



PATIENT

Loretta Zebrowski

SPECIES

Canine

BREED

Coon Hound

SEX

FS

AGE

10 years

WEIGHT

62 lbs

INTERPRETED BY

Beth Johnson, DVM
DACVIM

IMAGING PERFORMED BY

Pamela Harrigan,
RDCS, Certified
Veterinary
Sonographer

HOSPITAL NAME

VCA Palme Animal
Hospital

REFERRING VET

Dr. Michelle Haroules

INVOICE

11117

DATE

1/14/2026

PRESENTING CLINICAL SIGNS

Routing wellness bloodwork: June 2025: ALP 372, Anaplasma +, October 2025: ALP 432. On Denamarin.

ULTRASONOGRAPHIC EXAMINATION OF THE ABDOMEN

Urinary System

The urinary bladder is adequately 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 is size (6.96 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 is size (6.55 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 (0.77 cm at cranial pole and 0.8 cm at caudal pole), shape and overall architecture, echogenicity and echotexture. Visible surrounding vasculature appears normal.

The left adrenal gland is normal in size (0.76 cm at cranial pole and 0.61 cm at caudal pole), shape and overall architecture, echogenicity and echotexture. Visible surrounding vasculature appears normal.

Spleen

Spleen is subjectively large in size (2.2 cm thick at the hilus) with normal smooth margins. Parenchyma is normal in echogenicity with a diffusely coarse/heterogenous echotexture. No discrete sizable focal nodules or masses are observed. Splenic vasculature appears normal. Additionally, multifocal homogenous hyperechoic nodules are noted throughout the parenchyma.

Liver

Liver is subjectively enlarged with mildly irregular margins. Parenchyma is moderately heterogenous characterized by multiple poorly defined hypoechoic nodules within otherwise hyperechoic liver parenchyma. Visible vasculature and biliary tree appear normal without distension or congestion.

Gallbladder is moderately distended with anechoic bile as well as suspended and gravity dependent echogenic debris. Some mineral/sand debris is noted with no visible evidence of obstruction noted in these images at this time. The wall is smooth without visible thickening. There is no evidence of cystic or CBD dilation. There is no evidence of effusion or inflammation.

Gastrointestinal

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

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Pancreas

The pancreas that is observed appears appropriately isoechoic to surrounding omental fat. Visible capsule is smooth and normal in contour. Visible pancreatic parenchyma is homogenous and unremarkable. There is no visible pancreatic duct dilation. There is no evidence of active peripancreatic inflammation.

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Free Abdomen

There is no visible free peritoneal effusion noted in these images.

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Medial iliac lymph nodes are prominent in size with swollen capsular contour. Normal elongated shape (length to width ratio) is maintained. There is no loss of parenchymal detail.

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ULTRASONOGRAPHIC FINDINGS

- Moderately heterogenous liver – These changes are most consistent with benign processes such as nodular hyperplasia, steroid (vacuolar) hepatopathy, extramedullary hematopoiesis or possibly chronic inflammatory disease and less commonly infiltrative round cell or metastatic neoplasia.
- Moderate gallbladder debris - Cholecystic debris is of unknown clinical significance. It can be seen with biliary stasis from fasting or illness. Cholecystic debris is not necessarily related to hepatobiliary disease. Echogenic bile is most commonly an incidental finding in dogs and should be interpreted in combination with clinical signs such as nausea, inappetence, cranial abdominal discomfort and/or laboratory changes such as increased ALP and/or increased Tbili. Some mineral/sand debris is suspected.
- Coarse splenomegaly – can be associated with congestion caused by sedation (if sedated) but can also be associated with diffuse infiltrative disease. Both benign conditions such as extramedullary hematopoiesis, lymphoid hyperplasia as well as infiltrative neoplastic diseases such as round cell neoplasia should be considered.
- Mildly reactive medial iliac lymph nodes – infiltrative neoplastic disease cannot be ruled out but is considered less likely.

