



**PATIENT PRESENTING CLINICAL SIGNS**

Shadow Lopez  
**SPECIES** Hyperthyroid, urinating on bed, history of weight loss and vomiting Current Medications Methimazole 2.5 mg BID and SQ fluids 1 x a week Primary Question/Differential to Be Answered in This Exam Concerned about possible chronic pancreatitis, reasons for CRF? Neoplasia, stones etc  
 Abnormal PE/Chem/CBC/UA Results: Elevated PSL and Amylase and Azotemia

Feline

**ULTRASONOGRAPHIC EXAMINATION OF THE ABDOMEN**

**BREED *Urinary System***

DSH

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 cystoliths are observed. The trigone and visible pelvic urethra are normal in thickness with a smooth mucosal surface.

**SEX**

Neutered Male

**AGE**

17 Years

Kidneys are bilaterally small, irregular and diffusely echogenic with decreased corticomedullary distinction and poor visualization of internal architecture. There is no pyelectasia noted and no mineral is observed. A hyperechoic band parallel to the corticomedullary border is present in both kidneys. The right kidney measures 3.23 cm. The left kidney measures 3.03 cm.

**WEIGHT**

11 Pounds

***Adrenal Glands***

**INTERPRETED BY**

Beth Johnson, DVM  
DACVIM

The right adrenal gland is normal in size (0.32 cm), shape and contour. Corticomedullary structure is unremarkable. Visible surrounding vasculature appears normal.

The left adrenal gland is normal in size (0.29 cm), shape and contour. Corticomedullary structure is unremarkable. Visible surrounding vasculature appears normal.

**IMAGING PERFORMED BY**

Jenna Walsh, CVT

***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.

**HOSPITAL NAME**

VCA Vitality AH

***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.

**REFERRING VET**

Dr. Surroz

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.

**DATE**

10/27/22



## PATIENT

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The visible small intestine demonstrates areas of thick muscularis layer relative to mucosa (disruption of the normal 1:3 muscularis:mucosa ratio). Small intestinal submucosa is slightly irregular, thick and hyperechoic. In the mid abdomen, there is one focal loop of bowel with a “fuzzy/hazy” appearing mucosa and loss of layering noted. The lumen is empty with no evidence of obstruction or foreign material.

## SPECIES

Feline

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

## BREED

DSH

### **Pancreas**

The observed pancreas appears appropriately isoechoic to surrounding omental fat. The capsule is mildly irregular in shape. Parenchyma is mildly heterogenous and coarse. There is no visible pancreatic duct dilation. There is no evidence of active peripancreatic inflammation.

## SEX

Neutered Male

### **Free Abdomen**

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

## AGE

17 Years

There is no apparent lymphadenopathy noted in these images.

## WEIGHT

11 Pounds

## PRIMARY FINDINGS

- **Gastrointestinal lymphoma (suspect) pattern** – Thick muscularis has been reported with infiltrative bowel disease including both benign inflammatory disease as well as infiltrative neoplasia such as lymphoma. Given the suspicion for early loss of layering, infiltrative neoplasia is considered possibly more likely, but benign IBD cannot be ruled out without tissue sampling.
- **Pancreatic age-related remodeling** – Mild irregularities are consistent with benign age-related change. Low-grade smoldering chronic pancreatitis cannot be ruled out and should be suspected in the face of appropriate clinical signs.
- **Chronic Kidney Disease** – This appearance of the kidneys is consistent with chronic kidney disease such as chronic glomerular or interstitial nephritis, chronic pyelonephritis, etc.
- **Bilateral medullary rim sign** - This finding is of unknown clinical significance and can be a normal variant, often idiopathic. Medullary rim sign can be present with renal disease including FIP, lymphoma, hypercalcemic nephropathy, Leptospirosis, tubular disease, other and should be interpreted in combination with other more specific indications of kidney disease such as isosthenuria, proteinuria, azotemia, etc. This is a common incidental finding in patients with diabetes mellitus.

