

DATE PRESENTING CLINICAL SIGNS

4/20/23 Acute decrease in appetite- still eating, some days of increased lethargy. ~5lbs weight loss, cranial organomegaly on palpation, bw shows borderline anemia with elevated ALP.

PATIENT

Veruca Benson
Current Medications: None listed.
Lab Results: See attached.
Date of Previous IntraPet Ultrasound: No previous.
Sedation: Torbugesic IV.
Stat Report: Not requested.
Imaging Performed By: Stephanie Warga RDCS, RVT.

SPECIES

Canine

BREED

Labrador Retriever X

SEX

Spayed Female

AGE

11/1/12

WEIGHT

55.5 Pounds

INTERPRETED BY

Beth Johnson, DVM
DACVIM

HOSPITAL NAME

Bayside AMC

REFERRING VET

Dr.

INVOICE

46825

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 (5.93 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 (5.87 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 largely normal in size, shape and contour. Some parenchymal heterogeneity is present without concerning capsular distortion. These changes are likely normal for this age but should be monitored if there is any suspicion of adrenal disease. The right adrenal gland measures 2.8 cm long x 0.70 cm at the cranial pole and 0.82 cm at the caudal pole. The left adrenal gland measures 2.44 cm long x 0.69 cm at the cranial pole and 0.94 cm at the caudal pole.

Spleen

Spleen is subjectively mildly large in size with a mildly swollen but smooth capsule. Parenchyma is normal and homogenous in echogenicity and echotexture. No focal nodules or masses are observed. Splenic vasculature appears normal.

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 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.

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.

ULTRASONOGRAPHIC FINDINGS

- **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 subjective hypersplenism** – can be associated with congestion caused by sedation (if sedated) but can also be associated with diffuse infiltrative disease. Both benign conditions such as extramedullary hematopoiesis, lymphoid hyperplasia, as well as infiltrative neoplastic diseases such as round cell neoplasia should be considered.
- **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.

INTERPRETATION OF THE FINDINGS & FURTHER RECOMMENDATIONS

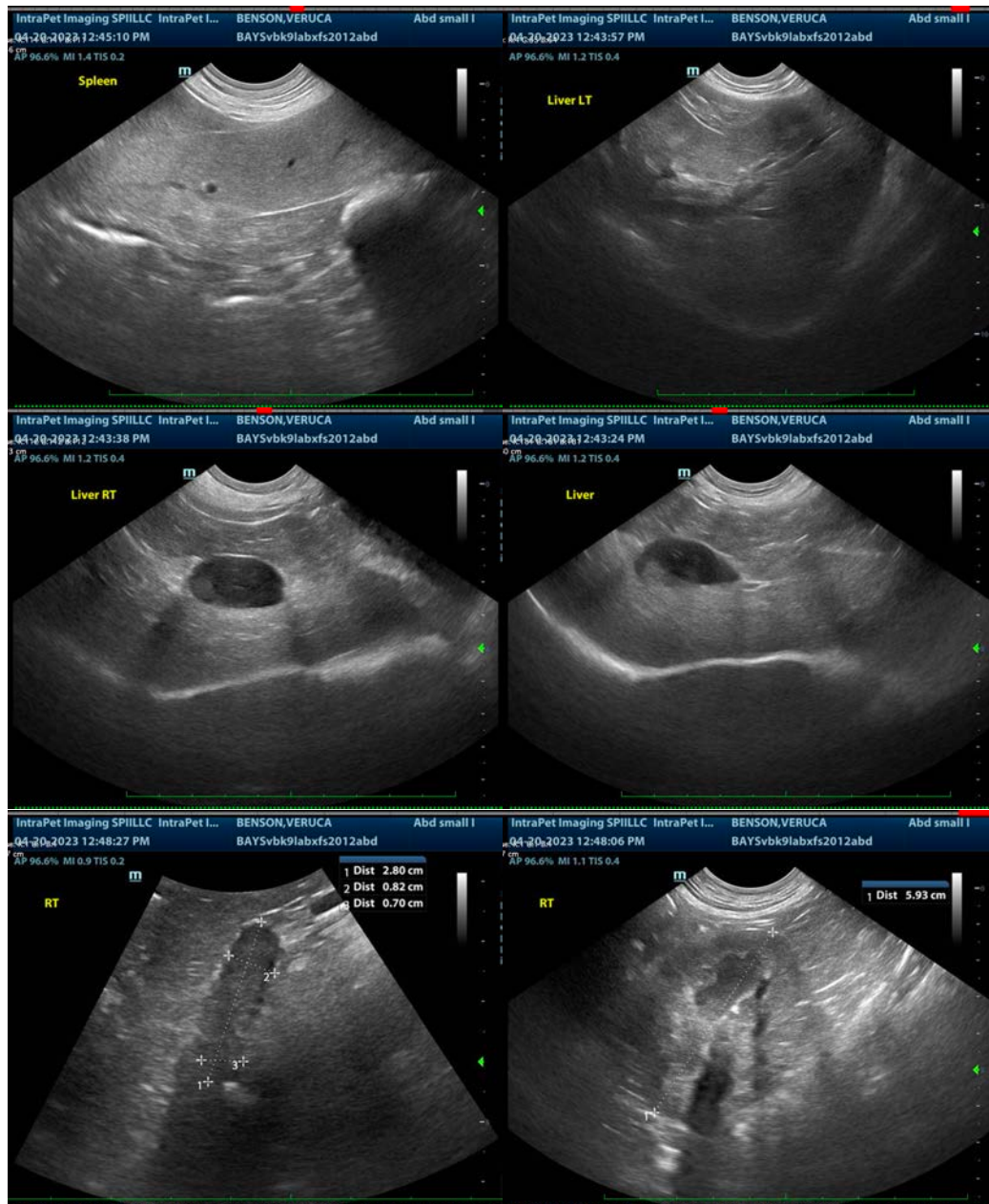
There is not an ultrasonographically definitive explanation for this patient's reportedly decreased appetite and/or anemia. While both the spleen and liver trend in appearance toward benign, fine needle aspirates of both organs could be considered if patient's coagulation status is appropriate, to look for evidence of infiltrative neoplasia.

