



PATIENT

Ruger Rush

SPECIES

Canine

BREED

German Shepherd Dog

SEX

Male

AGE

10 Years

WEIGHT

76 lbs

INTERPRETED BY

Beth Johnson, DVM
DACVIM

IMAGING PERFORMED BY

Julia Bakker, DVM

HOSPITAL NAME

Orange Blossom
Veterinary Imaging

REFERRING VET

Randi Gibson, DVM

INVOICE

73456

DATE

3/5/26

PRESENTING CLINICAL SIGNS

Recent weight loss. Currently on Rimadyl for pain management (torn CCL RRL). Unable to palpate prostate on rectal exam. UA shows proteinuria, WBCs 75-100/hpf, 4+ epithelial cells (transitional and squamous). Previous recommendation to check for hyperadrenocorticism.

ULTRASONOGRAPHIC EXAMINATION OF THE ABDOMEN

Urinary System

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

Prostate is normal in size for an intact male, measuring 3.4 cm wide in the transverse view. Parenchyma is diffusely homogenous and relatively hyperechoic. Normal distinct margins and symmetrical bilobed shape are maintained.

The right kidney is normal in size (6.78 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 (7.1 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. Corticomedullary structure is unremarkable. Visible surrounding vasculature appears normal. Left measures 0.97 cm at the cranial pole and 0.76 cm at the caudal pole. Right measures 1.3 cm at the cranial pole and 1.0 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 mildly 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. The wall is smooth without visible thickening. There is no evidence of cystic or CBD dilation. There is no evidence of effusion or inflammation.



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Gastrointestinal

The visible stomach wall is normal in thickness and layering. The lumen of the stomach is mildly distended with a small to moderate amount of echogenic non-shadowing luminal contents and gas consistent with normal ingesta. There is 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. 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 pancreas that is observed 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 visible free peritoneal effusion noted in these images.

There is no apparent pathologic lymphadenopathy noted in these images.

PRIMARY FINDINGS

- Bilateral adrenomegaly – In a patient diagnosed with hyperadrenocorticism, this finding is most consistent with adrenal hyperplasia secondary to pituitary dependent hyperadrenocorticism. This finding can also be seen with stress and/or normal patient variant. Interpret in combination with clinical signs of hyperadrenocorticism and/or other adrenal disease.
- Mildly 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.

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.



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INTERPRETATION OF THE FINDINGS & FURTHER RECOMMENDATIONS

Given patient's reported urinalysis results, a urine culture could be considered if not recently evaluated. Additionally, submission of urine to look for BRAF gene mutation could be considered. There is no visible evidence of uroepithelial neoplasia present in these images at this time, but it can't be definitively ruled out.

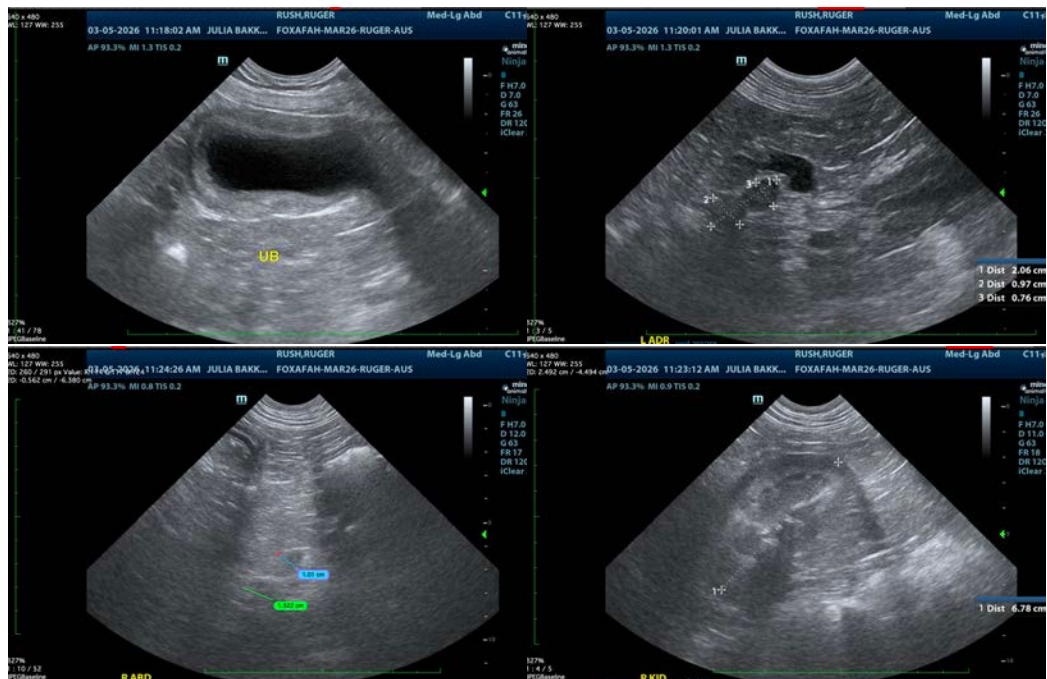
A blood pressure is recommended if not recently evaluated.

Given the mild adrenomegaly, hyperadrenocorticism cannot be ruled out and should be suspected/potentially pursued only if clinical signs are suggestive, which in this case does not sound like the clinical history is consistent with hyperadrenocorticism, as weight loss typically is not the primary presenting complaint. Further evaluation of the weight loss is largely dependent on patient's appetite/daily caloric intake.

If not already evaluated, a thorough evaluation of daily caloric intake is recommended to assure an adequate daily caloric intake is occurring vs an inadvertent reduction in calories due to change in diet and/or feeding schedule, competitive eating environment, etc.

If daily caloric intake is normal or even increased, further evaluation of digestion and absorption is recommended, beginning with a gastrointestinal malabsorption panel (including cobalamin, folate, TLI and PLI) to Texas A&M GI Laboratory for further evaluation of GI and pancreatic function.

Otherwise, in addition to above, a maldigestion panel, three view chest radiographs and full CNS examination is recommended to examine for occult disease that could be responsible for the weight loss. Evaluation for competitive eating environments should also be considered.





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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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