

PATIENT

Dixie James

SPECIES

Canine

BREED

Labrador Mix

SEX

Spayed femlae

AGE

11 years

WEIGHT

66 lbs

INTERPRETED BY

Bradley Harris, DVM,
 DACVECC, DACVIM
 (cardiology)

IMAGING PERFORMED BY

Kathleen Byrnes

HOSPITAL NAME

Animal Clinic Madison
 Mayodan

REFERRING VET

Dr. McKinlay

INVOICE

70857

DATE

1/22/26

PRESENTING CLINICAL SIGNS

- P presented for echo due to arrhythmia and frequent VPC's seen on in house ECG

ULTRASONOGRAPHIC EXAMINATION OF THE HEART

The left atrium is normal in dimension. The left ventricle is normal in dimension, with normal systolic function. The right atrium and ventricle are normal in dimension, with normal systolic function. The anterior and posterior mitral valve leaflets are thickened and redundant consistent with myxomatous changes, and there is minimal prolapse. There is evidence of mild mitral regurgitation. The tricuspid valve leaflets are appropriately thin with adequate apposition, intact chordae, with trivial 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 pulmonic and no aortic valve insufficiency identified. There is no visible pericardial, pleural, or free peritoneal fluid documented. No evidence of hepatic venous congestion 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	30 kg	90	4.34	2.67	1.32	4.56	2.72
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	40	0.4	1.0	2.3	NM	2.1	39

ECG:

The underlying rhythm is sinus in origin with a regular R-R interval and average heart rate of 90bpm. The majority of the QRS complexes are supraventricular in origin with consistent P-Q intervals (80ms). There are rare to frequent QRS complexes (depending on the study evaluated) that are prolonged in duration (>70ms), suggesting a ventricular origin. There is no evidence of atrioventricular block or atrial ectopy identified. This is most consistent with an underlying sinus rhythm with occasional ventricular ectopy.



PATIENT **ULTRASONOGRAPHIC FINDINGS**

Dixie James

These findings are consistent with degenerative/myxomatous mitral valve disease with minimal to mild hemodynamic effects consistent with ACVIM Stage B1 disease. It is unlikely that any current morbidity is of cardiac origin. Ventricular arrhythmias occur in many clinical settings, generally divided into cardiac and non-cardiac causes. Cardiac conditions include structural heart disease, pericardial effusion/cardiac neoplasia, and rarely myocarditis. Non-cardiac causes are common and include splenic disease, metabolic disease, electrolyte disturbances, tick-borne disease, fever, anemia, trauma, GDV, hepatic disease, GI disease, pancreatitis, DIC, and sepsis.

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INTERPRETATION OF THE FINDINGS & FURTHER RECOMMENDATIONS

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Given these findings, no cardiac therapy is recommended. There are no cardiac contraindications to anesthesia, fluid therapy, vasopressor therapy, or corticosteroids as indicated for further assessment and treatment. If not already performed, baseline thoracic radiographs and blood pressure are recommended. A recheck echocardiogram is recommended in 6 months. While therapy for the dysrhythmia is not specifically indicated based on these findings, further diagnostics might help tailor therapeutic recommendations. Consider the following:

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- Abdominal ultrasound to look for abdominal causes of VPCs (e.g., splenic/adrenal changes)
- Consider 24-48 hour ambulatory ECG (Holter) monitor to assess significance of arrhythmia

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Anesthesia considerations:

If anesthesia is necessary, alpha-2 agonists, ketamine, high dose acepromazine, and Telazol should be avoided. Fluid therapy during anesthesia should be considered at a conservative rate (e.g., 5 ml/kg/hour) if possible.

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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 is reasonable.

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Activity:

No special considerations are necessary.