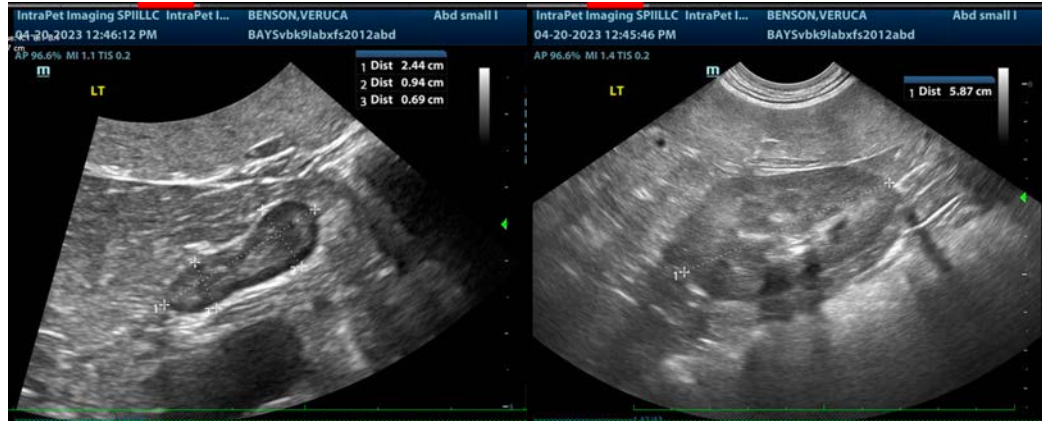
In the meantime, given the decreased appetite and anemia, supportive/symptomatic therapy for possible mild gastrointestinal bleed could be considered with gastroprotectants, as well as empirical deworming with a 5-day course of Panacur while treating supportively with antiemetics, appetite stimulants, etc.

Close monitoring of the anemia is recommended, as it is mild right now, to help determine improvement versus progression, etc.

Finally, both pancreatic and/or gastrointestinal disease remain differentials in any patient with gastrointestinal signs, despite a normal ultrasound. Therefore, the following could be considered:

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.





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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