

**DATE PRESENTING CLINICAL SIGNS**

3/14/23 Increased liver values.

PATIENT

Maggie Anderson

Current Medications: Denamarin.
 Lab Results: Resting cortisol normal, however both post draws elevated, increased ALKP.
 Date of Previous IntraPet Ultrasound: No previous.
 Sedation: Not required to complete full diagnostic ultrasound.
 Stat Report: Not requested.

SPECIES

Canine

Imaging Performed By: Stephanie Warga RDCS, RVT.

ULTRASONOGRAPHIC EXAMINATION OF THE ABDOMEN**BREED**

Pug

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 (4.51 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.

AGE

10/17/11

The left kidney is normal in size (4.76 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.

WEIGHT

26 Pounds

Adrenal Glands

The adrenal glands are bilaterally plump/swollen in size. Normal shape and contour are maintained without evidence of capsular invasion. However, the cranial pole of the left adrenal gland exhibits mild heterogeneous parenchymal changes and swollen capsular expansion, again without evidence of capsular escape or vascular invasion. Additionally, the cranial pole of the right adrenal gland contains a discrete hyperechoic nodule that does not disrupt normal shape and/or architecture. The right adrenal gland measures 1.91 cm long x 1.2 cm at the cranial pole and 0.60 cm at the caudal pole. The left adrenal gland measures 3.5 cm long x 2.33 cm at the cranial pole and 0.81 cm at the caudal pole.

INTERPRETED BYBeth Johnson, DVM
DACVIM**HOSPITAL NAME**

Banfield Abingdon

Spleen

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). Multifocal well-demarcated hyperechoic homogenous nodules are noted. Splenic vasculature appears normal.

REFERRING VET

Dr. Aylward

INVOICE

45888

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.

Gallbladder is moderately distended with anechoic bile as well as mild 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 visible stomach wall is normal in thickness and layering. The stomach is moderately distended with echogenic non-shadowing luminal contents and gas consistent with normal ingesta. There is no evidence of obstruction, foreign material or infiltrative disease. However, given the reported history of fasting, delayed gastric emptying could be considered. Soft (cloth) fluid absorbing foreign material is considered less likely but cannot be definitively ruled out. If clinical signs are consistent (vomiting, etc.), recommendations include supportive medical care, 24 hours fasting and re-image.

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

- **Bilateral adrenomegaly with bilateral hyperechoic adrenal nodules** – This could represent adrenal hyperplasia secondary to pituitary dependent hyperadrenocorticism, bilateral adrenal adenomas, or a combination of both. Adenocarcinoma or a pheochromocytoma in the left adrenal gland is possible but considered less likely. Unfortunately, the ultrasound alone in this case cannot differentiate between adrenal and pituitary dependent hyperadrenocorticism.
- **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.
- **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.

