



**PATIENT**

Sundrop Alves

**SPECIES**

Canine

**BREED**

Husky

**SEX**

Male, neutered

**AGE**

13 Yrs. 7 months

**WEIGHT**

**INTERPRETED BY**

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

**IMAGING  
PERFORMED BY**

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

**HOSPITAL NAME**

Conway AH

**REFERRING VET**

Dr. Melissa Dean

**INVOICE**

13705

**DATE**

5/5/26

**PRESENTING CLINICAL SIGNS**

Pt presented with acute onset of lethargy and diarrhea. Prior history of rhinitis, laryngeal paralysis and osteoarthritis. Currently on Metronidazole for the diarrhea. Bloodwork showed hematocrit of 34%, non-regenerative. WBC count 38,000 with a neutrophilia and possible bands. Chem panel shows a globulins of 4.6, ALP 267.

**ULTRASONOGRAPHIC EXAMINATION OF THE ABDOMEN**

**Urinary System**

The urinary bladder wall is normal in thickness and the mucosal surface is smooth. The bladder is moderately distended. Luminal contents are anechoic. No cystic calculi are observed. The region of the trigone and the proximal urethra, visible to a depth of 2 cm, are normal.

The prostate is normal in size (1.28 cm in width) and shape. Parenchyma is homogenous. The prostatic urethra appears normal without evidence of dilation or obstruction.

The left kidney is normal in size (6.77 cm in length) with a normal shape, architecture and smooth peripheral margins. There is a normal 1:3 cortex to medulla ratio with minimal to mild loss of corticomedullary distinction. There is no evidence of pyelectasia, nephroliths, infarcts or hydroureter. Renal vasculature is normal.

The right kidney is normal in size (6.86 cm in length) with a normal shape, architecture and smooth peripheral margins. There is a normal 1:3 cortex to medulla ratio with minimal to mild loss of corticomedullary distinction. There is no evidence of pyelectasia, nephroliths, infarcts or hydroureter. Renal vasculature is normal.

**Adrenal Glands**

The left adrenal gland is normal in size (0.62 cm at cranial pole) (0.66 cm at caudal pole) with a normal shape and 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 in size (0.84 cm at cranial pole) (0.81 cm at caudal pole) with a normal shape and 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 (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.

**Liver**

The liver is subjectively normal in size with normal curvilinear peripheral contours. The parenchyma is hypoechoic relative to the spleen and slightly mottled in appearance. No distinct focal lesions are observed. Hepatic vasculature and intrahepatic biliary tracts are of normal volume with no evidence of congestion.

The gall bladder lumen is moderately distended. The wall is thin and smooth. A moderate to large amount of aggregated, echogenic, mostly partially dependent debris/sludge is observed within the lumen. The cystic and common bile ducts are normal/not seen.



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***Gastrointestinal***

The gastric lumen is mildly distended with ingesta and gas. 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 is normal in thickness with a normal layering pattern and appropriate mural detail. Discreet masses are not identified. The colonic wall is normal. The colonic lumen contains unformed fecal material. There is no obvious evidence of an obstructive pattern.

***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.

***Lymph nodes***

1-2 prominent mesenteric lymph nodes are visualized, one of the nodes measuring 3.55 x 0.44 cm.

***Free Abdomen***

The peritoneal cavity is normal. There is no evidence of inflammation or effusion.

***Other***

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

**ULTRASONOGRAPHIC FINDINGS**

**Primary Findings:**

- 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.
- Excessive gallbladder sludge. The partially dependent nature of this sludge could be consistent with an emerging mucocele. Other considerations include cholestasis and fasting.

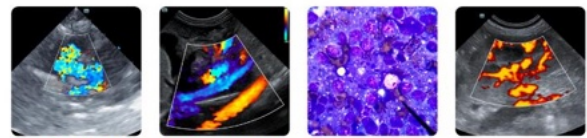
**Secondary Findings:**

- Mild bilateral nonspecific, age-related renal changes
- The prominent abdominal lymph nodes are most consistent with reactive lymphadenitis or lymphoid hyperplasia. Neoplastic infiltration is considered less likely.

\*\*An obvious cause for the patient's clinical signs is not definitively identified in this study. Considerations include a microscopic enteropathy (i.e., food allergy/intolerance, inflammatory bowel disease, infectious/parasitic disease), underlying metabolic issue, other.

**INTERPRETATION OF THE FINDINGS & FURTHER RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. Consider a fecal evaluation for ova and Giardia along with prophylactic deworming with fenbendazole.
2. A bland diet along with a probiotic and fiber supplement should also be initiated (if the patient will tolerate them).
3. If the diarrhea persists despite medical management, further workup (i.e., GI panel, resting cortisol) may be warranted.



