



PATIENT

Jingles Seitchik

PRESENTING CLINICAL SIGNS

PU/PD, recent LDDS consistent with Cushings; but did not differentiate PDH vs adrenal. On enrofloxacin

SPECIES

Canine

Abnormal PE/Chem/CBC/UA Results: ALT 356, ALKP 833, GGT 17; UA: protein 1+, struities 2+, USPG 1.026

BREED

Chihuahua X

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.

SEX

Spayed Female

The right kidney is normal in size (4.61 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. Cortical cysts present.

AGE

10 Years

The left kidney is normal in size (4.16 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. Cortical cysts present.

WEIGHT

11.7 Pounds

Adrenal Glands

Adrenal glands are plump/swollen in size. Normal shape and contour are maintained without evidence of capsular invasion. Corticomedullary structure is unremarkable. Visible surrounding vasculature appears normal. Several hyperechoic nodules noted in the cranial pole of the left adrenal gland. Nodules do not disrupt normal shape and/or architecture. The left adrenal gland measures 2.8 cm long x 1.1 cm at the cranial pole and 0.50 cm at the caudal pole. The right adrenal gland measures 2.2 cm long x 1.1 cm at the cranial pole and 0.40 cm at the caudal pole.

INTERPRETED BY

Beth Johnson, DVM
DACVIM

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.

IMAGING PERFORMED BY

Diane McFadden

HOSPITAL NAME

Millburn Vet Hospital

Liver

Liver is subjectively enlarged (swollen contour) without disruption of architecture. It has a normal homogenous echotexture. Parenchyma is diffusely hyperechoic characterized by less prominent than normal portal vein walls and increased echogenicity relative to the spleen and falciform fat. No focal lesions are observed. Visible vasculature and biliary tree appear normal without distension or congestion.

REFERRING VET

Dr. Turowsky

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.

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Gastrointestinal

The stomach wall is normal in thickness (canine < 0.5 cm and feline < 0.4 cm) 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 (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.

SPECIES

Canine

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

Pancreas

BREED

Chihuahua 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

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

There is no apparent lymphadenopathy noted in these images.

AGE

10 Years

ULTRASONOGRAPHIC FINDINGS

WEIGHT

11.7 Pounds

- **Bilateral adrenomegaly** – consistent with adrenal hyperplasia secondary to pituitary dependent hyperadrenocorticism vs stress or normal variant. Interpret in combination with clinical signs of hyperadrenocorticism.
- **Hyperechoic adrenal nodules in the cranial pole of the left adrenal gland** – Differentials include primary adrenal cortical adenoma or adenocarcinoma, pheochromocytoma, myelolipoma, adrenal hyperplasia secondary to pituitary disease or metastatic disease. Ultrasound alone cannot differentiate between functional and non-functional nodules and/or between benign and malignant disease. Small nodules without other evidence of abdominal disease (to suggest metastatic disease) and/or clinical signs (to suggest adrenal disease) are most often incidental and should be monitored.
- **Hyperechoic hepatomegaly** - This appearance is non-specific and most consistent with a benign steroid (endocrine) or vacuolar hepatopathy or reactive or idiopathic hepatopathy. Inflammatory and/or infiltrative disease (such as round cell neoplasia) are also possible, but considered less likely.

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INTERPRETATION OF THE FINDINGS & FURTHER RECOMMENDATIONS

Given the bilateral adrenomegaly, this patient's hyperadrenocorticism is most consistent with pituitary dependent disease. However, given the presence of the hyperechoic nodules, adrenal dependent, either bilaterally, or combined with pituitary dependent, while uncommon, is possible. An endogenous ACTH could be evaluated to further help differentiate, or, medical management could be instituted with monitoring for response, as adrenal dependent dogs don't have as adequate a response typically to medical management.

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Twice daily Veteryl dosing or Mitotane/Lysodren loading followed by maintenance therapy could be considered.

