



PATIENT

Callie Bernard

SPECIES

Canine

BREED

Pit Bull x

SEX

Spayed Female

AGE

9 Years

WEIGHT

57.5 lbs

INTERPRETED BY

Beth Johnson, DVM
DACVIM

IMAGING PERFORMED BY

Rebecca Hamilton

HOSPITAL NAME

Budd Lake Animal
Hospital

REFERRING VET

Dr. Welch

INVOICE

73747

DATE

3/17/26

PRESENTING CLINICAL SIGNS

Chronic GI issues and diarrhea - suspect PLE, pot bellied, overnight

Meds: About to start Prednisone and Visbiome, Clopidrogel, vit B12 inj, Metro)

Abnormal PE/Chem/CBC/UA Results: ALB 1.5, Glob 1.5, TP 3, Neut 12.6, Lymph 0.8, PLT 491, CR 6.3, ALT 327, AST 104, CHOL 66, Lipase 302, Creat kinase 240, 4DX neg X 4

ULTRASONOGRAPHIC EXAMINATION OF THE ABDOMEN

Urinary System

The urinary bladder is adequately 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 is size (6.68 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.

The left kidney is normal is size (6.22 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.

Adrenal Glands

The right adrenal gland is normal in size (1.1 cm at cranial pole and 0.57 cm at caudal pole), shape and overall architecture, echogenicity and echotexture. Visible surrounding vasculature appears normal.

The left adrenal gland is normal in size (0.65 cm at cranial pole and 0.47 cm at caudal pole), shape and overall architecture, echogenicity and echotexture. 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

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.

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.

Gastrointestinal

The visible stomach wall is normal in thickness 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. Hyperechoic mucosal fogging or speckling is noted. Small intestinal motility appears adequate (1-3 contractions per min). The lumen of the small intestine is empty with no evidence of obstruction or foreign material.

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

Pancreas

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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

Free Abdomen

Spayed Female

There is a large amount of free fluid present in these images.

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Medial iliac lymph nodes are prominent in size with swollen capsular contour. Normal elongated shape (length to width ratio) is maintained. There is no loss of parenchymal detail.

ULTRASONOGRAPHIC FINDINGS

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- Marked/significant 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.
- Pancreatic age-related remodeling/Chronic pancreatitis – 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.
- Reactive medial iliac lymph nodes – infiltrative neoplastic disease cannot be ruled out but is considered less likely.
- Large amount of free fluid – likely secondary to patient’s reported hypoalbuminemia, although other pathologic fluid etiologies can’t be definitively ruled out.

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INTERPRETATION OF THE FINDINGS & FURTHER RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on the appearance of the bowel combined with patient’s clinical history, etc., protein losing enteropathy +/- lymphangiectasia is a concern. Therefore:

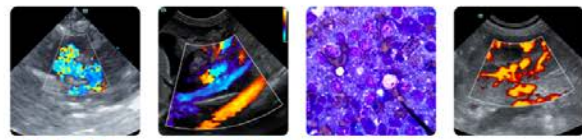
- A gastrointestinal malabsorption panel (including cobalamin, folate, TLI and PLI) to Texas A&M GI Laboratory is recommended for further evaluation of GI and pancreatic function.
- A baseline cortisol is recommended. If baseline cortisol is less than 2, a full ACTH stimulation test is recommended to rule out hypoadrenocorticism.
- If not recently evaluated, ruling out concurrent proteinuria is also recommended via a urinalysis and, if indicated based on urinalysis results, urine culture is recommended. If protein is present in an otherwise quiet sediment, protein quantification with a urine protein to creatinine ratio is recommended.

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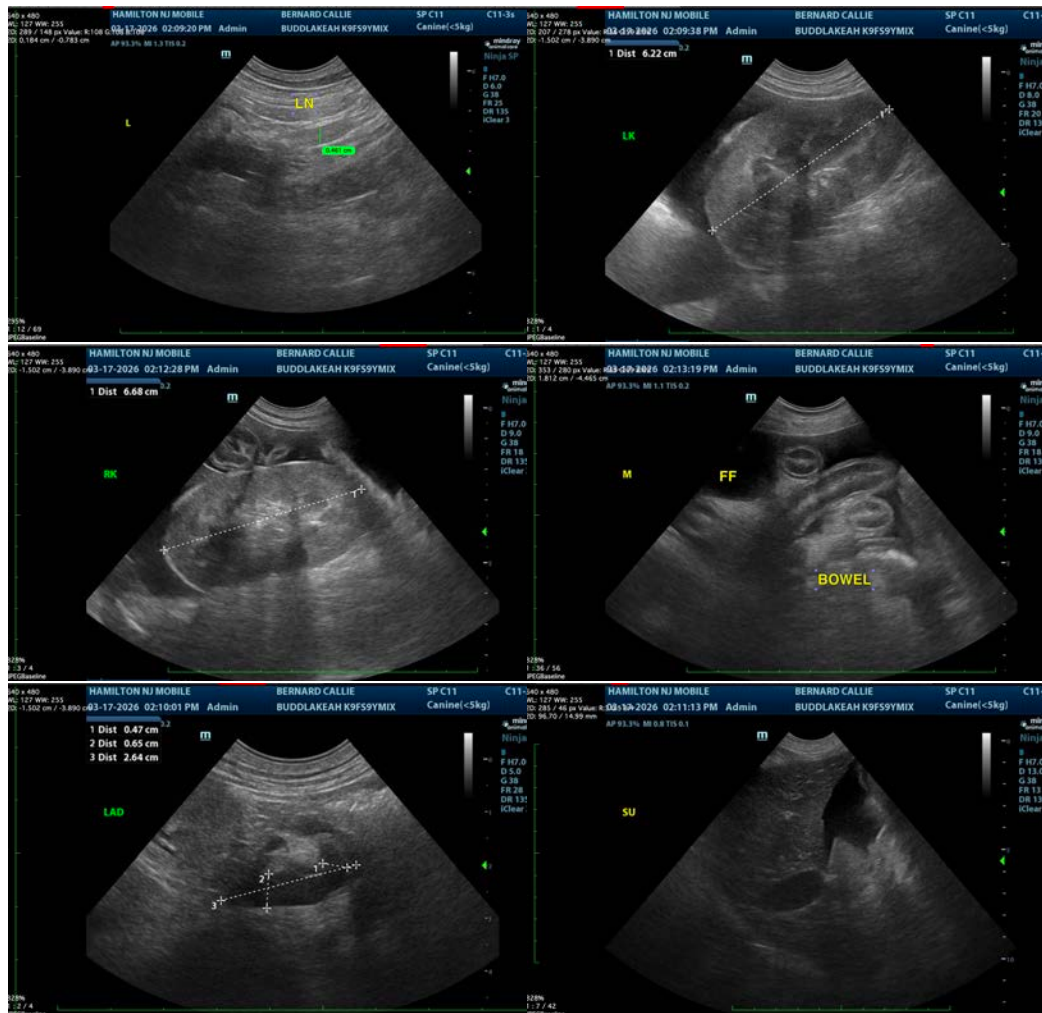
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- Ideally, biopsies of the GI tract are recommended to definitively diagnose and therefore manage the infiltrative bowel process.
- If biopsies cannot be obtained safely due to low albumin or patient stability, etc., empirical therapies could include 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.
- Additionally, if patient's coagulation status is otherwise appropriate, anti-thrombotics such as clopidogrel or low dose aspirin may also be warranted.





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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
info@sonopath.com