



PATIENT

Harley Hornsby

SPECIES

Feline

BREED

Siamese

SEX

FS

AGE

13 years

WEIGHT

8 lbs

INTERPRETED BY

Beth Johnson, DVM
DACVIM

IMAGING PERFORMED BY

Dr. Danielle Shemanski

HOSPITAL NAME

Western New York
Veterinary Services

REFERRING VET

Dr. Morgan Busby

INVOICE

11814

DATE

4/28/2026

PRESENTING CLINICAL SIGNS

Concern for neoplasia (big gallbladder), increased gallbladder enzymes and weight loss. Stage 2 CKD, markedly elevated GGT (158, RR: 0-4). GGT was 0 in Oct 2025. ABD US in Nov 2025 showed gallbladder debris but normal liver and biliary tree. Several SI segments had thickened submucosal layer. Harley has experienced significant weight loss recently. For two weeks, she has vomited every 2-3 weeks, sometimes after eating, though wet food is tolerated better than dry. Her appetite is diminished; she eats small amounts before walking away. Bowel movements are daily but often consist of small nuggets without straining; she has not defecated today. Harley has a lifelong history of hairballs and occasionally chews plastic but does not ingest it. **CLINICAL SIGNS:** Chronic intermittent vomiter, significant weight loss.

Abnormal PE/Chem/CBC/UA Results: Previous Ultrasound Findings (November 2025) Abdominal ultrasound in November 2025 showed gallbladder debris, but normal liver and biliary tree. Several SI segments had a thickened submucosal layer. Conclusion: Mild enteropathy, likely enteritis or mild IBD.

ULTRASONOGRAPHIC EXAMINATION OF THE ABDOMEN

Urinary System

The 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 overall normal in size and shape with smooth peripheral margination. A normal 1:3 cortex to medulla ratio is maintained. The medulla and cortices are uniform in texture with some mild increased cortical echogenicity and mild loss of corticomedullary distinction, expected in this age patient. There is no evidence of pyelectasia, mineral or infarcts observed. Left kidney measures 3.45 cm, and the right kidney measures 3.78 cm.

Adrenal Glands

The right adrenal gland is normal in size (0.43 cm), shape and overall architecture, echogenicity and echotexture. Visible surrounding vasculature appears normal.

The left adrenal gland is normal in size (0.29 cm), shape and overall architecture, echogenicity and echotexture. Visible surrounding vasculature appears normal.

Spleen

The 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

The 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.



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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 stomach is moderately distended with echogenic non-shadowing luminal contents and gas consistent with normal ingesta. There is no evidence of obstruction, foreign material or infiltrative disease. If patient was appropriately fasted, delayed gastric emptying could be considered. Non-shadowing foreign material is considered less likely but cannot be definitively ruled out.

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If clinical signs are consistent (vomiting, etc.), recommendations include supportive medical care, 24 hours fasting and re-image.

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The visible small intestine demonstrates areas of moderate to severely 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 mildly distended with echogenic non-shadowing luminal contents and gas consistent with normal ingesta. There is no evidence of obstruction or foreign material noted.

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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 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.

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Free Abdomen

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

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Mesenteric lymph nodes are prominent in size with swollen capsular contour. Normal elongated shape (length to width ratio) is maintained. There is no loss of parenchymal detail.

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PRIMARY FINDINGS

- Mild 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.
- The contents of the gastrointestinal tract are most consistent with normal ingesta/gas/chyme, which is concerning for a post -prandial study. Having said that, if patient was adequately fasted, some mild ileus, delayed gastric emptying, etc., potentially secondary to other underlying metabolic or gastrointestinal disease can't be ruled out. Foreign material, especially within the stomach is possible but there's no definitive shadowing, obstructive pattern, etc. to indicate that.

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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, however, it can also be associated with hepatobiliary disease in cats 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.
- Mildly reactive mesenteric lymph nodes – infiltrative neoplastic disease cannot be ruled out but is considered less likely.

SECONDARY FINDINGS

- Mild age-related kidney changes.