## INTERPRETED BY

Beth Johnson, DVM  
DACVIM

## IMAGING PERFORMED BY

Jenna Walsh, CVT

## HOSPITAL NAME

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## REFERRING VET

Dr. Surroz

## SECONDARY FINDINGS

- Urinary bladder debris

## INTERPRETATION OF THE FINDINGS & FURTHER RECOMMENDATIONS

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Given this patient’s history of hyperthyroidism and chronic kidney disease, if not recently evaluated a blood pressure is recommended.

## DATE

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Given the reported urinary accidents, a urinalysis and, if indicated based on urinalysis results, urine culture are recommended. If protein is present in an otherwise quiet sediment, protein quantification with a urine protein to creatinine ration is recommended.



**PATIENT**

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If the hyperthyroidism is well controlled, then the vomiting and weight loss are likely secondary to the bowel changes. Therefore, 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.

**SPECIES**

Feline

Ideally, biopsies of the GI tract, being sure to include the focal loop with visible loss of layering, potentially using intra-op ultrasound, if necessary, are recommended to definitively diagnose and therefore manage the infiltrative bowel disease.

**BREED**

DSH

If biopsies cannot be obtained, empirical therapies could include diet change, empirical deworming with a 5 day course of Panacur, cobalamin supplementation (unless cobalamin level is evaluated and supplementation is not warranted) and prednisolone (if not contraindicated based on patient contraindications, co-morbidities, etc.).

