



**PATIENT**

Lacey Dirico

**SPECIES**

Canine

**BREED**

Pitbull

**SEX**

Spayed female

**AGE**

7 years

**WEIGHT**

48.4 lbs

**INTERPRETED BY**

Bradley Harris, DVM,  
 DACVECC, DACVIM  
 (cardiology)

**IMAGING PERFORMED BY**

Chloe Lowe, CVT

**HOSPITAL NAME**

Cummings VH

**REFERRING VET**

Dr. Cummings

**INVOICE**

77688

**DATE**

5/19/26

**PRESENTING CLINICAL SIGNS**

History: Bradycardia, irregular heart rate. Heart rate 50, 1st degree heart block. Clindamycin and prednisone for respiratory infection.

Abnormal PE/Chem/CBC/UA Results: WNL

**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 minimally thickened and redundant consistent with early myxomatous changes, and there is no significant prolapse. There is trivial mitral regurgitation identified. The tricuspid valve leaflets are appropriately thin with adequate apposition, intact chordae, no significant 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, with appropriate main pulmonary artery diameter and right pulmonary artery 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	22.0 kg	60	3.61	3.18	1.46	3.02	2.04
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	32	0.3	0.9	1.7	NM	NM	46

ECG:

There is a single-lead ECG available for review. The underlying rhythm appears to be a sinus in origin with variation in the R-R interval consistent with a respiratory sinus arrhythmia. The average heart rate is 60 bpm. There is a mild prolongation to the PR interval (140ms), consistent with a 1st degree atrioventricular block. There is no overt evidence of more severe block or ventricular ectopy.



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**ULTRASONOGRAPHIC FINDINGS**

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. Respiratory sinus arrhythmias are a normal physiologic change that is common in dogs with higher vagal tone. It is common for this irregularity to be abolished in instances of higher heart rate or increased sympathetic drive.

**INTERPRETATION OF THE FINDINGS & FURTHER RECOMMENDATIONS**

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. Consider investigation into underlying conditions that result in increased vagal tone (respiratory, neurologic, gastrointestinal). If there is further concern about the rhythm, or clinical signs develop (syncope), a 6 lead ECG or Holter monitor should be considered. If not already performed, baseline thoracic radiographs and blood pressure are recommended. A recheck echocardiogram is recommended in 6 months.

Anesthesia considerations:

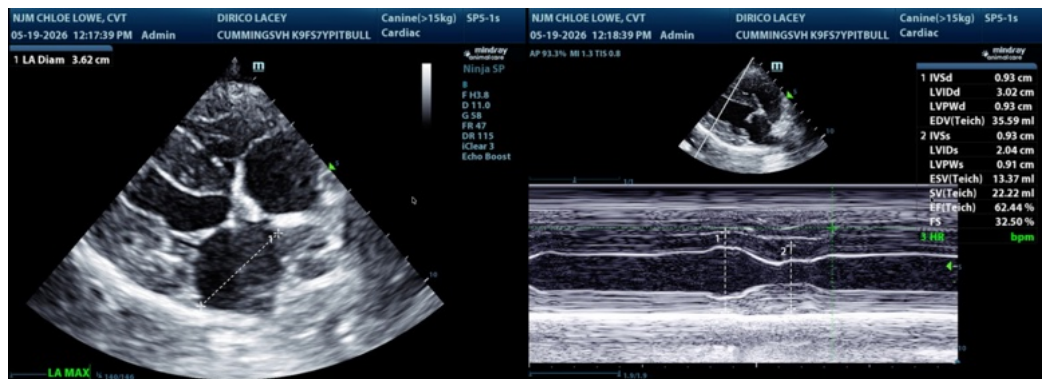
If anesthesia is necessary, alpha-2 agonists, ketamine, high dose acepromazine, and Telazol should be avoided. Fluid therapy during anesthesia should be considered at a conservative rate (e.g., 5 ml/kg/hour) if possible.

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.

Activity:

No special considerations are necessary.





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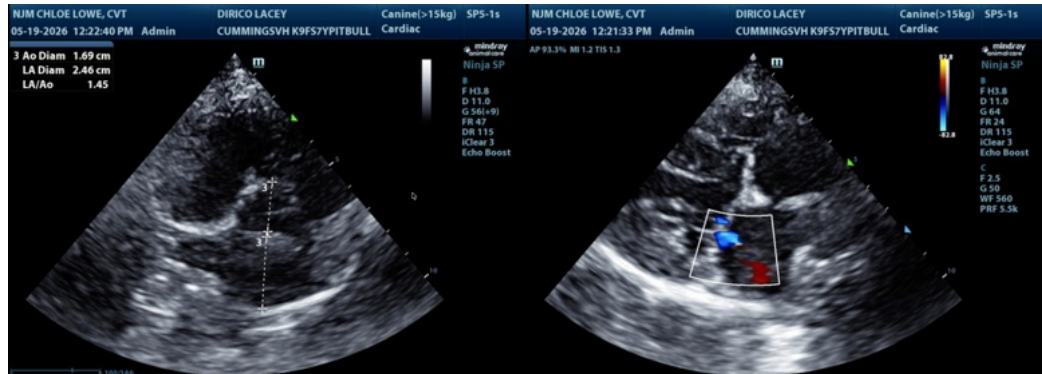
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The information and recommendations provided are based on the images presented by the referring veterinarian/sonographer. No evaluation can be communicated regarding pathology that was not visible in the image/video clips provided.

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)**

[info@SonoPath.com](mailto:info@SonoPath.com)