



PATIENT

Lily Goetting

SPECIES

Feline

BREED

DSH

SEX

Spayed Female

AGE

13 years 7 months

WEIGHT

4.12 kg

INTERPRETED BY

Beth Johnson, DVM
DACVIM

IMAGING PERFORMED BY

Dr. Jill Rankin

HOSPITAL NAME

McKnight Veterinary
Hospital

REFERRING VET

Dr. Vanessa

INVOICE

11075

DATE

1/8/2026

PRESENTING CLINICAL SIGNS

Lily, presents with a history of chronic vomiting that has acutely worsened, accompanied by significant weight loss and polyphagia. A month ago, the patient presented for evaluation of weight loss and polyphagia. Her weight had decreased and has since dropped further. Over the past week, the vomiting has significantly increased in frequency to approximately three times a day, occurring after q meal. The patient has a multi-year history of chronic vomiting, for which Inflammatory Bowel Disease (IBD) was suspected. A hypoallergenic diet was prescribed, but dietary compliance has been inconsistent as the patient also consumes food from other cats in the household. Recent blood work was performed, revealing a T4 level in the mid-range (36), with other results reported as largely normal. The owner was uncertain about the patient's water consumption habits.

ULTRASONOGRAPHIC EXAMINATION OF THE ABDOMEN

Urinary System

Urinary bladder is adequately distended. It has a normal uniform wall thickness. Contents include primarily anechoic fluid with occasional echogenic non-shadowing debris, most consistent with incidental suspended lipid in a cat, possibly combined with exfoliated cells, mucous and/or small blood clots. Both sterile inflammation as well as urinary tract infection can also present with echogenic debris. No masses or definitive cystoliths are observed. The trigone and visible pelvic urethra are normal in thickness with a smooth mucosal surface.

The right kidney is normal is size (3.2 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 (3.6 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 (0.39 cm), shape and overall architecture, echogenicity and echotexture. Visible surrounding vasculature appears normal.

The area of the left adrenal gland is examined without evident adrenal gland pathology but is difficult to fully visualize/isolate for measurement.

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

Liver is subjectively enlarged (swollen contour) with a diffusely mildly coarse architecture and subtly increased portal markings. Mildly mixed echogenic changes are noted diffusely. 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. The cystic and common bile duct are diffusely tortuous in appearance without pathologic distension noted in these images at this time.

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

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The visible small intestine demonstrates areas of very prominently thick muscularis layer relative to mucosa (disruption of the normal 1:3 muscularis:mucosa ratio). Small intestinal submucosa is slightly irregular, thick and hyperechoic, without evident loss of layering appreciated. The lumen of the small intestine is empty with no evidence of obstruction or foreign material.

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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

Pancreas is prominent (enlarged) in size, hypoechoic to surrounding tissue and has a mildly irregular undulating contour. Parenchyma is coarse with mixed echogenic remodeling noted. No pancreatic duct dilation is noted.

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Free Abdomen

There is a scant/trace amount of anechoic free fluid in the cranial abdomen between liver lobes.

Mesenteric 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

- Marked/significant inflammatory bowel disease (IBD) pattern – Thick muscularis has been reported with infiltrative bowel disease including both benign inflammatory disease as well as infiltrative neoplasia such as lymphoma. No loss of layering or distinct characteristics of malignancy are present. Therefore, differentials cannot be further ranked without tissue sampling.
- Concurrent chronic low grade smoldering pancreatitis can't be ruled out and should be suspected in the face of appropriate clinical signs.
- Hepatobiliary changes are mild and non-specific but could represent a concurrent microscopic hepatopathy such as bacterial or lymphoplasmacytic cholangiohepatitis, hepatic lipidosis, other infectious, inflammatory, or reactive hepatopathy or infiltrative can't be ruled out without tissue sampling.
- Very mildly reactive mesenteric lymph nodes – infiltrative neoplastic disease cannot be ruled out but is considered less likely.

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- Scant/trace free fluid is of unknown origin. Differentials (unless already ruled out) could include increased hydrostatic pressure (cardiac disease and/or vascular or lymph blockage), decreased oncotic pressure (low albumin), vasculitis, paraneoplastic fluid, rupture/leakage of/from an organ (GI, GB, UB, other), blood (hemoabdomen), other.
- A mild amount of echogenic urinary bladder debris.

