

**DATE PRESENTING CLINICAL SIGNS**

3/20/23

History: P takes NSAIDs long term so did bloodwork and ALT was elevated. P is doing well at home with no symptoms of disease.

PATIENT

Oscar Samedi

Current Medications: Meloxicam 60# dose SID.

Lab Results: Inc ALT and AST.

Date of Previous IntraPet Ultrasound: No previous.

SPECIES

Sedation: Not required to complete full diagnostic ultrasound.

Stat Report: Not requested.

Canine

Imaging Performed By: Stephanie Warga RDCS, RVT.

BREED

Labrador

ULTRASONOGRAPHIC EXAMINATION OF THE ABDOMEN**SEX****Urinary System**

Urinary bladder is only mildly distended (empty). Visible contents are anechoic. Urinary bladder wall is unable to be fully assessed for pathology without further distension. No visible masses or cystoliths are observed. The trigone and visible pelvic urethra are normal thickness with a smooth mucosal surface. If there are urinary signs and/or concern for urinary bladder pathology, reassessment after complete filling is recommended.

Neutered Male

AGE

8/14/13

Prostate is normal in size, echotexture and echogenicity for a neutered male.

WEIGHT

61.6 Pounds

Left kidney is normal is size (6.36 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.

INTERPRETED BY

Beth Johnson, DVM

DACVIM

Right kidney is normal is size (5.75 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.

HOSPITAL NAME

Charm City Vet

Adrenal Glands

Left adrenal gland is normal in size (2.67 cm long x 0.47 cm at cranial pole and 0.6 cm at caudal pole), shape and overall architecture, echogenicity and echotexture. Visible surrounding vasculature appears normal.

REFERRING VET

Dr. Karbonik

Right adrenal gland is normal in size (3.28 cm long x 0.6 cm at cranial pole and 0.71 cm at caudal pole), shape and overall architecture, echogenicity and echotexture. Visible surrounding vasculature appears normal.

INVOICE

21731

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). No focal nodules or masses are observed. Splenic vasculature appears normal.

Liver

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.

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 mildly distended with very echogenic reverberation artifact from intraluminal gas. There is no evidence of obstruction, foreign material or infiltrative disease; however, complete visualization of far wall is partially inhibited by gas. Pyloric outflow tract appears patent.

The visible small intestines are normal in wall thickness and layering. 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 and layering. Contents are consistent with normal formed feces and gas.

Pancreas

The observed pancreas appears appropriately isoechoic to surrounding omental fat. Visible capsule is smooth and normal in contour. Visible pancreatic parenchyma is homogenous and unremarkable. There is no visible pancreatic duct dilation. There is no evidence of active peripancreatic inflammation.

Free Abdomen

There is no evidence of peritoneal effusion. There is no apparent lymphadenopathy.

ULTRASONOGRAPHIC FINDINGS

- This is a relatively unremarkable/normal abdomen
- An obvious cause for the reported increased liver enzymes is not identified in these images. Microscopic disease such as Leptospirosis, bacterial cholangiohepatitis, chronic active hepatitis, copper-associated hepatotoxicity, other hepatotoxicity, infiltrative neoplasia (considered unlikely), etc. cannot be definitively ruled out.

INTERPRETATION OF THE FINDINGS & FURTHER RECOMMENDATIONS

Differentials for a primary hepatocellular injury liver enzyme pattern (increased ALT) depend partially on the level of increase. Mild increases (less than 2 times normal) are often a "reactive hepatopathy" or the liver's response to an insult elsewhere in the body including, but not limited to, pancreatitis, gastroenteritis, parasitic disease, dental disease, vacuolar or endocrine hepatopathy from diabetes mellitus or hyperadrenocorticism (steroid-induced), hypoadrenocorticism, certain drugs (e.g. phenobarbital, corticosteroids, azathioprine, etc.), and muscle ALT (more likely if AST and CK concurrently increased).

