

PATIENT

Coco Freeman

PRESENTING CLINICAL SIGNS

History: Hx of Cushing's (on Trilostane) Poor ambulation Abdominal distension

SPECIES

Canine

BREED

Pitbull

SEX

Neutered male

AGE

12 years

WEIGHT

75.3 lbs

INTERPRETED BY

Bradley Harris, DVM,
 DACVECC, DACVIM
 (cardiology)

IMAGING PERFORMED BY

Andrea Nicastro, DVM,
 DACVIM

HOSPITAL NAME

Southside AH

REFERRING VET

Dr. Forcier/Dr. Sauls

INVOICE

69314

DATE

12/4/25

ULTRASONOGRAPHIC EXAMINATION OF THE HEART

The left atrium is moderately enlarged. The left ventricle is normal in dimension, with normal systolic function. The right atrium and ventricle are enlarged with marginal systolic function. The mitral valve is thickened and redundant consistent with myxomatous changes, and there is no significant prolapse. There is evidence of moderate mitral regurgitation. The tricuspid valve leaflets are thickened and redundant with moderate tricuspid regurgitation and no evidence of pulmonary hypertension. The left ventricular outflow tract demonstrated normal laminar flow and the visible aorta is unremarkable. The right ventricular outflow tract assessment revealed normal laminar flow, and appropriate diameter and distensibility. There is no evidence of semilunar valve insufficiency. There is no visible pericardial or pleural effusion, but mild free peritoneal fluid is noted. The cardiac chambers, pericardial and visible extra-cardiac regions were free of masses, spontaneous echo contrast, or thrombi.

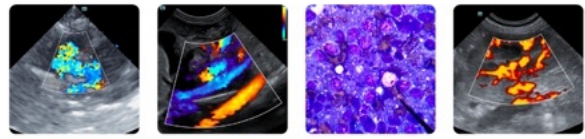
CANINE CARDIAC PARAMETERS	Body Weight kg	HR BPM	LAD 4 ch Long	RAD 4 ch Long	La/Ao Heart Base	LVIDd	LVIDs
NORMAL PARAMETER		50-100			<1.6		
PATIENT	34.24 kg	240	5.76	4.51	1.57	4.26	2.61
CANINE CARDIAC PARAMETERS	FS	EPSS	PV V MAX (m/s)	AV V Max (m/sec)	MR Vmax	TR Vmax	RPA distensibility (normal >30%)
NORMAL PARAMETER	28-40	<0.6	0.7-1.6	0.7-1.7	4.5-5.5	< 2.7	
PATIENT	39	0.7	0.8	1.2	5.2	2.6	38

ECG:

There is an irregularly irregular tachyarrhythmia with no discernable P-waves. The average heart rate is 240bpm with instantaneous rates ranging from 190 to 320. The rhythm is supraventricular in origin with narrow QRS complexes (<70ms). There is occasional ventricular ectopy identified as single premature ventricular complexes. The rhythm is most consistent with uncontrolled atrial fibrillation with intermittent ventricular ectopy.

ULTRASONOGRAPHIC FINDINGS

These findings are consistent with degenerative mitral valve disease with significant hemodynamic effects. Given the degree of chamber enlargement and recent thoracic radiographs, congestive heart failure is a likely explanation for the clinical/radiographic signs, consistent with ACVIM Stage C. The atrial fibrillation is likely secondary to chamber enlargement, and is likely contributing to the right heart failure and clinical signs.



PATIENT

Coco Freeman

SPECIES

Canine

BREED

Pitbull

SEX

Neutered male

AGE

12 years

WEIGHT

75.3 lbs

INTERPRETED BY

Bradley Harris, DVM,
DACVECC, DACVIM
(cardiology)

**IMAGING
PERFORMED BY**

Andrea Nicastro, DVM,
DACVIM

HOSPITAL NAME

Southside AH

REFERRING VET

Dr. Forcier/Dr. Sauls

INVOICE

69314

DATE

12/4/25

INTERPRETATION OF THE FINDINGS & FURTHER RECOMMENDATIONS

Therapy for CHF is recommended, with Lasix bolus (2-4mg/kg IV PRN up to 10 mg/kg total dose) or a CRI (0.5-1 mg/kg/hr) as needed to resolve any pulmonary edema. Once oral therapy is started, therapy should include Lasix (1-2mg/kg BID), enalapril (0.5mg/kg BID assuming normotension and lack of renal insult), Vetmedin (0.25-0.35mg/kg BID), and spironolactone (1-2mg/kg BID). The addition of diltiazem (1-2mg/kg STANDARD RELEASE TID) is also recommended to help control the heart rate, but will not resolve the ventricular ectopy. Mexiletine (4-6mg/kg TID) is also recommended given the frequency of ventricular ectopy observed. Thoracic radiographs, blood pressure, and chemistry panel should be performed now for a baseline, and again with another ECG in 1-2 weeks to ensure adequate heart rate control. Higher doses of diltiazem may be required. A repeat echocardiogram, ECG, thoracic radiographs, blood pressure and chemistry panel are indicated in 3 months. Owners should monitor resting respiratory rate at home. Values above 30 breaths/minute or an increase in respiratory rate 10% above baseline should prompt veterinary re-evaluation.