**SEX**

Neutered Male

**AGE**

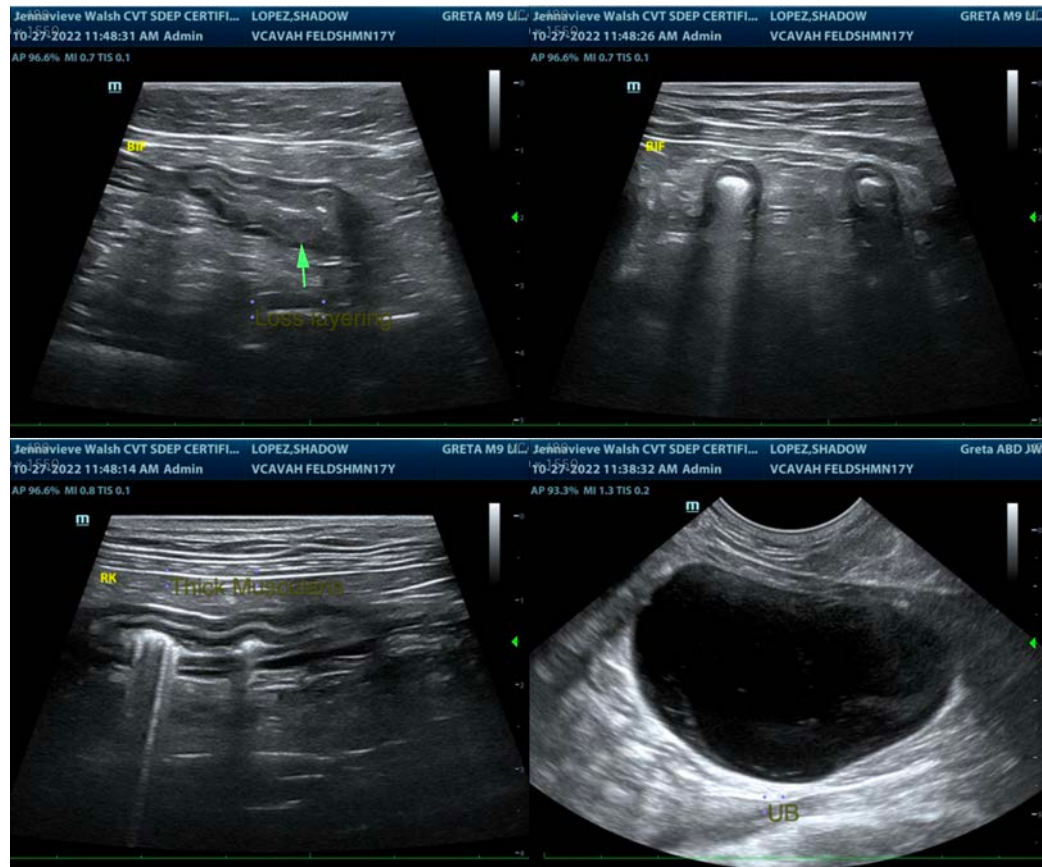
17 Years

**WEIGHT**

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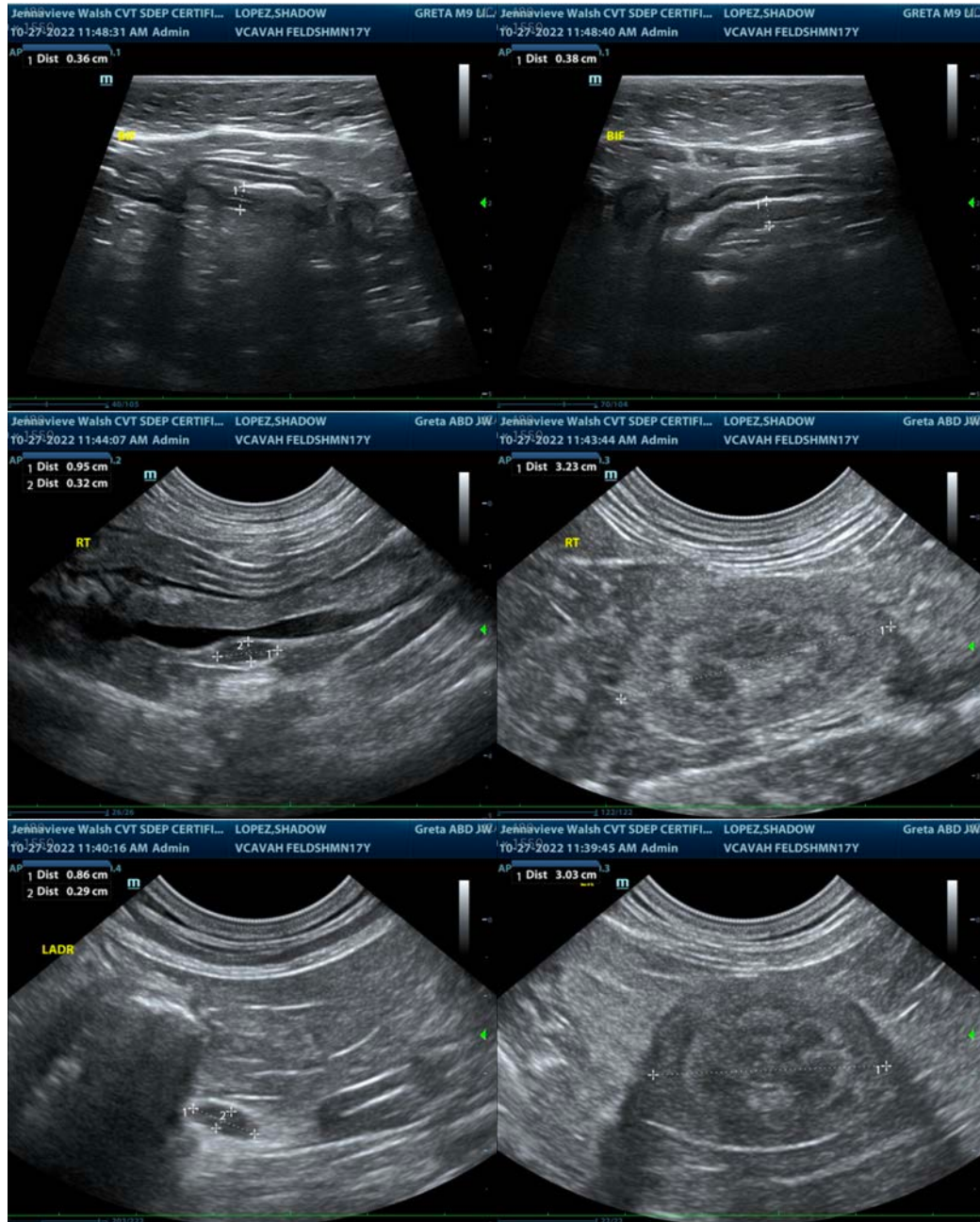
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The information and recommendations provided are based on the images presented by the referring veterinarian/sonographer. No evaluation can be communicated regarding pathology that was not visible in the image/video clips provided.

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.

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