



**PATIENT**

Maggie Klinger

**SPECIES**

Canine

**BREED**

Hound X

**SEX**

Spayed Female

**AGE**

10 Years

**WEIGHT**

66 Pounds

**INTERPRETED BY**

Beth Johnson, DVM  
DACVIM

**IMAGING PERFORMED BY**

Kelly Vazquez

**HOSPITAL NAME**

Animal General on the Hudson

**REFERRING VET**

Dr. Stefanie Lang

**INVOICE**

44156

**DATE**

1/11/23

**PRESENTING CLINICAL SIGNS**

Mildly elevated ALP - ALP was slightly higher than previously appreciated. Current meds: Proin, thyro-tabs.

Abnormal PE/Chem/CBC/UA Results: ALP 158 in August 2022, then 175 in December 2022.

**ULTRASONOGRAPHIC EXAMINATION OF THE ABDOMEN**

**Urinary System**

The urinary bladder is moderately distended with anechoic contents. No masses, inflammatory changes, echogenic sediment or cystoliths are observed. The urinary bladder, trigone and visible pelvic urethra are normal in thickness with a smooth mucosal surface.

The right kidney is normal in size (5.3 cm), shape and echogenicity. It has smooth peripheral margination. There is a normal 1:3 cortex to medulla ratio with appropriate corticomedullary distinction. There is no evidence of pyelectasia, mineral or infarcts observed.

The left kidney is normal in size (5.98 cm), shape and echogenicity. It has smooth peripheral margination. There is a normal 1:3 cortex to medulla ratio with appropriate corticomedullary distinction. There is no evidence of pyelectasia, mineral or infarcts observed.

**Adrenal Glands**

The right adrenal gland is normal in size (1.96 cm long x 1.1 cm at the cranial pole and 0.68 cm at the caudal pole), shape and contour. Corticomedullary structure is unremarkable. Visible surrounding vasculature appears normal.

The left adrenal gland is normal in size (2.3 cm long x 0.65 cm at the cranial pole and 0.77 cm at the caudal pole), shape and contour. Corticomedullary structure is unremarkable. Visible surrounding vasculature appears normal.

**Spleen**

Spleen is subjectively normal in size with a normal smooth capsular contour. Parenchyma is appropriately finely textured and homogenous with normal echogenicity relative to surrounding tissue (hyperechoic to liver). No focal nodules or masses are observed. Multifocal mineral foci are noted. Splenic vasculature appears normal.

**Liver**

The liver is subjectively normal in size with normal smooth curvilinear peripheral contour. Parenchyma is appropriately hypoechoic to the spleen in echogenicity and appropriately mildly coarse and homogenous in echotexture. No focal lesions are observed. Visible vasculature and biliary tree appear normal without distension or congestion.

The gallbladder is non-distended in size. The wall is smooth without visible thickening. Luminal contents are primarily anechoic. There is no evidence of cystic or common bile duct dilation.

**Gastrointestinal**

The visible stomach wall is normal in thickness and layering. The lumen of the stomach is mildly distended with echogenic non-shadowing luminal contents and gas consistent with normal ingesta. There is no evidence of obstruction, foreign material or infiltrative disease. Pyloric outflow tract appears patent.



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The visible small intestines are normal in wall thickness and layering (canine duodenum < 0.5 cm and feline duodenum < 0.4 cm; other < 0.3 cm). Small intestinal motility appears adequate (1-3 contractions per min). The lumen of the small intestine is empty with no evidence of obstruction, foreign material or infiltrative disease.

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Canine

The visible colon is normal in wall thickness (< 0.2 cm) and layering. Contents are consistent with normal formed feces and gas.

**BREED**

***Pancreas***

Hound X

The pancreatic parenchyma is appropriately isoechoic to surrounding tissue. Visible capsule is smooth and normal in contour. There is no visible pancreatic duct dilation. There is no evidence of active peripancreatic inflammation.

**SEX**

Spayed Female

***Free Abdomen***

**AGE**

There is no evidence of free peritoneal effusion noted in these images.

10 Years

There is no apparent lymphadenopathy noted in these images.

**WEIGHT**

66 Pounds

**ULTRASONOGRAPHIC FINDINGS**

- **Spleen mineralization** – This is a benign change but can be associated with endocrinopathies, especially hyperadrenocorticism.