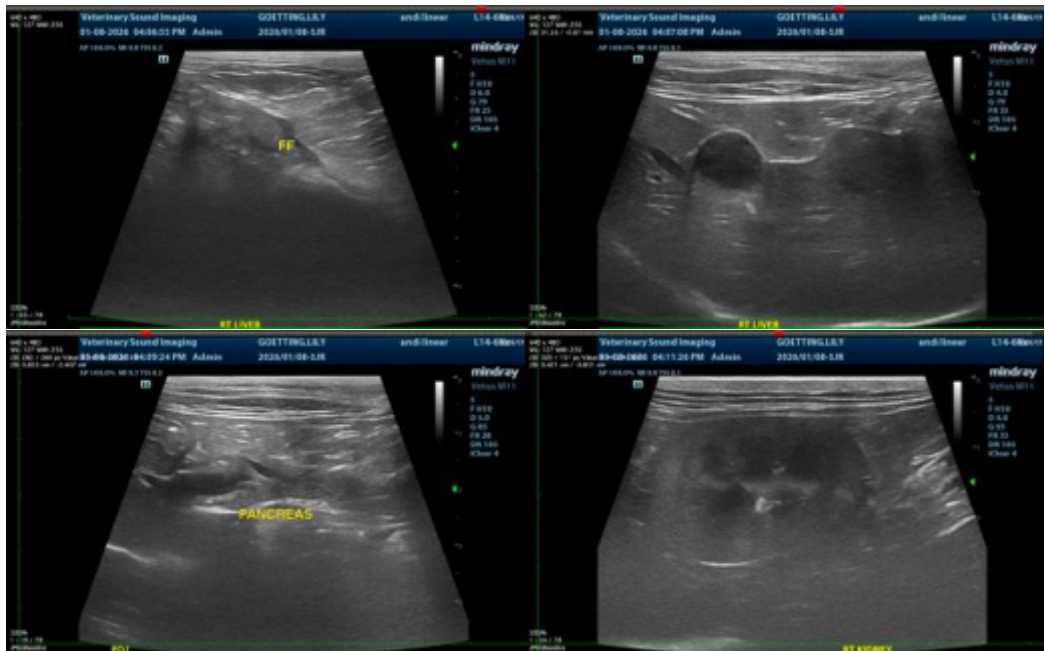
INTERPRETATION OF THE FINDINGS & FURTHER RECOMMENDATIONS

If not recently evaluated, a general metabolic health screen (CBC, chemistry panel with electrolytes and urinalysis) 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.

Fine needle aspirates of the liver could be considered if patient's coagulation status is appropriate but ultimately, biopsies of the GI tract being sure to include ileum, if possible, are likely warranted for a definitive diagnosis and therefore to further guide medical management.

Other than supportive/symptomatic medical management of clinical signs, further treatment recommendations are largely dependent on results of the above.





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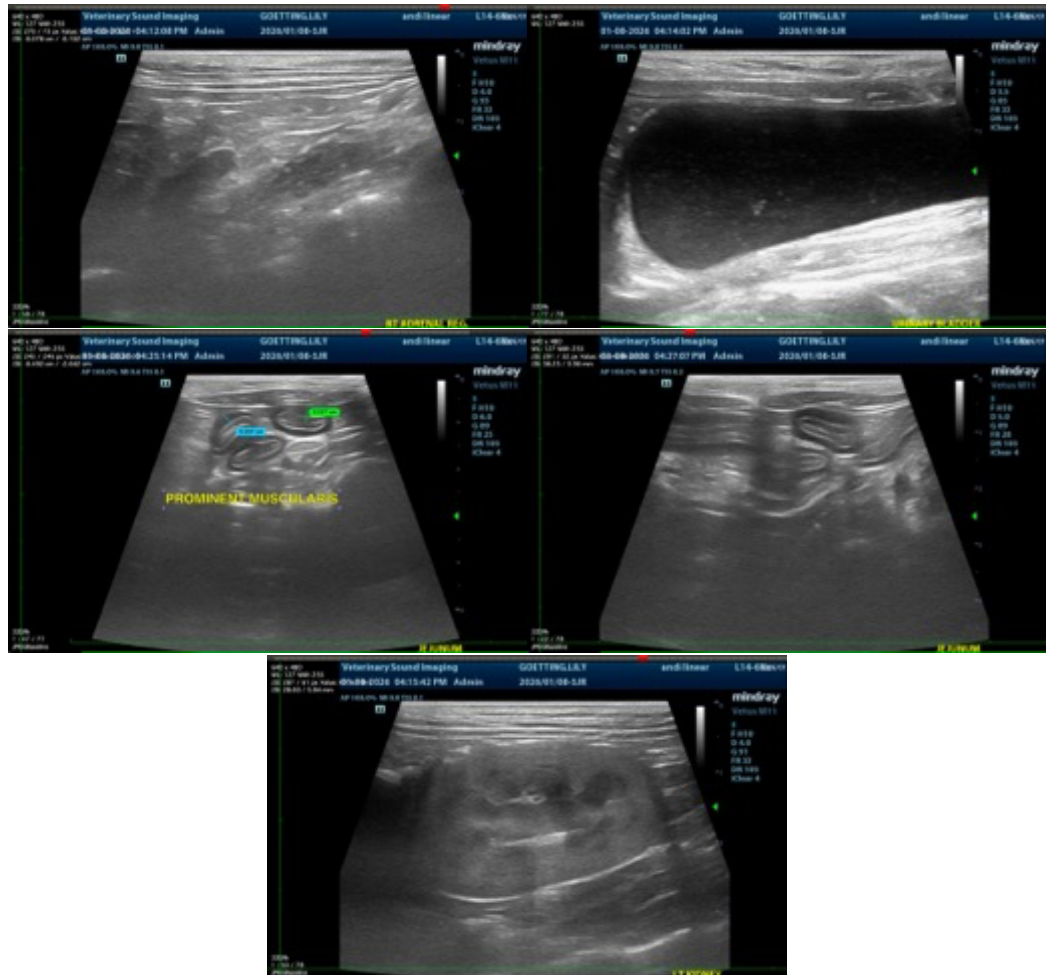
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The information and recommendations provided are based on the images presented by the referring veterinarian/sonographer. No evaluation can be communicated regarding pathology that was not visible in the image/video clips provided.

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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