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- Given the gall bladder changes, Ursodeoxycholic acid (Ursodiol) is recommended. Serial sonographic monitoring (e.g., every 6-8 weeks) of the gall bladder is recommended to assess for progression to a fully formed mucocele. If progression occurs, a cholecystectomy may be warranted.
- 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.

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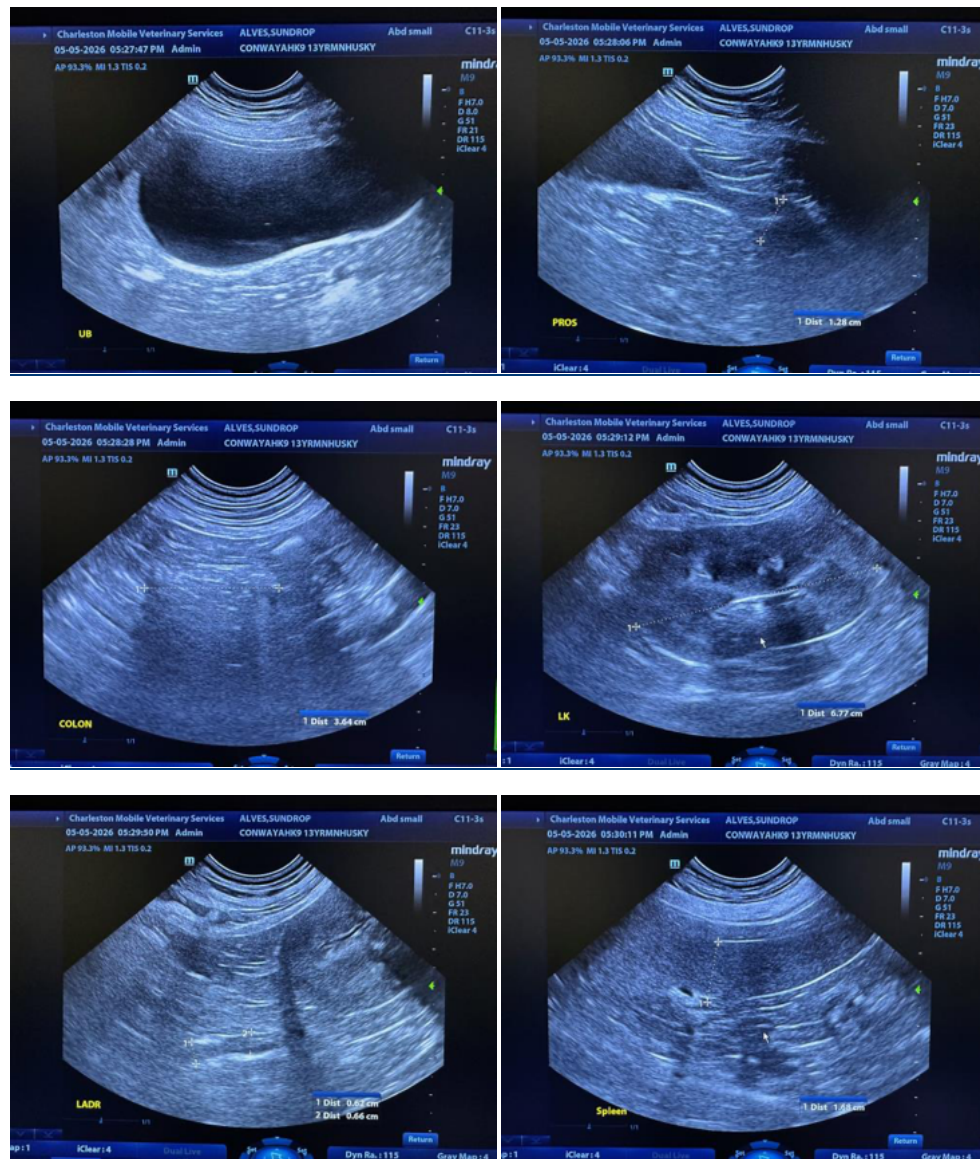
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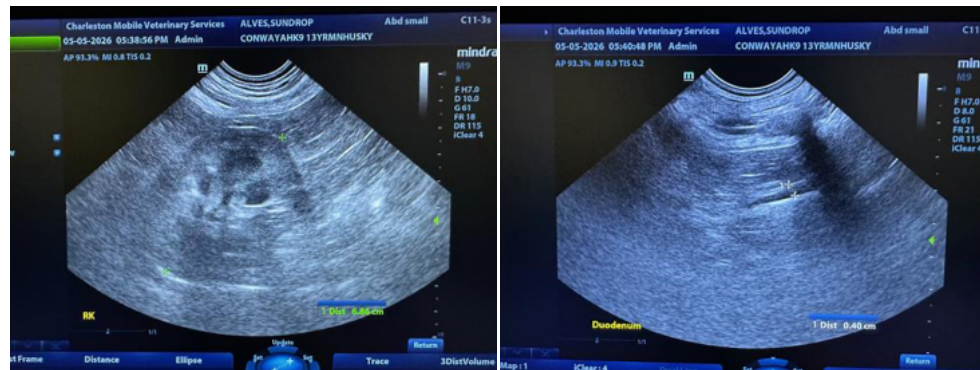
