



PATIENT

Zion Proctor

SPECIES

Canine

BREED

Bernese Mtn Dog

SEX

Neutered Male

AGE

4 Years 9 Months

WEIGHT

115.4 lbs

INTERPRETED BY

Beth Johnson, DVM
DACVIM

IMAGING PERFORMED BY

M. Kermendy, CVT

HOSPITAL NAME

Wauwatosa Veterinary
Clinic

REFERRING VET

Dr. Kevin Kicker

INVOICE

72319

DATE

1/20/26

PRESENTING CLINICAL SIGNS

Zion presented 11/25 and 12/19/25 for persistent diarrhea that started in July or August. Owner reports he was placed on Hills metabolic diet which immediately caused liquid diarrhea. Diet was switched to chicken and rice which initially helped, but when returned to metabolic diet the diarrhea immediately returned. Regular food also caused diarrhea. Fecal float 11/25 was negative. he has been on chicken and rice for the last weeks with some improvement, but stool is still loose, described as not pure liquid but not formed. Zion has lost approximately 13# since 8/5/25. Owner reports he is very hungry and drinking a lot of water. No vomiting reported. No coughing. Had 1 incident of inappropriate defecating in the house when left home for an extended period. On 12/19/25 blood work showed a low albumin at 1.9g/dL. Zion was started on sulfasalazine 1000mg PO BID . since starting Sulfasalazine his diarrhea has improved but is not normally formed-no longer liquid. Owner reports his appetite and energy remain the same.

Abnormal PE/Chem/CBC/UA Results: Exam is unremarkable. 12/10/25 TP=4.8g/dL, Albumin =1.9g/dL, Amylase=2033U/L Samples submitted at the time of this study for fecal PCR, maldigestion panel, and repeat chemistry

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 area of the prostate is examined without evident prostatic pathology.

The right kidney is normal is size (7.55 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.

The left kidney is normal is size (6.67 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 adrenal glands are unable to be visualized in these images.

Spleen

The 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. 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.



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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 empty with no evidence of obstruction, foreign material or infiltrative disease. Pyloric outflow tract appears patent.

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.

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

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.

Free Abdomen

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

There is no apparent pathologic lymphadenopathy noted in these images.

ULTRASONOGRAPHIC FINDINGS

- This is a largely unremarkable/normal structural abdomen without a definitive ultrasonographically visible intraabdominal explanation for patient's reported diarrhea, weight loss, and/or hypoalbuminemia.

INTERPRETATION OF THE FINDINGS & FURTHER RECOMMENDATIONS

If not recently evaluated, a urinalysis and, if indicated based on urinalysis results, urine culture is recommended. If protein is present in an otherwise quiet sediment, protein quantification with a urine protein to creatinine ratio is recommended.

A routine fecal/giardia exam is recommended.

A gastrointestinal malabsorption panel (including cobalamin, folate, TLI and PLI) to Texas A&M GI Laboratory is recommended for further evaluation of GI and pancreatic function.

A fecal enteropathogen PCR panel to Texas A&M GI Laboratory could be considered for further evaluation of possible infectious disease. Contact lab for recommendations on how long to discontinue antibiotics (if indicated) prior to obtaining a stool sample for submission.

A baseline cortisol is recommended. If baseline cortisol is less than 2, a full ACTH stimulation test is recommended to rule out hypoadrenocorticism.

In the meantime, supportive/symptomatic medical management of clinical signs is recommended, including a probiotic (such as visbiome or proviable), empirical deworming with a 5-day course of Panacur and, if tolerated, a transition in diet, based on trial-and-error response, beginning possibly with



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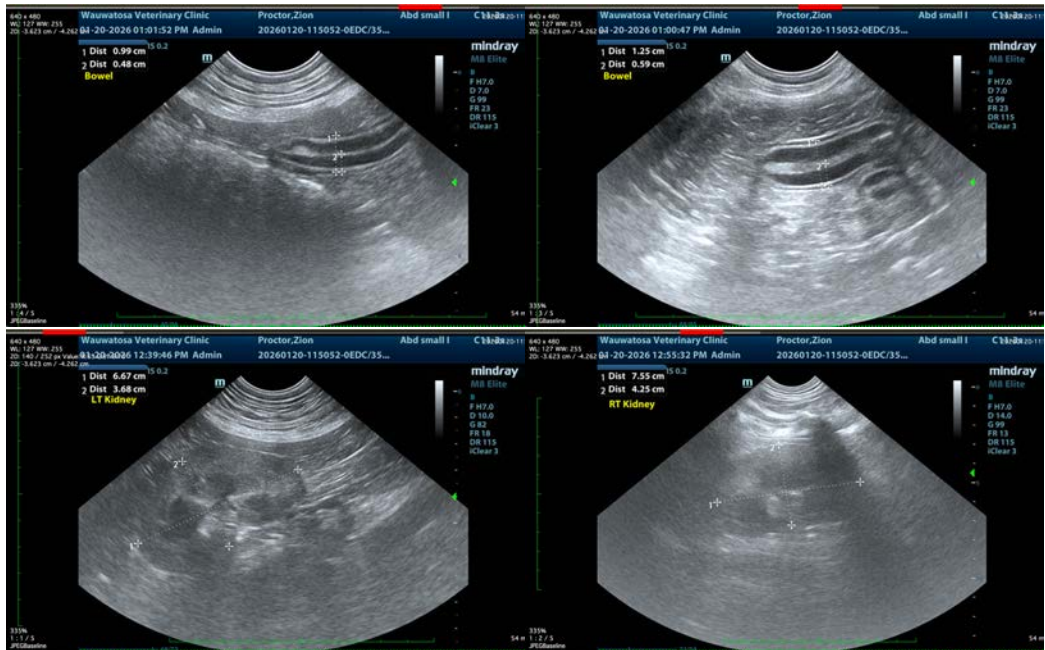
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a gastrointestinal biome diet vs a hydrolyzed protein diet vs other. Some patients respond to one brand/version of a hydrolyzed protein diet better than another brand, so several brand attempts may be required.



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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