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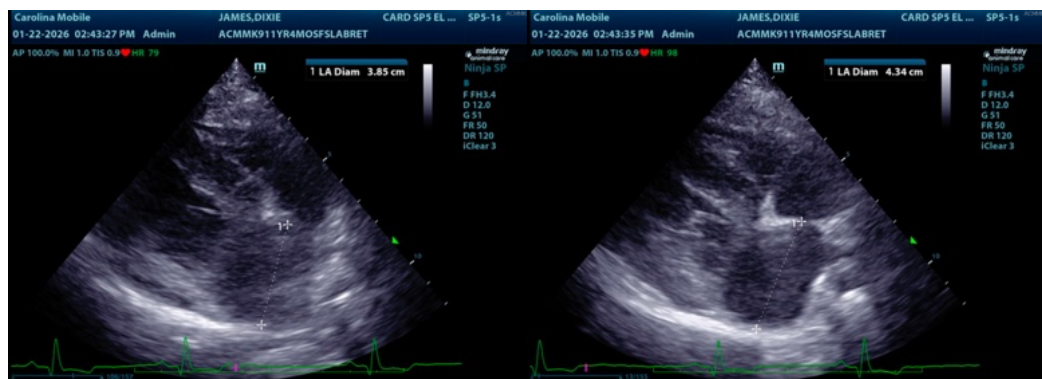
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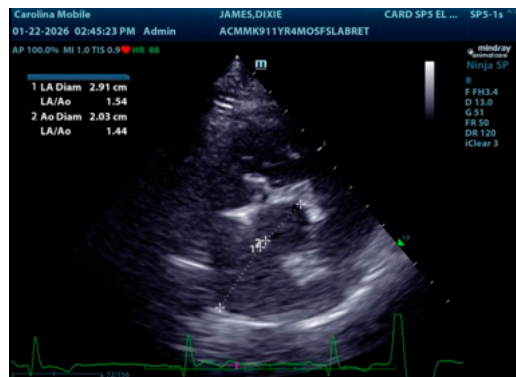
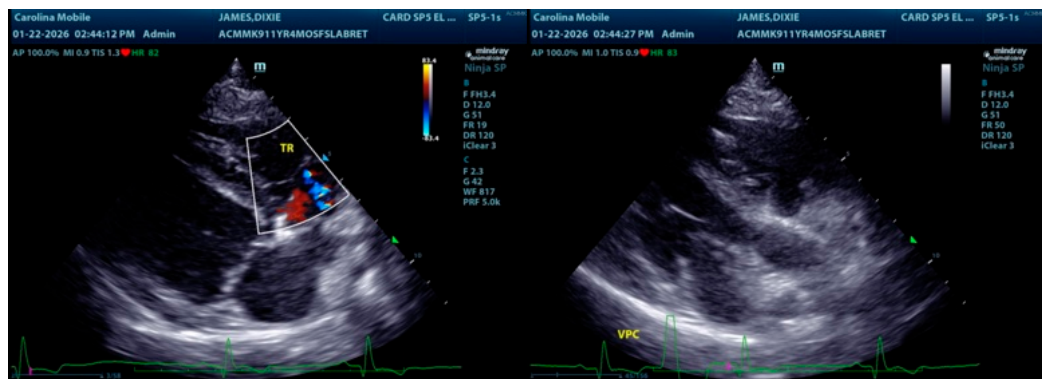
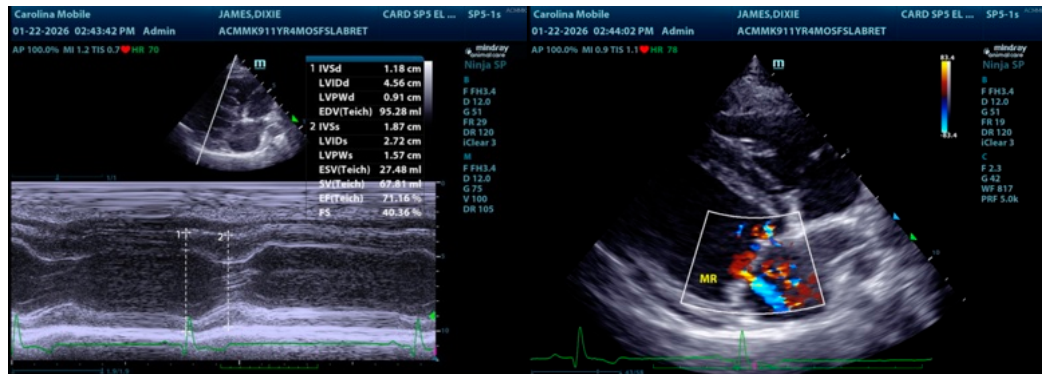
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The information and recommendations provided are based on the images presented by the referring veterinarian/sonographer. No evaluation can be communicated regarding pathology that was not visible in the image/video clips provided.

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.

Bradley Harris, DVM, DACVECC, DACVIM (cardiology)

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