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INTERPRETATION OF THE FINDINGS & FURTHER RECOMMENDATIONS

Differentials for a primary cholestatic liver enzyme pattern (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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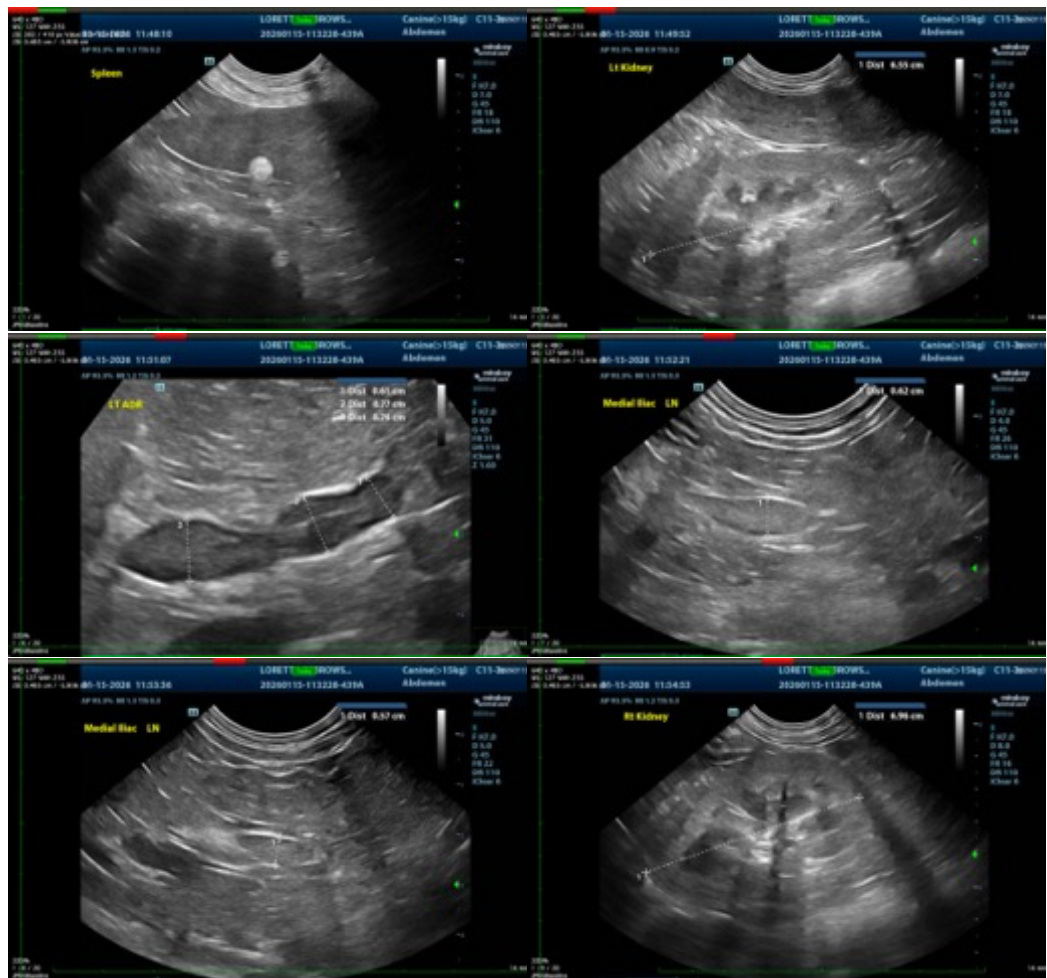
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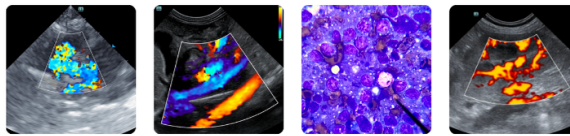
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- Adrenocortical testing such as a low dose dexamethasone suppression test could be considered if clinical signs of hyperadrenocorticism are present.
- Given the gallbladder debris noted above, empirical hepatic nutraceuticals including ursodiol could be considered while monitoring for improvement.
- A fine needle aspirate of the liver +/- spleen 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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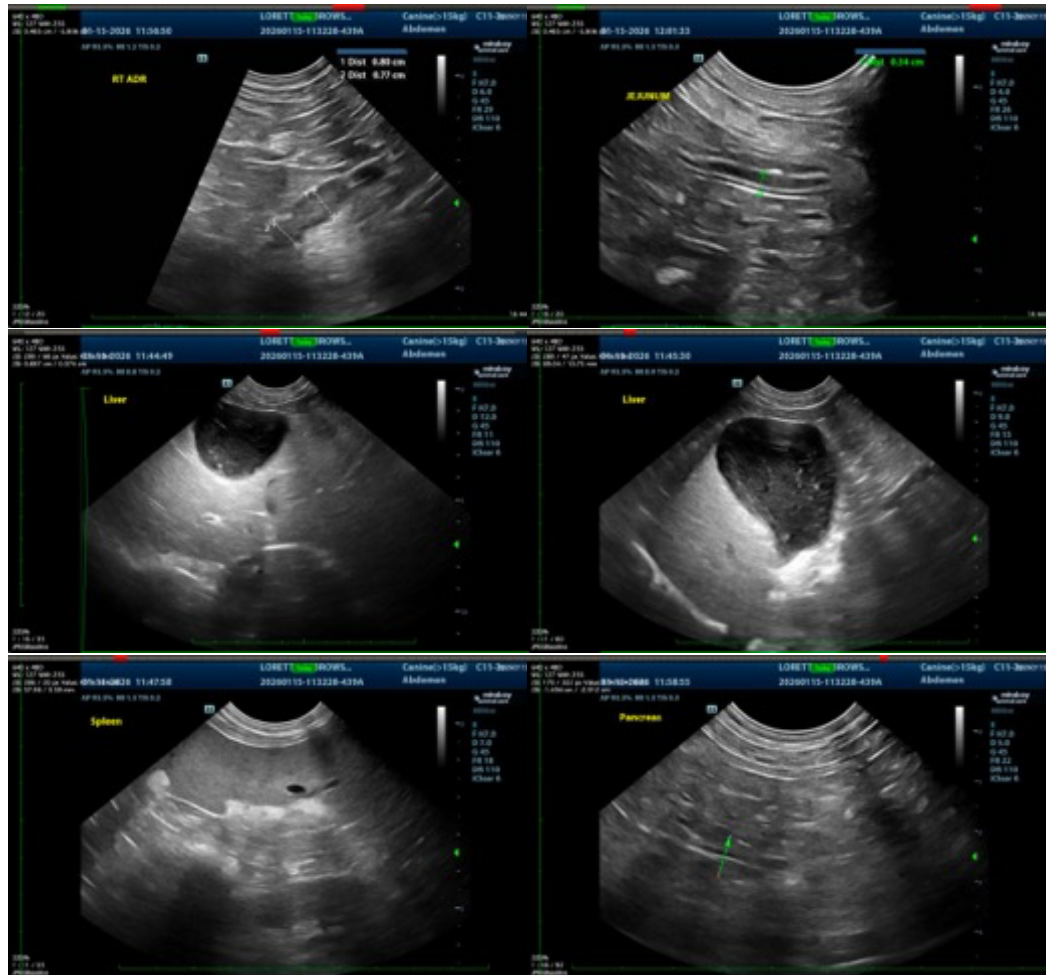
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The information and recommendations provided are based on the images presented by the referring veterinarian/sonographer. No evaluation can be communicated regarding pathology that was not visible in the image/video clips provided.

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
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