



DATE PRESENTING CLINICAL SIGNS

12/14/22 Chronic intermittent anorexia. Responsive to monthly Dep SP injections. PLE suspected based off of labs.

PATIENT Current Medications: Prednisone 5mg SID.

Macie Trojanowski

Lab Results: See attached.
Date of Previous IntraPet Ultrasound: No previous.
Sedation: Not required to complete full diagnostic ultrasound.
Stat Report: Not requested.

SPECIES

Canine

BREED

King Charles Cavalier

SEX

Spayed Female

AGE

11/30/11

WEIGHT

16.6 Pounds

INTERPRETED BY

Beth Johnson, DVM
DACVIM

IMAGING PERFORMED BY

Rachel Brillhart RDMS

HOSPITAL NAME

Northwind AH

REFERRING VET

Dr. Wilson

INVOICE

43454

ULTRASONOGRAPHIC EXAMINATION OF THE ABDOMEN

Urinary System

The urinary bladder is moderately distended with anechoic contents. No masses or inflammatory changes. A small 0.1 cm non-obstructive cystolith is noted in the very proximal urethra. The urinary bladder, trigone and visible pelvic urethra are normal in thickness with a smooth mucosal surface.

The right kidney is normal in size (4.67 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 or infarcts observed. Small non-obstructive nephroliths noted.

The left kidney is normal in size (4.65 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. Small non-obstructive nephroliths noted.

Adrenal Glands

The right adrenal gland is normal in size (1.74 cm long x 0.50 cm at the cranial pole and 0.49 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 (1.48 cm long x 0.48 cm at the cranial pole and 0.52 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). An approximately 1.0 cm round, slightly heterogeneous, primarily hypo- to anechoic non-capsule disrupting nodule is noted near the tail of the spleen. 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. 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 (mild). Some of the debris appears to be mineral. Given the appearance and position of the mineral debris, a mineralized polyp or nodule can't be definitively ruled out but is considered less likely based on lack of visible blood flow. 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. Hyperechoic mucosal fogging or speckling is noted. This change is mild but may be partially masked by current steroid administration. The surrounding mesenteric fat is also diffusely hyperechoic. Small intestinal motility appears adequate (1-3 contractions per min). The lumen is empty with no evidence of obstruction or foreign material.

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. No evidence of pericardial effusion in these images.

There is no apparent lymphadenopathy noted in these images.

PRIMARY FINDINGS

- **Mucosal speckling** – Mucosal speckling is often present with inflammatory bowel disease (IBD). It is not specific for type or severity of disease. Mild speckling change can occur as a normal patient variant in the post-prandial state. Enhanced hyperechoic surrounding mesenteric fat is suggestive of an inflammatory response/peritonitis, potentially secondary to the bowel disease. This change is mild but may be partially masked by current steroid administration.
- **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.
- **Hypo to anechoic splenic nodule** – likely represents a benign lesion such as a cyst, hematoma, nodular hyperplasia, extramedullary hematopoiesis, etc., however while considered less likely, infiltrative neoplasia can mimic benign lesions, and cannot be ruled out.

SECONDARY FINDINGS

- Mild non-obstructive nephrolithiasis bilaterally in the kidneys
- **Mild 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. Given the appearance and position of the mineral debris, a mineralized polyp or nodule can't be definitively ruled out but is considered less likely based on lack of visible blood flow.
- Tiny non-obstructive cystoliths in the proximal urethra

