



**PATIENT**

Lila Kuyk-White

**SPECIES**

Canine

**BREED**

Beagle

**SEX**

Spayed Female

**AGE**

10 Years

**WEIGHT**

41 Pounds

**INTERPRETED BY**

Beth Johnson, DVM  
DACVIM

**IMAGING PERFORMED BY**

Dr. Jack Reese

**HOSPITAL NAME**

Willow Run VC

**REFERRING VET**

Dr. Jack Reese

**INVOICE**

46296

**DATE**

3/30/23

**PRESENTING CLINICAL SIGNS**

Several month history of enlarging abdomen at home. Owners report they gradually noted P's abdomen becoming more pendulous with increased water intake at home. Concern for Cushing's disease, ascites, organomegaly. Bloodwork and U/S recommended as next steps.

Abnormal PE/Chem/CBC/UA Results: Full bloodwork unremarkable (~10% increase in PTT) Liver aspirates pending

**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 (6.26 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 in size (6.15 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**

Adrenal glands are plump/swollen in size. Normal shape and contour are maintained without evidence of capsular invasion. A hyperechoic nodule is noted in the cranial pole of the right adrenal gland. Nodule does not disrupt normal shape and/or architecture. Visible surrounding vasculature appears normal. The left adrenal gland measures 0.83 cm at the cranial pole and 1.2 cm at the caudal pole. The right adrenal gland measures 1.4 cm at the cranial pole and 0.52 cm at the caudal pole.

**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.

**Liver**

Liver is subjectively enlarged with mildly irregular margins. Parenchyma is markedly 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 moderate 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.



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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.

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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.

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**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.

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**Free Abdomen**

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

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There is no apparent lymphadenopathy noted in these images.

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**PRIMARY FINDINGS**

- **Bilateral adrenomegaly** – consistent with adrenal hyperplasia secondary to pituitary dependent hyperadrenocorticism vs stress or normal variant. Interpret in combination with clinical signs of hyperadrenocorticism.
- **Hyperechoic adrenal nodule (cranial pole right adrenal gland)** – Differentials include primary adrenal cortical adenoma or adenocarcinoma, pheochromocytoma, myelolipoma, adrenal hyperplasia secondary to pituitary disease or metastatic disease. Ultrasound alone cannot differentiate between functional and non-functional nodules and/or between benign and malignant disease. Small nodules without other evidence of abdominal disease (to suggest metastatic disease) and/or clinical signs (to suggest adrenal disease) are most often incidental and should be monitored.
- **Markedly 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.
- **Moderate 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.

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**SECONDARY FINDINGS**

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- **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.



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**INTERPRETATION OF THE FINDINGS & FURTHER RECOMMENDATIONS**

As is reportedly already pending, a liver aspirate should be considered if patient's coagulation status is appropriate.

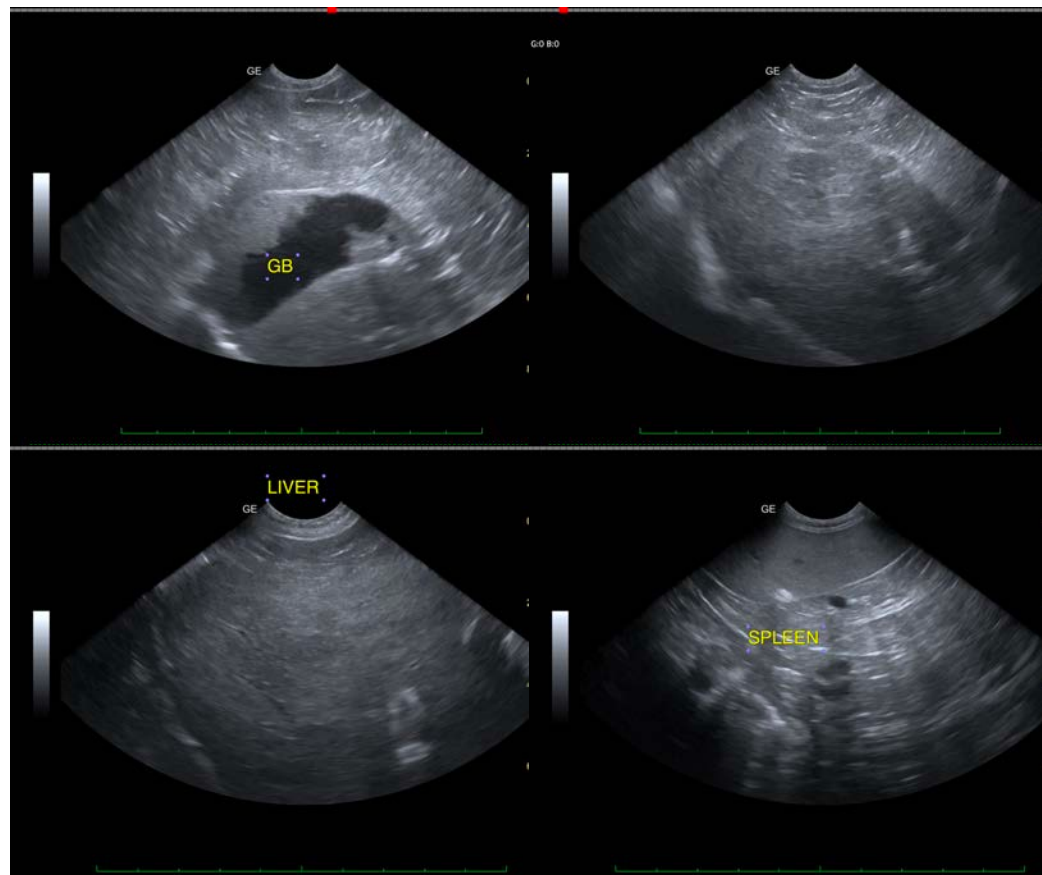
The described adrenal gland, liver and gallbladder changes are all suggestive of hyperadrenocorticism. Given the reported clinical signs also suggestive of hyperadrenocorticism, pending the liver aspirate cytology results, further testing is recommended.

