

**DATE PRESENTING CLINICAL SIGNS**

11/1/22 Owner reports more abdominal distension. Calcium 12.4. PU/PD per owner.

PATIENT

Lulu Moore

Current Medications: Vetmedin 1.25mg BID, Zyrtec 2mg SID.
 Lab Results: USG 1.010, Ca 12.4. Hypercalcemia of malignancy panel- pending at Michigan.
 Date of Previous IntraPet Ultrasound: No previous.
 Sedation: Not required to complete full diagnostic ultrasound.
 Stat Report: Not requested.

SPECIES

Canine

BREED

Chihuahua

SEX

Spayed Female

AGE

6/28/09

WEIGHT

10.7 Pounds

INTERPRETED BYBeth Johnson, DVM
DACVIM**IMAGING PERFORMED BY**

Andi Parkinson RDMS

HOSPITAL NAME

Timonium AH

REFERRING VET

Dr. McMichael

INVOICE

42448

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.

The right kidney is normal in size (3.66 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 or infarcts observed. Non-obstructive areas of mineralization/nephroliths are noted.

The left kidney is normal in size (3.62 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 or infarcts observed. Non-obstructive areas of mineralization/nephroliths are noted.

Adrenal Glands

The right adrenal gland is normal in size (1.62 cm long x 0.65 cm at the cranial pole and 0.57 cm at the caudal pole), shape and contour. Corticomedullary structure is unremarkable. Visible surrounding vasculature appears normal.

The left adrenal gland is normal in size (1.63 cm long x 0.46 cm at the cranial pole and 0.60 cm at the caudal pole), shape and contour. Corticomedullary structure is unremarkable. Visible surrounding vasculature appears normal.

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 with mildly irregular margins. Parenchyma is heterogenous characterized by multiple poorly defined hypoechoic nodules within otherwise hyperechoic liver parenchyma. A discrete approximately 0.60 cm hyperechoic nodule is noted. 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. 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 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.

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.

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

Pancreas

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.

Free Abdomen

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

There is no apparent lymphadenopathy noted in these images.

PRIMARY FINDINGS

- **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.
- **Liver nodule** – Differentials for a discrete liver nodule include primarily benign changes such as nodular hyperplasia, fibrosis of an old hematoma, granuloma, etc.; however, while considered less likely, primary hepatic neoplasia, infiltrative round cell neoplasia and metastatic disease can mimic benign lesions and cannot be definitively ruled out.

SECONDARY FINDINGS

- **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.
- Non-obstructive nephrolithiasis bilaterally in the kidneys

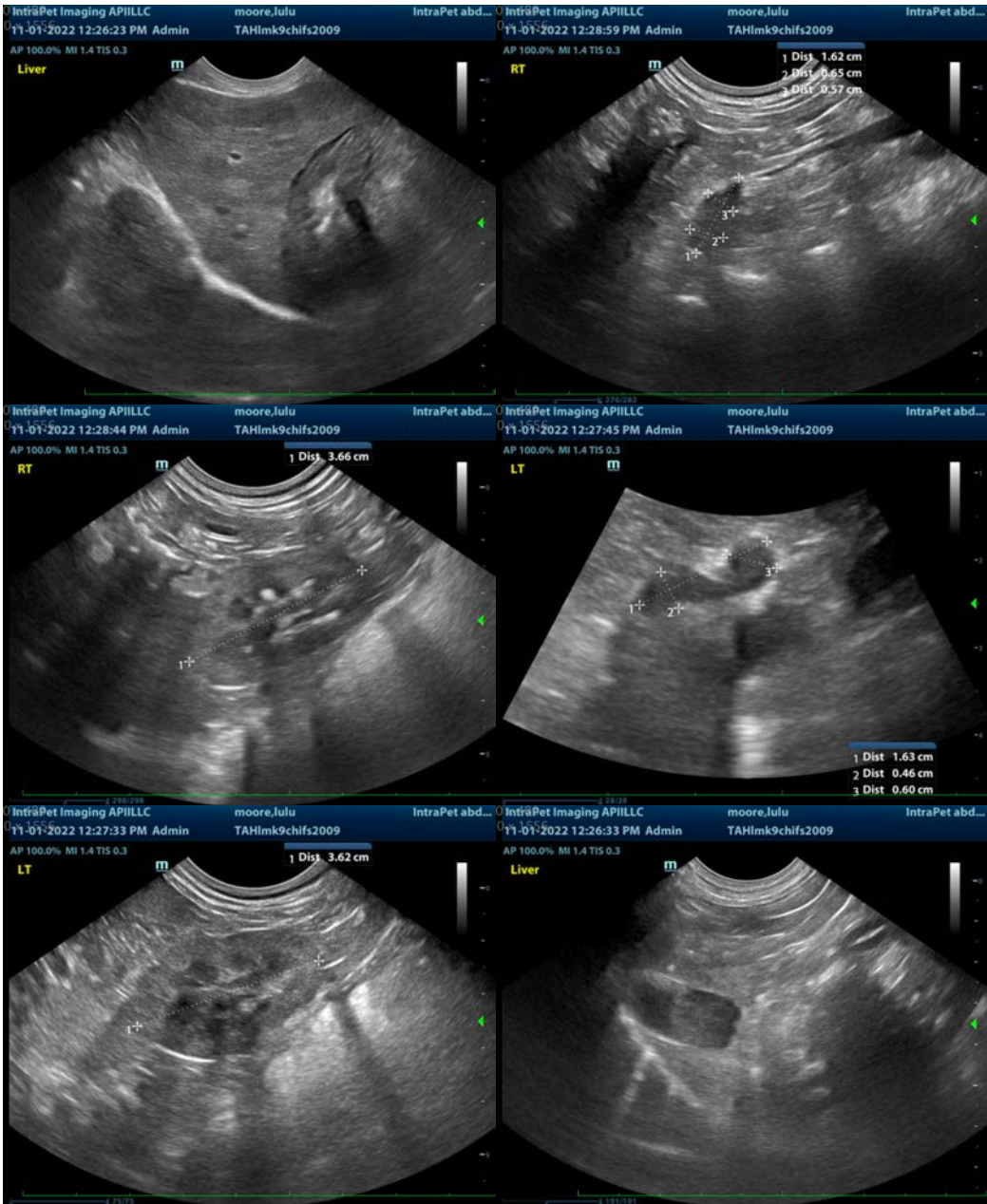
INTERPRETATION OF THE FINDINGS & FURTHER RECOMMENDATIONS

A malignancy panel to assess PTH, PTHrP, and ionized calcium is recommended (and reportedly already pending) for further evaluation of this patient's hypercalcemia, which is likely the cause of the reported PU/PD.

In the meantime, if not already evaluated, a thorough rectal, perianal, and lymph node exam is recommended to look for potential causes of malignancy that could result in hypercalcemia.

While the appearance of the liver trends towards benign in appearance, if the malignancy panel comes back consistent with hypercalcemia of malignancy and there are no physical exam findings to further explore, a fine needle aspirate of the liver could be considered if patient's coagulation status is appropriate.

If not already evaluated, 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.





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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