INTERPRETATION OF THE FINDINGS & FURTHER RECOMMENDATIONS

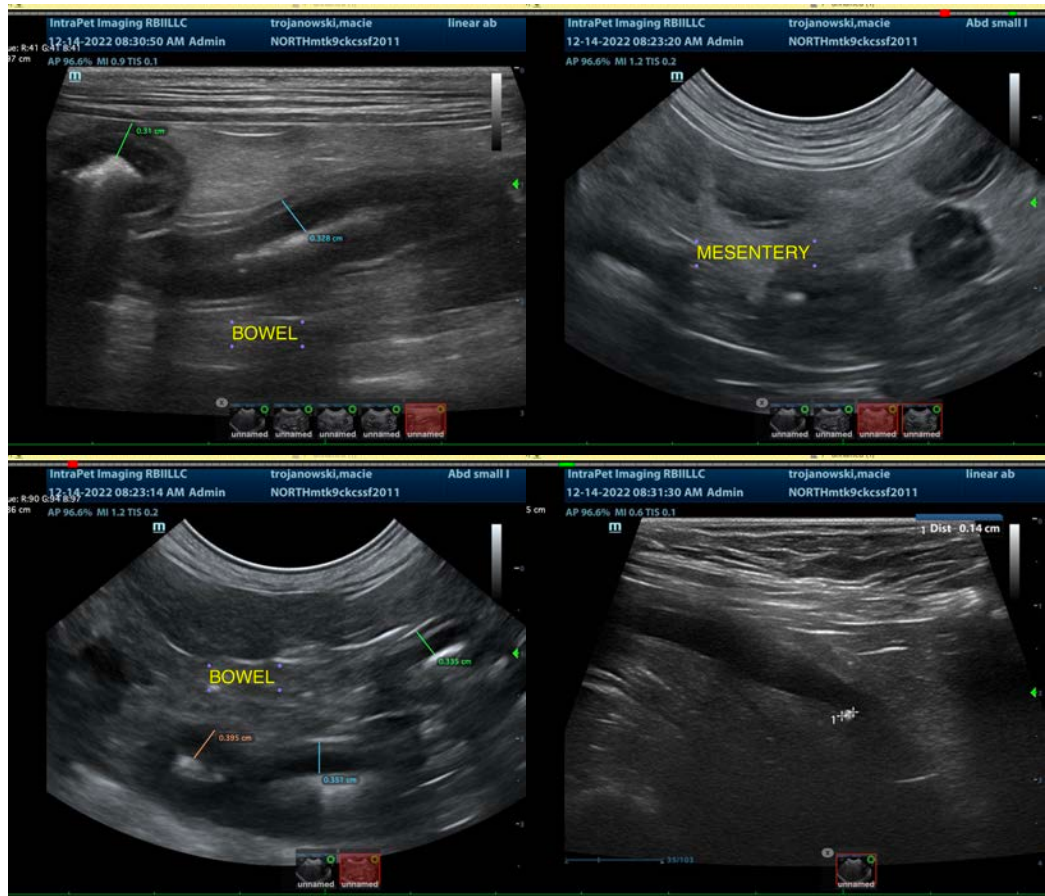
Given this patient's laboratory changes and mild bowel changes, a gastrointestinal malabsorption panel (including cobalamin, folate, TLI and PLI) to Texas A&M GI Laboratory is recommended for further evaluation of GI and pancreatic function.

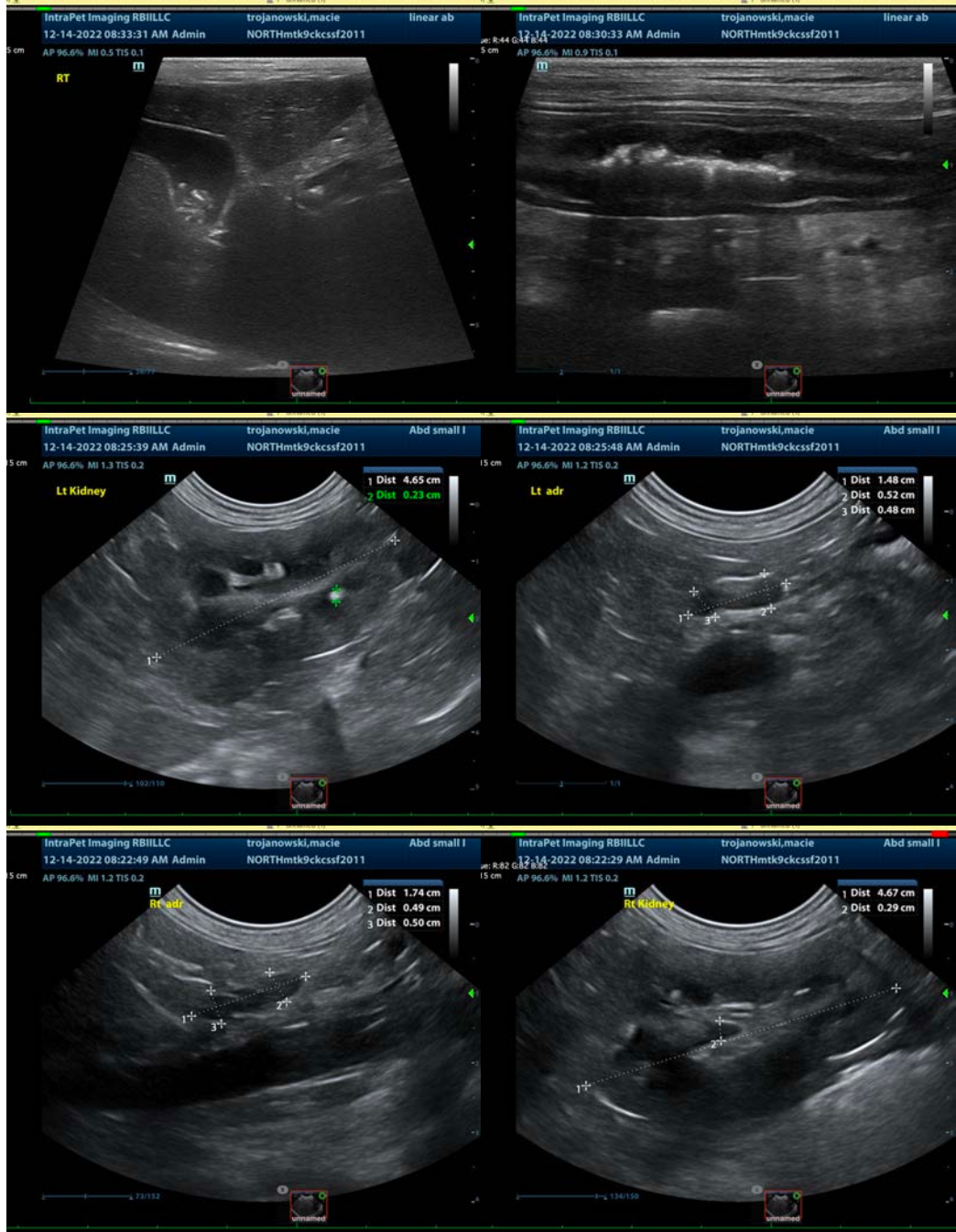
Ideally, biopsies of the GI tract are recommended to definitively diagnose and therefore manage the infiltrative bowel process.