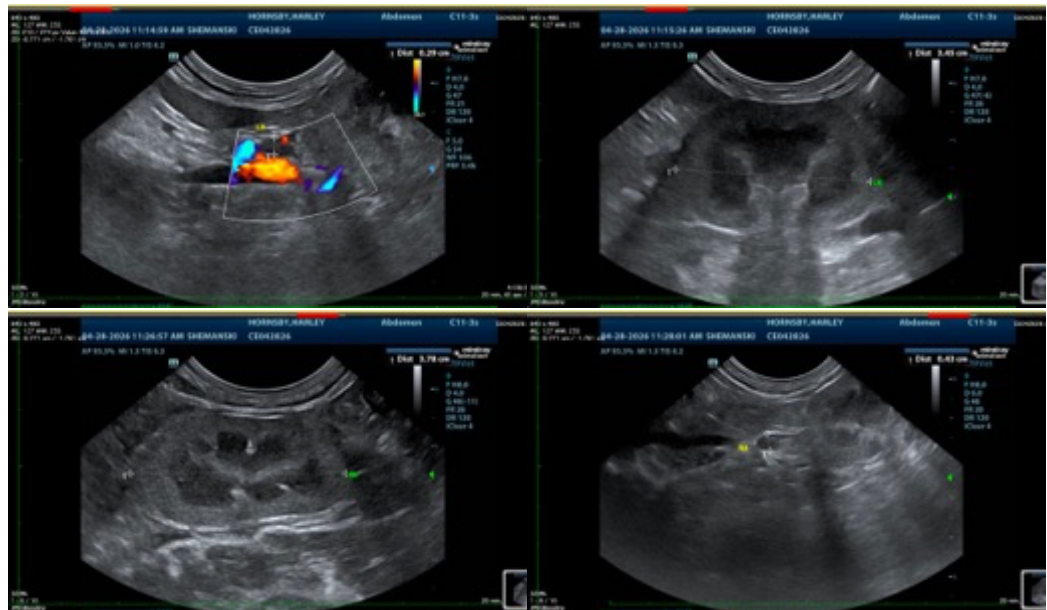
INTERPRETATION OF THE FINDINGS & FURTHER RECOMMENDATIONS

If not recently evaluated, 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.

A fecal enteropathogen PCR panel to Texas A&M GI Laboratory could be considered for further evaluation of possible infectious disease. Contact lab for recommendations on how long to discontinue antibiotics (if indicated) prior to obtaining a stool sample for submission.

Reassessment of the gastrointestinal tract following an additional 12-24 hours of fasting could be considered.

Ultimately, if clinical signs persist without a definitive diagnosis, biopsies of the GI tract, being sure to include ileum, if possible, may be necessary for a definitive diagnosis and therefore to further guide medical management.





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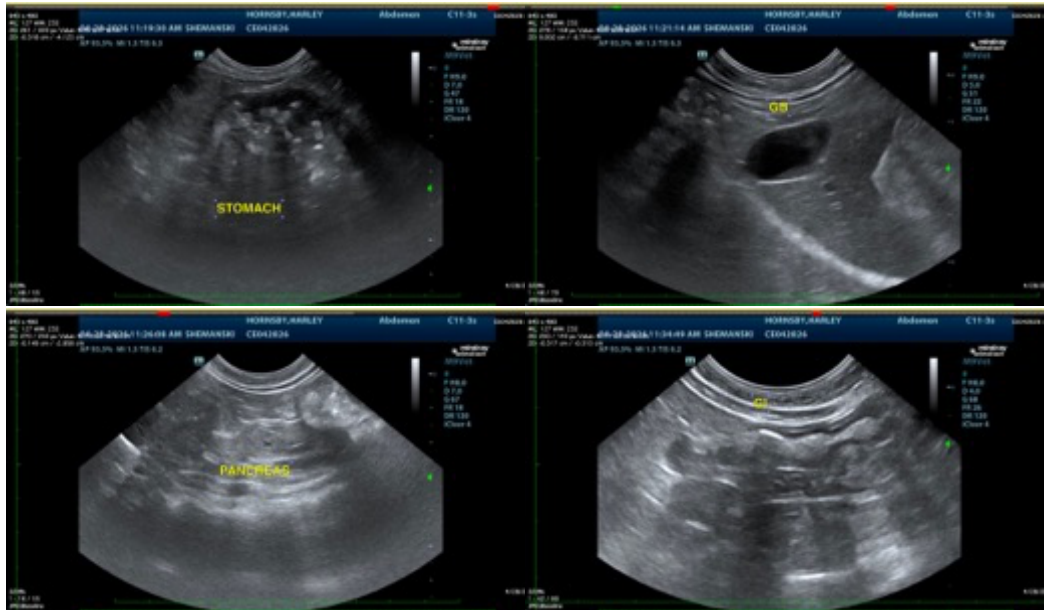
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The information and recommendations provided are based on the images presented by the referring veterinarian/sonographer. No evaluation can be communicated regarding pathology that was not visible in the image/video clips provided.

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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