A LDDS test is warranted.

If a LDDS test has been evaluated with a normal result, investigation of possible atypical hyperadrenocorticism with a full ACTH stimulation adrenal panel to the University of Tennessee could be considered.

If not recently evaluated, blood pressure is recommended.

Additionally, if not recently evaluated, a urinalysis and, if indicated based on urinalysis results, urine culture is also 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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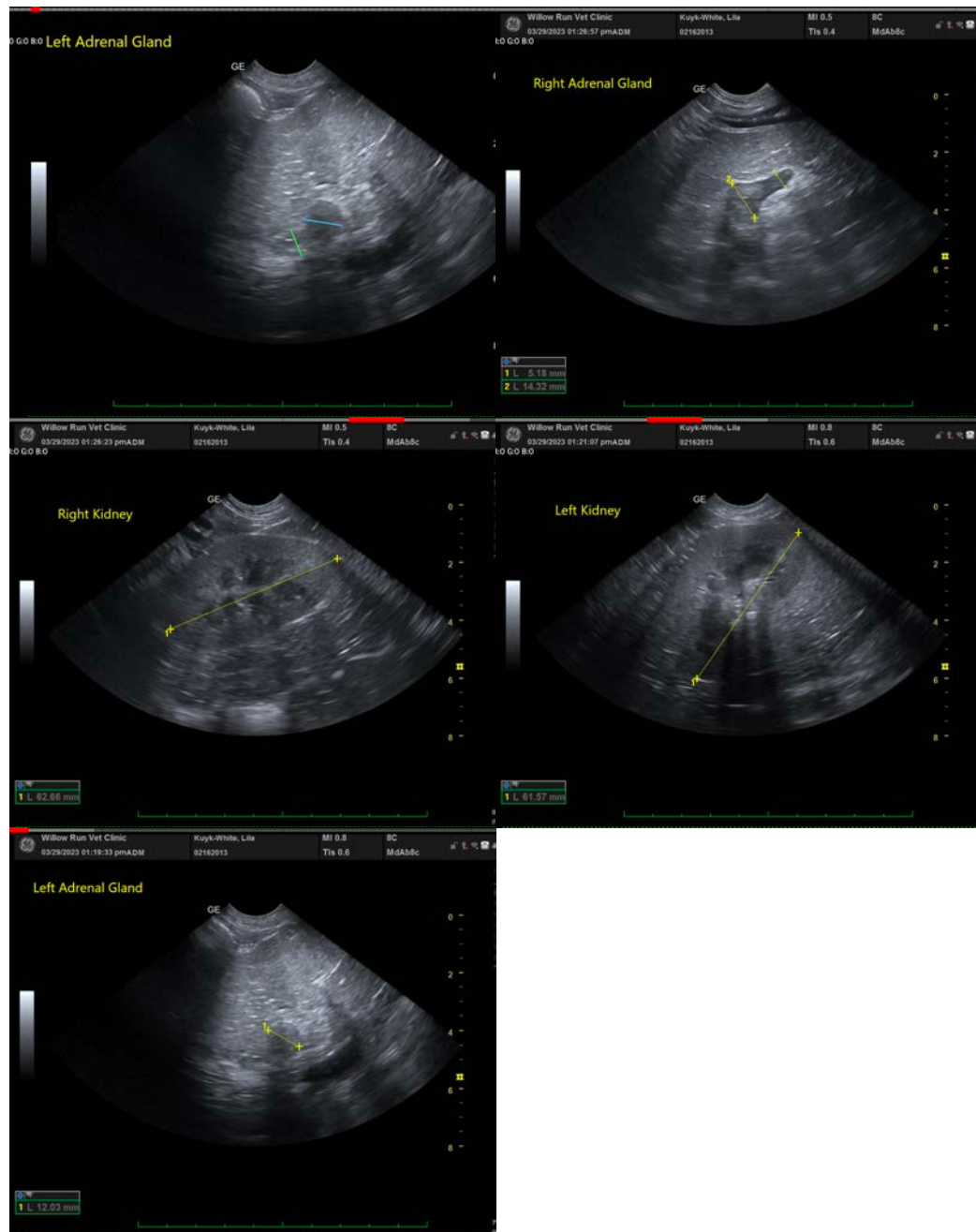
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The information and recommendations provided are based on the images presented by the referring veterinarian/sonographer. No evaluation can be communicated regarding pathology that was not visible in the image/video clips provided.

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**  
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