



PATIENT

Gia Conkling

SPECIES

Canine

BREED

Mix

SEX

Spayed Female

AGE

13

WEIGHT

50

INTERPRETED BY

Beth Johnson, DVM
DACVIM

IMAGING PERFORMED BY

Christensen

HOSPITAL NAME

Tranquility VC

REFERRING VET

Christensen

INVOICE

22188

DATE

4/24/23

PRESENTING CLINICAL SIGNS

History: Poor mobility and recent elevation in liver enzymes. No other clinical signs.

Abnormal PE/Chem/CBC/UA Results: ALT= 505, Alk-Phos= 3320

ULTRASONOGRAPHIC EXAMINATION OF THE ABDOMEN

Urinary System

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.

Left kidney is normal in size (7.37 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.

Right kidney is normal in size (7.65 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. Right adrenal gland measures 1.75 cm long x 0.55 cm at cranial pole and 0.72 cm at caudal pole. Left adrenal gland measures 2.7 cm long x 0.89 cm at cranial pole and 0.82 cm at 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). No focal nodules or masses are observed. Splenic vasculature appears normal.

Liver

Liver is subjectively enlarged with mildly irregular margins. Parenchyma is heterogenous characterized by multiple poorly defined hypoechoic nodules within otherwise hyperechoic liver parenchyma. Visible vasculature and biliary tree appear normal without distension or congestion. In the left liver, there is a 1.5 cm in diameter cystic nodule.

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.

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.

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.



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

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Pancreas

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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.

Canine

There is no visible pancreatic duct dilation. There is no evidence of active peripancreatic inflammation.

BREED

Free Abdomen

Mix

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

ULTRASONOGRAPHIC FINDINGS

SEX

- Heterogenous Liver with a cystic nodule in the left liver that trends in appearance toward benign – 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.

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- 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.

WEIGHT

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- Age-related adrenal gland changes

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INTERPRETATION OF THE FINDINGS & FURTHER RECOMMENDATIONS

Beth Johnson, DVM
DACVIM

Differentials for a primary cholestatic liver enzyme pattern (increased ALP) are vast and non-specific. Differentials include, but are not limited to, benign nodular hyperplasia which occurs in 70% of older dogs and often does not result in an abnormal ultrasound, reactive or idiopathic/vacuolar hepatopathy, cholestasis and/or hyperadrenocorticism as well as many chronic non-hepatobiliary diseases such as chronic infections/inflammation from dental disease, IBD, neoplasia, hyperlipidemia, hypothyroidism, chronic pancreatitis, chronic stress, etc.

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There is no ultrasonographic evidence of cholestasis. Adrenocortical testing such as a low dose dexamethasone suppression test could be considered if clinical signs of hyperadrenocorticism are present. Ursodiol could be considered if gallbladder sludge is noted. A fine needle aspirate of the liver could be considered if patient's coagulation status is appropriate. Otherwise, recommendations include addressing any other concurrent disease and monitoring. If values are progressive, recheck imaging is recommended.

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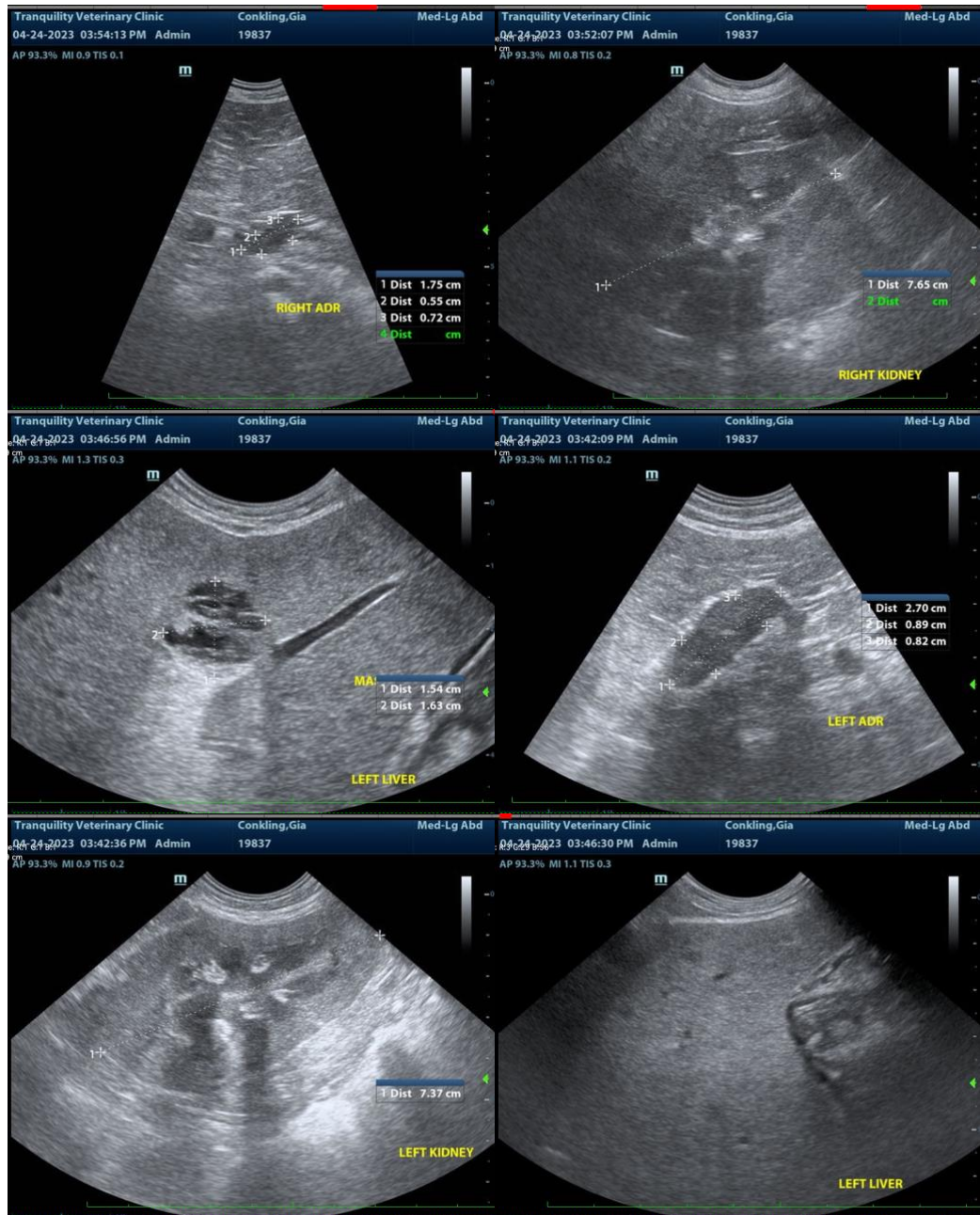
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The information and recommendations provided are based on the images presented by the referring veterinarian. No evaluation can be communicated regarding pathology that was not visible in the image/video clips provided.

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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