

**PATIENT**

Birdy Robertson

**SPECIES**

Feline

**BREED**

DSH

**SEX**

Spayed Female

**AGE**

9 Years

**WEIGHT**

7 Pounds

**INTERPRETED BY**

Beth Johnson, DVM,  
 DACVIM (SAIM)

**IMAGING PERFORMED BY**

Amanda Stewart

**HOSPITAL NAME**

The Maples AH

**REFERRING VET**

Dr. Kazienko

**INVOICE**

36837

**DATE**

4/27/26

**PRESENTING CLINICAL SIGNS**

History: Weight loss- Dec 2025: 8.8lbs, April 13: 7.2lbs, April 27: 7.0lbs. Owner changed food earlier this year. Sometimes after Birdy eats she sits hunched up as if she is sore. Vomited white liquid-empty stomach April 20. Birdy wants to eat & will go to the other cats bowls when she is done. No vomiting or diarrhea. Bright & alert. No abnormalities on abdominal palpation.

**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.

Kidneys are bilaterally small, irregular and diffusely echogenic with decreased corticomedullary distinction and poor visualization of internal architecture. There is no pyelectasia noted and no mineral is observed. The left kidney measures 3.01 cm. The right kidney measures 2.84 cm.

*Adrenal Glands*

Left adrenal gland is normal in size (0.32 cm), shape and overall architecture, echogenicity and echotexture. Visible surrounding vasculature appears normal.

Right adrenal gland is normal in size (0.35 cm), shape and overall architecture, echogenicity and echotexture. Visible surrounding vasculature appears normal.

*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*

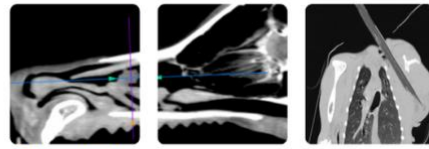
Liver is subjectively normal in size with normal smooth curvilinear peripheral contour. Parenchyma is appropriately hypoechoic to the spleen in echogenicity and appropriately mildly coarse and homogenous in echotexture. No focal lesions are observed. Visible vasculature and biliary tree appear normal 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 empty with no evidence of obstruction, foreign material or infiltrative disease. Pyloric outflow tract appears patent.

The visible small intestine demonstrates areas of mildly thick muscularis layer relative to mucosa (disruption of the normal 1:3 muscularis:mucosa ratio). Small intestinal submucosa is slightly irregular, thick and hyperechoic, without evident loss of layering appreciated. The lumen of the small intestine is empty with no evidence of obstruction or foreign material.



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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.

***Pancreas***

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Pancreas is prominent (enlarged) in size, hypoechoic to surrounding tissue and has a mildly irregular undulating contour. Parenchyma is coarse with mixed echogenic remodeling noted. No pancreatic duct dilation is noted.

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***Free Abdomen***

There is no visible free peritoneal effusion noted in these images.

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There is no apparent pathologic lymphadenopathy noted in these images.

**ULTRASONOGRAPHIC FINDINGS**

**AGE**

9 Years

- Very mild/subtle inflammatory bowel disease (IBD) pattern – Thick muscularis has been reported with infiltrative bowel disease including both benign inflammatory disease as well as infiltrative neoplasia such as lymphoma. No loss of layering or distinct characteristics of malignancy are present. Therefore, differentials cannot be further ranked without tissue sampling. This change could be in part normal patient variant in a senior cat.
- Concurrent chronic low-grade smoldering pancreatitis can't be ruled out and should be suspected in the face of appropriate clinical signs.
- Mild/subtle bilateral chronic kidney disease changes.

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**INTERPRETATION OF THE FINDINGS & FURTHER RECOMMENDATIONS**

Given patients reported weight loss in the face of a diet change, 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.

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If not recently evaluated, a general metabolic health screen (CBC, chemistry panel with electrolytes and urinalysis) is recommended.

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Especially if patient's caloric intake is appropriate or even increased, T4 +/- free T4 is recommended as is a gastrointestinal malabsorption panel (including cobalamin, folate, TLI and PLI) to Texas A&M GI Laboratory, for further evaluation of GI and pancreatic function.