**INTERPRETED BY**

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**INTERPRETATION OF THE FINDINGS & FURTHER RECOMMENDATIONS**

Differentials for increased ALP are vast and non-specific. Differentials include, but are not limited to, benign nodular hyperplasia which occurs in 70% of older dogs and often does not result in an abnormal ultrasound, reactive or idiopathic/vacuolar hepatopathy, cholestasis and/or hyperadrenocorticism as well as many chronic non-hepatobiliary diseases such as chronic infections/inflammation from dental disease, IBD, neoplasia, hyperlipidemia, hypothyroidism, chronic pancreatitis, chronic stress, etc.

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There is no ultrasonographic evidence of cholestasis. Adrenocortical testing such as a low dose dexamethasone suppression test could be considered if clinical signs of hyperadrenocorticism are present. Ursodiol could be considered if gallbladder sludge is noted. A fine needle aspirate of the liver could be considered if patient's coagulation status is appropriate. Otherwise, recommendations include addressing any other concurrent disease and monitoring. If values are progressive, recheck imaging is recommended.

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Specifically for this patient, given the splenic mineralizations, early or emerging hyperadrenocorticism could be contributing to the increased ALP. However, further investigation of hyperadrenocorticism is not warranted without consistent clinical signs. Therefore, at this time, monitoring is recommended, and further testing could be considered if/when clinical signs develop.