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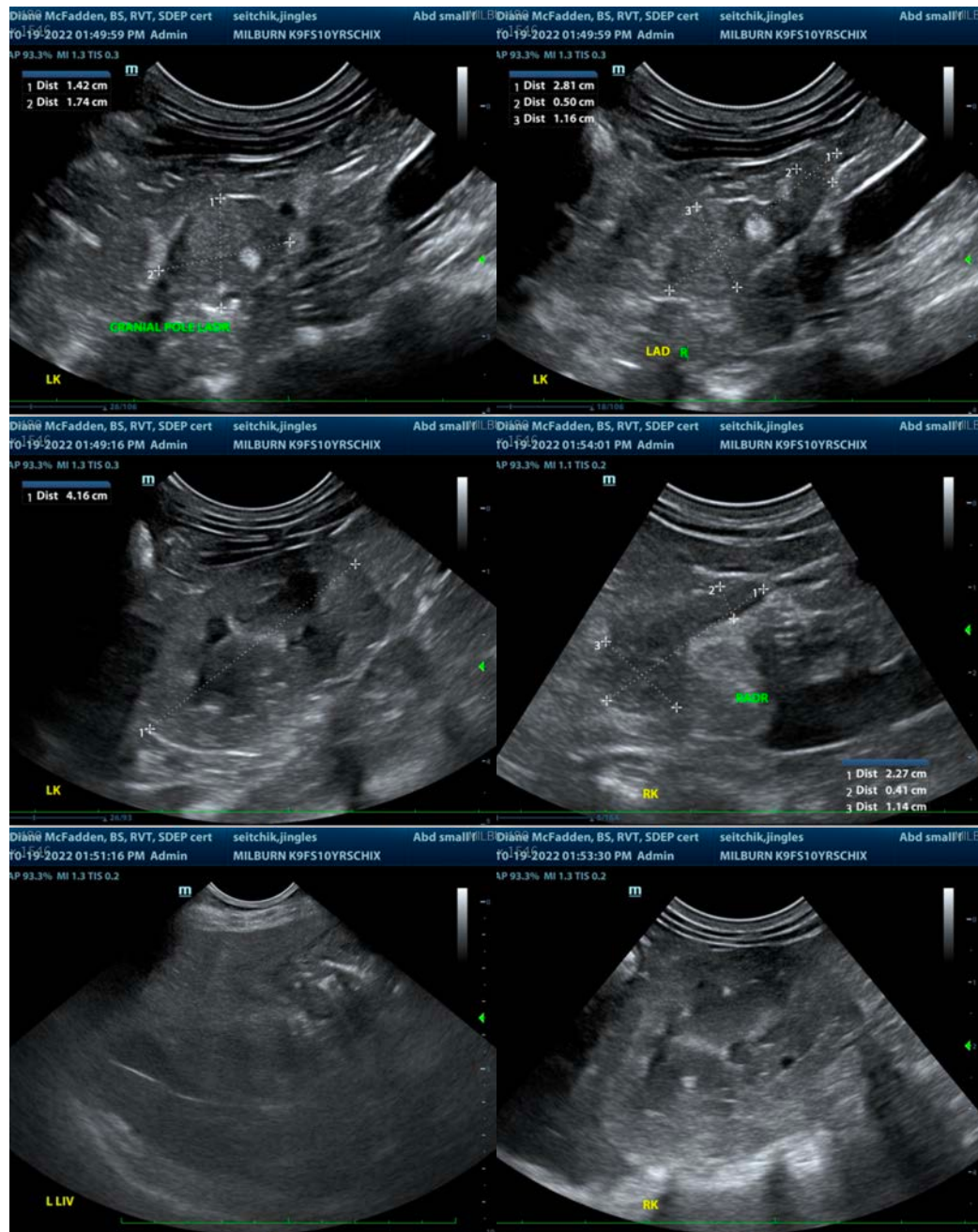
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The information and recommendations provided are based on the images presented by the referring veterinarian/sonographer. No evaluation can be communicated regarding pathology that was not visible in the image/video clips provided.

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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