Anesthesia considerations:

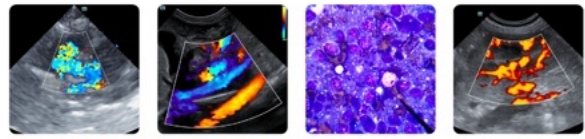
Anesthesia should be avoided until manifestations of congestive heart failure (edema/effusion/respiratory distress) have resolved. Following that time, if anesthesia is necessary, then alpha-2 agonists, ketamine, high dose acepromazine, and Telazol should be avoided. If an ACE inhibitor (enalapril, benazepril) or spironolactone is being given, it should not be administered on the morning of general anesthesia. Other cardiac medications should be administered per the normal dosing schedule. Anesthetic IV fluid use should be limited to < 3 ml/kg/hr and, if IV fluid therapy is administered during the procedure, a 1 mg/kg dose of IM Lasix should be administered when the patient is awake and standing in recovery. A shorter anesthetic duration will reduce the risk of complications. Pre-oxygenation is advised. Premedication with an opioid (i.e., butorphanol, hydromorphone, oxymorphone) with or without a benzodiazepine is generally the safest protocol. An induction agent such as Propofol, alfaxalone, or diazepam/etomidate can be used to effect. Maintenance of anesthesia with isoflurane or sevoflurane is reasonable.

Diet:

A high-quality food from Hills, Royal Canin, Science Diet, Eukanuba, Iams, or Purina that is highly palatable with adequate protein and calories for maintaining optimal body condition with mild dietary sodium restriction (< 100 mg/100 kcal) is recommended. Consider omega-3 fatty acid supplementation. Avoid any boutique, exotic, or grain-free diets.

Activity:

Moderate physical activity (meandering walks, exploring the back yard, playing with toys inside, getting excited when family gets home, etc.) is encouraged, but periods of strenuous aerobic activity (jogging, strenuous outdoor ball play, prolonged play at the dog park, etc.) should be avoided, especially during periods of high heat (> 80 F) and humidity. Dogs with heart disease tend to tolerate cool and cold temperatures much better than high temperatures. Avoid sudden increases in activity (e.g. 2 block walks during the week but 2 mile walks followed by 30 minutes at the dog park on the weekends) as this may be difficult for the cardiovascular system to deal with.



PATIENT

Coco Freeman

SPECIES

Canine

BREED

Pitbull

SEX

Neutered male

AGE

12 years

WEIGHT

75.3 lbs

INTERPRETED BY

Bradley Harris, DVM,
 DACVECC, DACVIM
 (cardiology)

IMAGING PERFORMED BY

Andrea Nicastro, DVM,
 DACVIM

HOSPITAL NAME

Southside AH

REFERRING VET

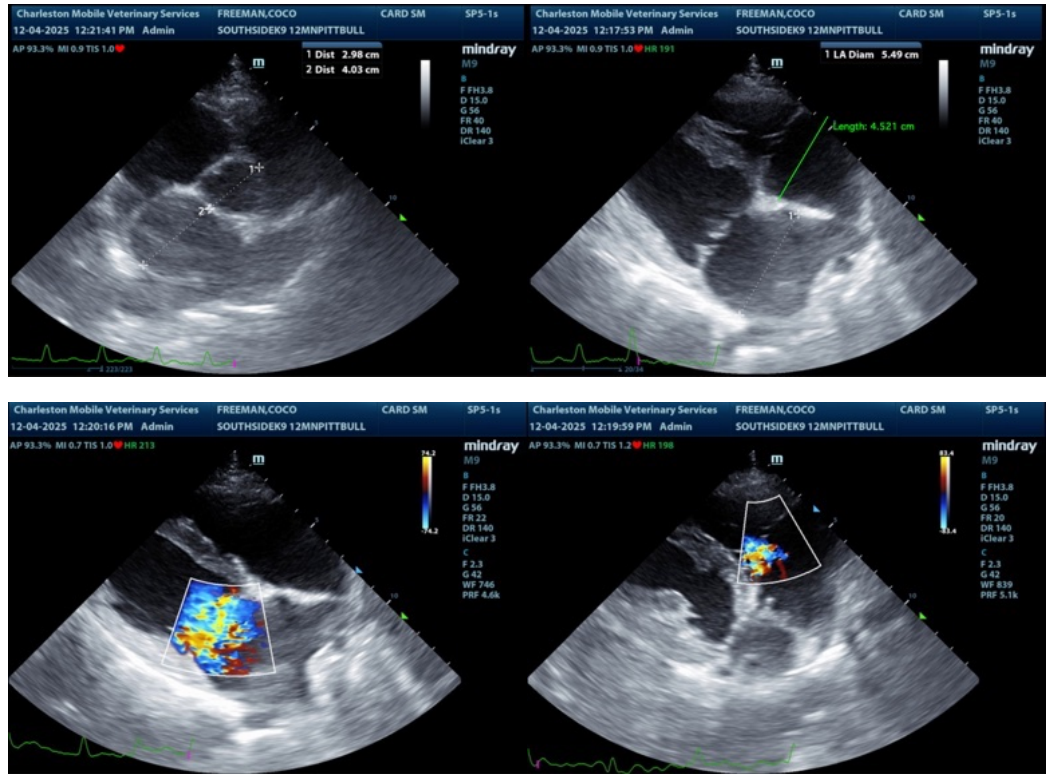
Dr. Forcier/Dr. Sauls

INVOICE

69314

DATE

12/4/25



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.

Bradley Harris, DVM, DACVECC, DACVIM (cardiology)

info@SonoPath.com