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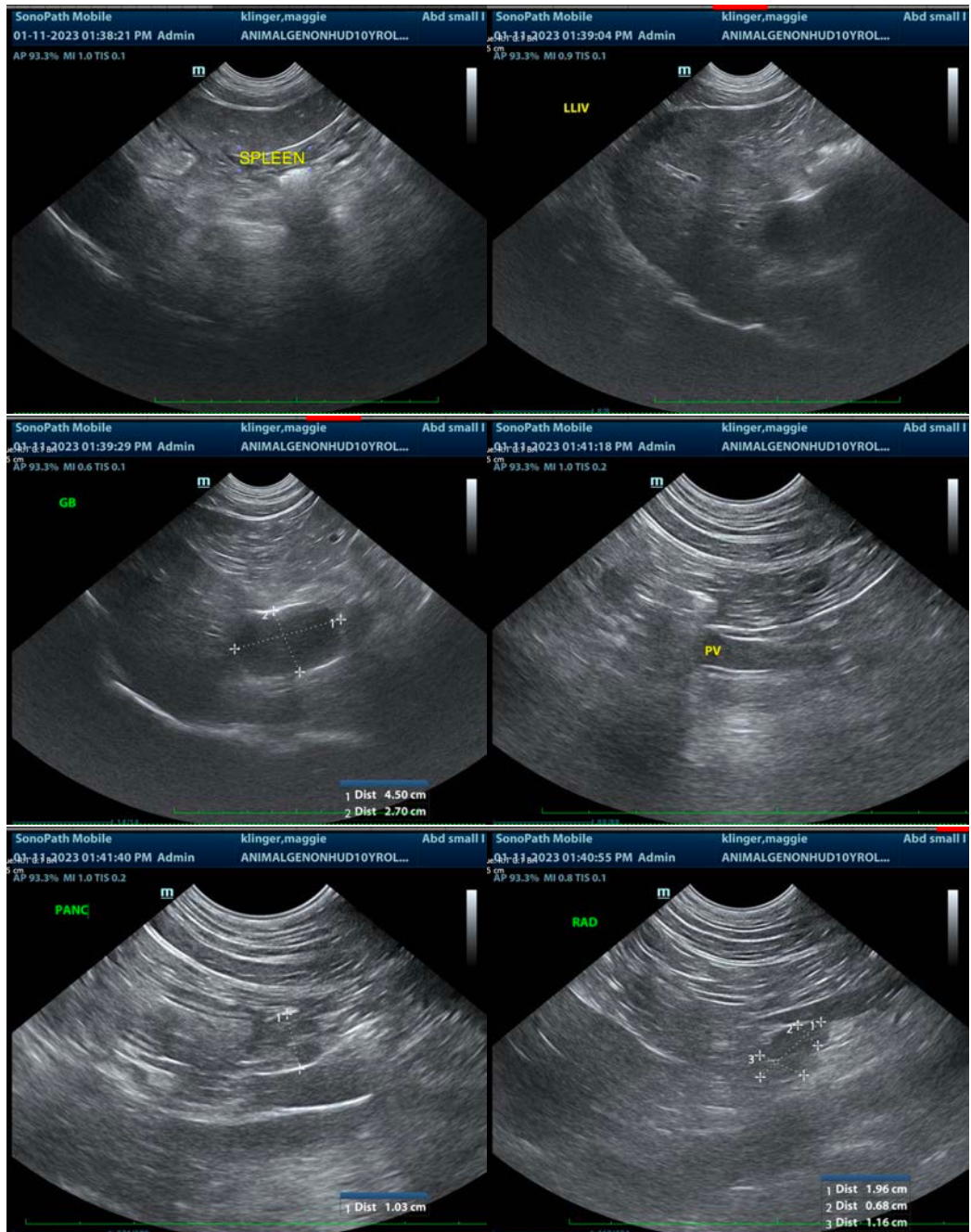
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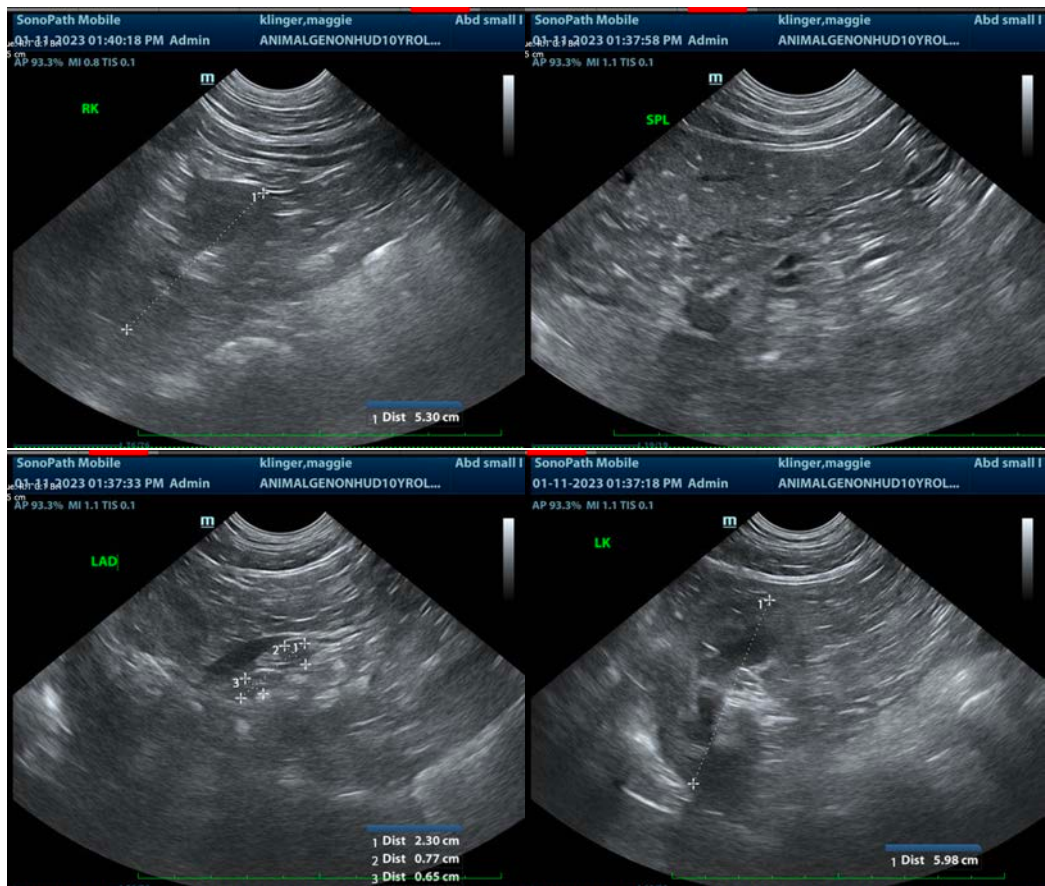
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The information and recommendations provided are based on the images presented by the referring veterinarian/sonographer. No evaluation can be communicated regarding pathology that was not visible in the image/video clips provided.

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.

**Beth Johnson, DVM, DACVIM**  
Beth.Johnson@sonopath.com