

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### *Free Abdomen*

**WEIGHT**

55 lbs.

The mesentery throughout the mid-abdominal region is hyperechoic. Trace free fluid is observed. The abdominal lymph nodes are normal/not visible.

### *Other*

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

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### **ULTRASONOGRAPHIC FINDINGS**

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#### **Primary Findings:**

- The bowel changes, in conjunction with the patient's clinical history, are consistent with a protein losing enteropathy. Top differentials include inflammatory bowel disease, lymphangiectasia, emerging lymphoma, infectious/parasitic disease.
- Mid-abdominal peritonitis is present, likely secondary to underlying bowel pathology.
- The presence of ingesta within the gastric lumen despite fasting suggests delayed gastric emptying. \

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#### **Secondary Findings:**

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

- A fecal evaluation for ova/Giardia, if not already performed.



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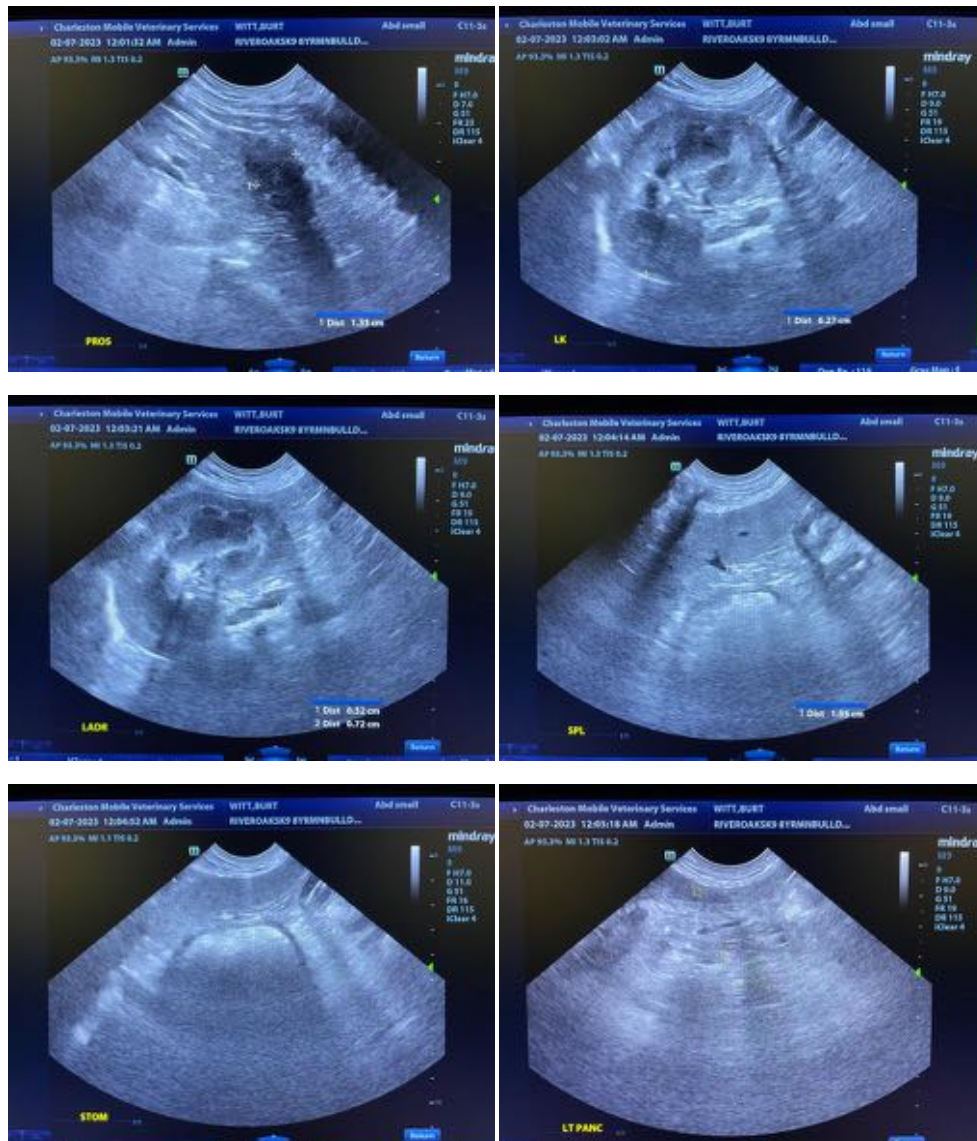
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- Fecal PCR infectious disease panel.
- Malabsorption panel including serum cobalamin, folate, TLI, PLI and resting cortisol level.
- Consider initiation of a low fat, limited antigen or hydrolyzed protein diet.
- Ultimately, endoscopic or surgical GI biopsies would be necessary to get a definitive diagnosis. A three-view thoracic radiograph should be performed prior to any anesthetic event.
- While awaiting test results, consider initiation of a probiotic and a fiber supplement.
- Also consider empirical treatment for small intestinal bacterial overgrowth with a 4 week course of Tylosin.





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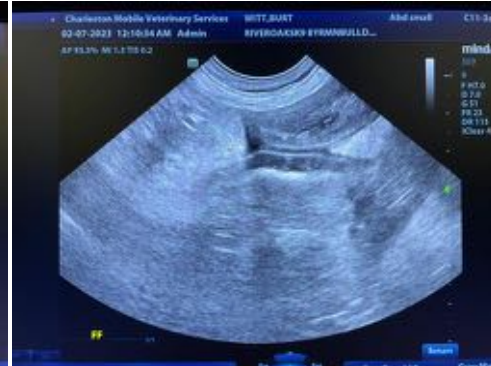
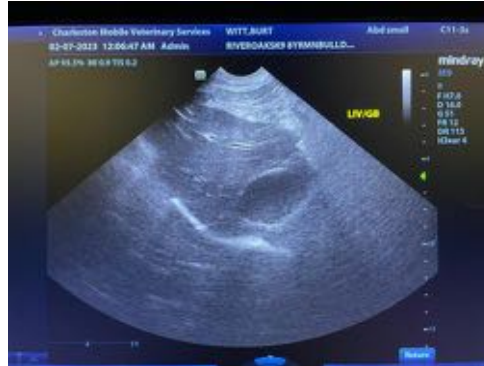
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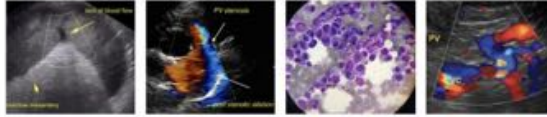
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The information and recommendations provided are based on the images presented by the referring veterinarian/sonographer. No evaluation can be communicated regarding pathology that was not visible in the image/video clips provided.



**PATIENT**

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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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