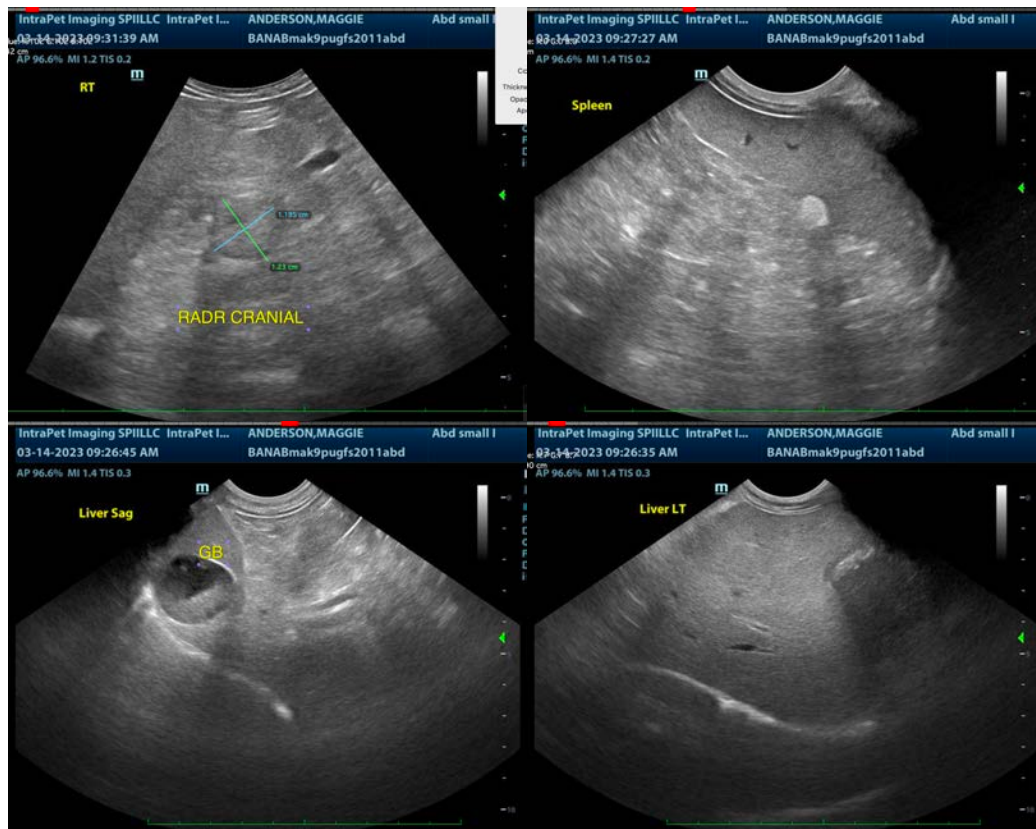
SECONDARY FINDINGS

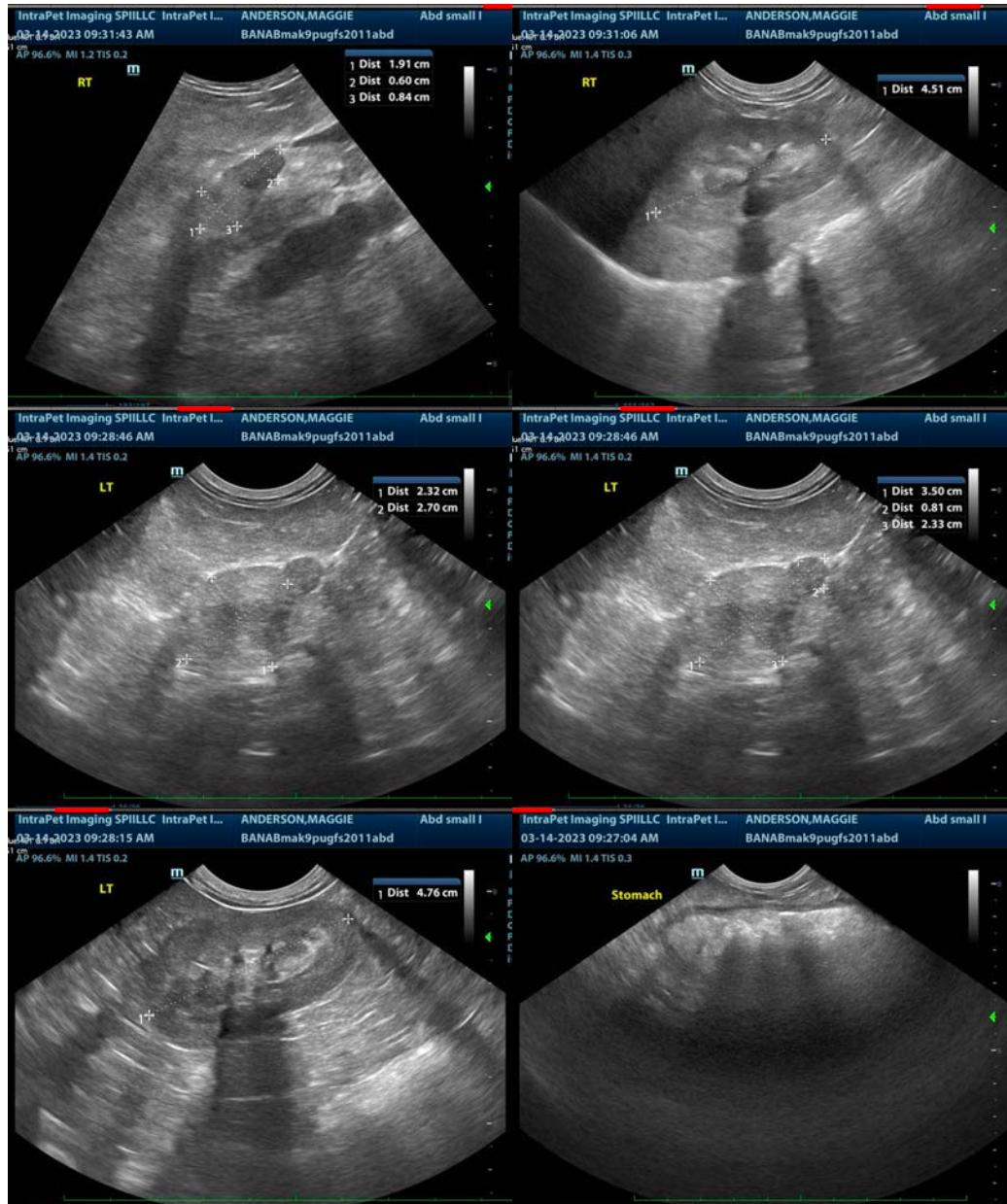
- **Hyperechoic splenic nodules** – most consistent with benign myelolipomas. Other differentials such as fibrosis or calcification caused by old hematomas or infarcts, chronic inflammation, granulomatous disease or metastatic disease cannot be ruled out, but are considered less likely.

INTERPRETATION OF THE FINDINGS & FURTHER RECOMMENDATIONS

Given this patient's diagnosis of hyperadrenocorticism via the low-dose Dexamethasone suppression test but lack of complete differentiation from the low-dose Dexamethasone suppression test or the ultrasound, further differentiation could be pursued with either a high-dose Dexamethasone suppression test or the gold standard, which is an endogenous ACTH level. The reason to differentiate would be to determine whether pursuing an adrenalectomy as a treatment of choice for adrenal dependent hyperadrenocorticism is warranted. If surgery is not an option for any reason, and medical management is going to be pursued, while still valuable, differentiation is less important, and medical management could be pursued with either Trilostane or Mitotane.

In the meantime, if not recently evaluated, a blood pressure is recommended, as is a urinalysis and, if indicated based on urinalysis results, urine culture. If protein is present in an otherwise quiet sediment, protein quantification with a urine protein to creatinine ratio 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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