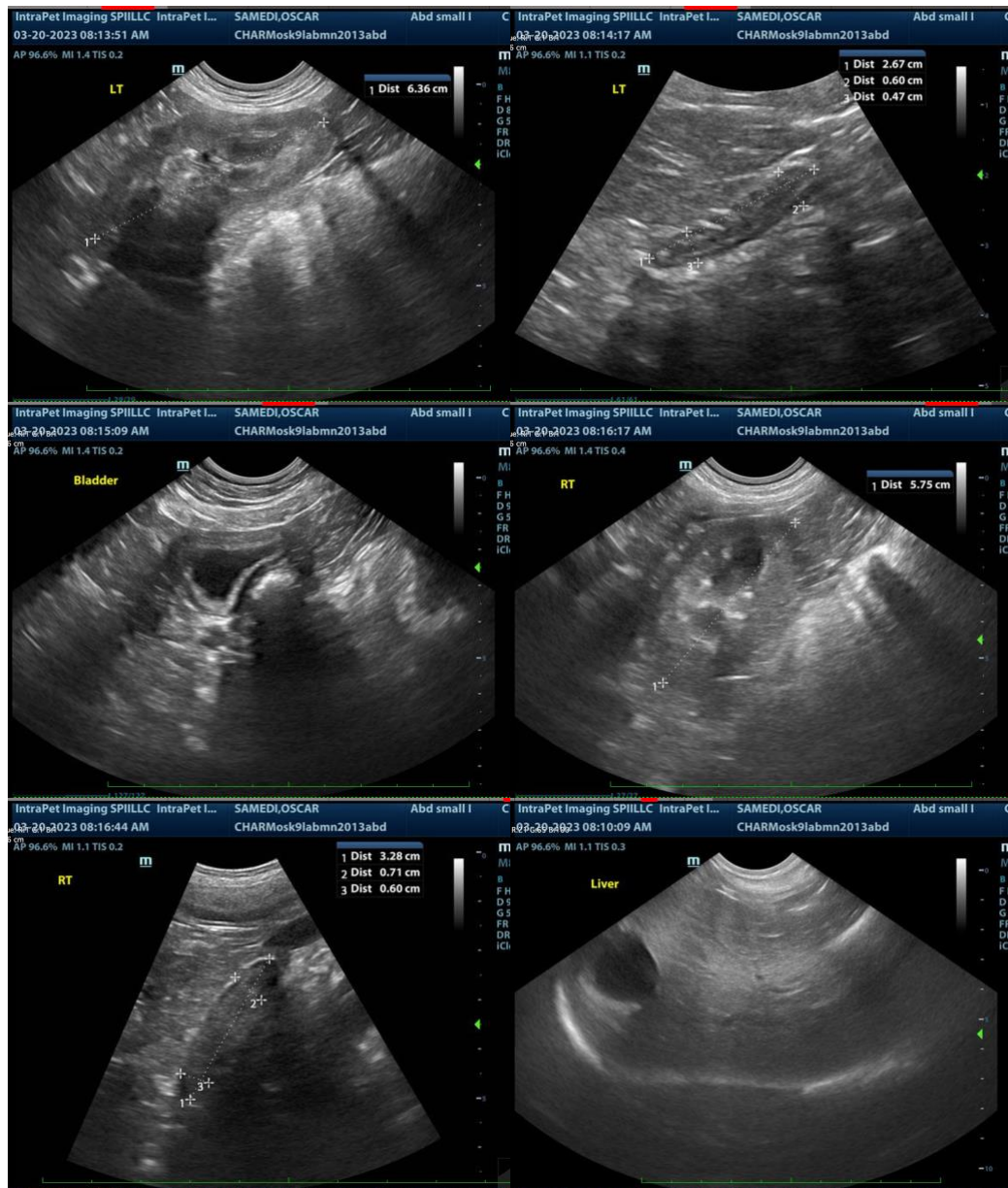
It is a good indicator of active liver damage (cell membrane disruption, cellular necrosis), however, if the value is increased by at least 3-4 times normal. Differentials include infectious disease, including Leptospirosis, inflammatory disease (ie. active hepatitis, copper, other), toxic insult as well as infiltrative neoplasia.

ALT levels vary in cases of vascular anomalies such as microvascular dysplasia and portosystemic shunts (PSS) but are often less significantly increased.

If this patient's Meloxicam can be decreased or discontinued, and patient's quality of life maintained with other pain management entities, including different medications, potentially non-pharmaceutical

interventions, such as physical therapy, acupuncture, dietary therapy, weight loss, fatty acids, etc., then that is recommended, however, if nonsteroidals are necessary to maintain a good quality of life, then that recommendation changes, and the decision should be made clinically. Regardless, hepatic nutraceuticals are recommended.

If nonsteroidals are discontinued, and ALT persists to be high, recommendations include a "antigen search" for sources of reactive hepatopathy, including testing for leptospirosis, or ultimately tissue sampling beginning with a fine needle aspirate of the liver if patients coagulation status is appropriate, or progressing to a liver biopsy, including copper level assessment, may ultimately be warranted.



The information and recommendations provided are based on the images presented by the referring veterinarian. 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

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