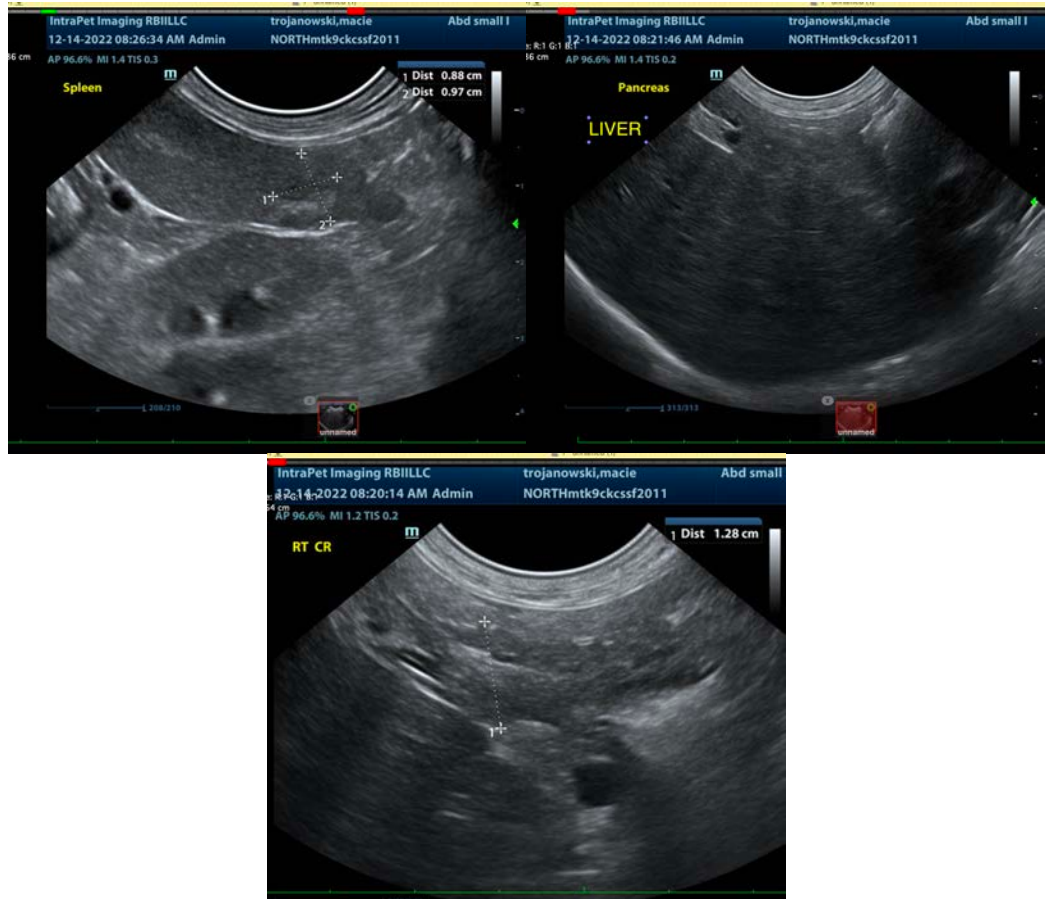
If biopsies cannot be obtained safely due to low albumin or patient stability, etc., empirical therapies could include diet change to an ultra-low fat diet, empirical deworming with a 5 day course of Panacur, cobalamin supplementation (unless cobalamin level is evaluated and supplementation is not warranted) a probiotic and prednisolone (if not contraindicated based on patient contraindications, co-morbidities, etc.). Calcium monitoring, and supplementation if necessary, is also recommended.

If not recently evaluated, to rule out proteinuria as a concurrent source of hypoalbuminemia, 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 liver and splenic pathology both trend in appearance toward benign. However, fine needle aspirates of both could be considered also if patient's coagulation status is appropriate.







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
Beth.Johnson@sonopath.com