**REFERRING VET**

Dr. Kazienko

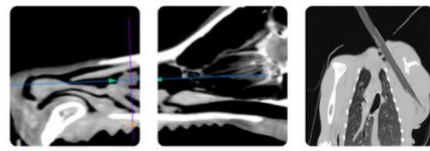
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Ultimately, given the subtle bowel changes, this could be emerging bowel disease, and biopsies, being sure to include ileum, if possible, may be indicated for definitive diagnosis and therefore to further guide medical management, but further recommendations, both treatment and diagnostic, are largely dependent on results.

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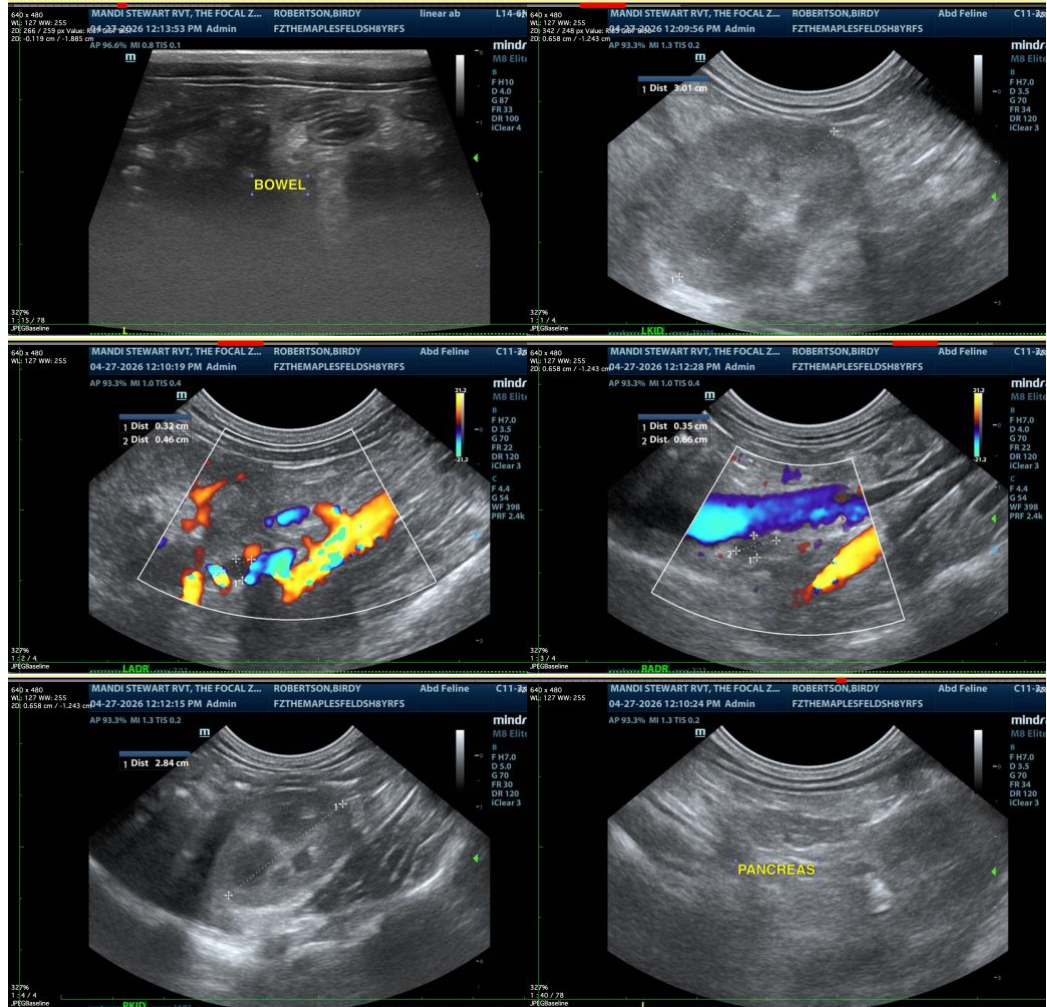
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The information and recommendations provided are based on the images presented by the referring veterinarian/sonographer. No evaluation can be communicated regarding pathology that was not visible in the image/video clips provided.

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**

info@sonopath.com