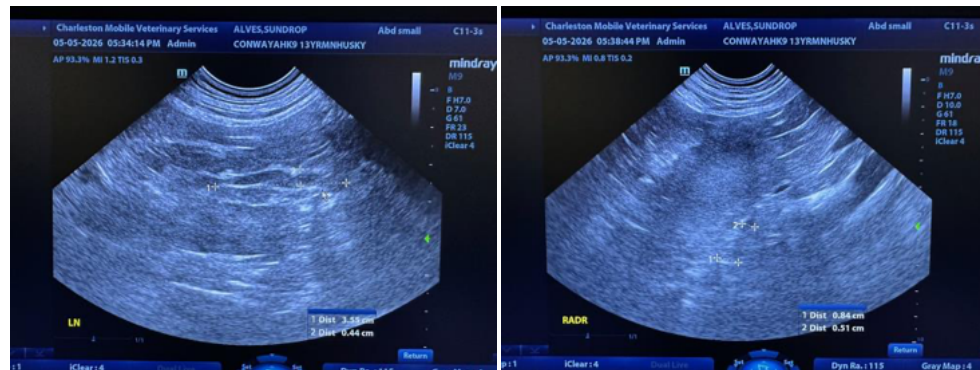
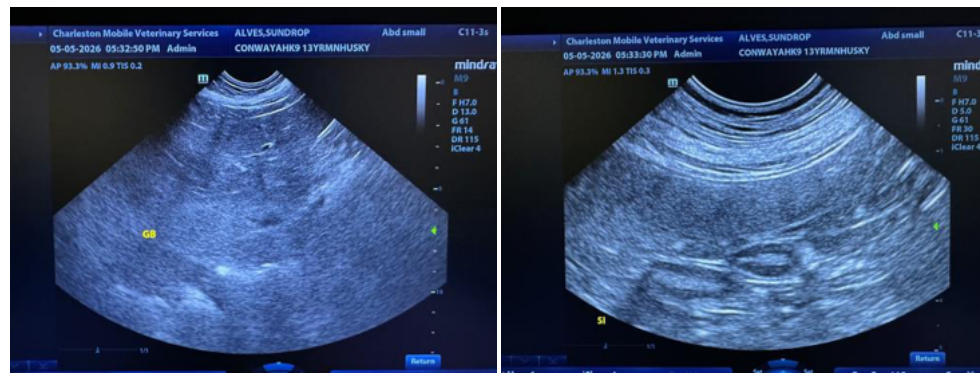
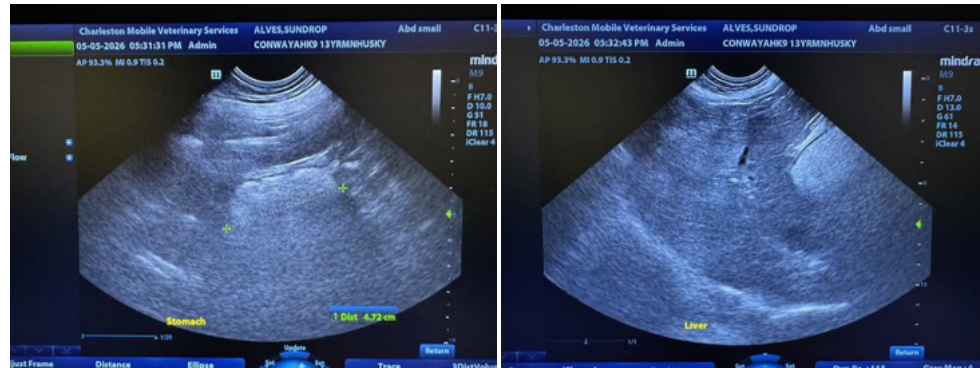
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The information and recommendations provided are based on the images presented by the referring veterinarian/sonographer. No evaluation can be communicated regarding pathology that was not visible in the image/video clips provided.

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 Nicastro, MPH, DVM, Diplomate DACVIM (Small Animal Internal Medicine)  
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