



PATIENT

Benny Henschel

SPECIES

Canine

BREED

Labrador

SEX

Intact male

AGE

8 years

WEIGHT

60 lbs

INTERPRETED BY

Beth Johnson, DVM
DACVIM

IMAGING PERFORMED BY

Dr Julia Bakker

HOSPITAL NAME

Orange Blossom
Veterinary Imaging

REFERRING VET

Dr. Zachary Pearl

INVOICE

11623

DATE

4/6/2026

PRESENTING CLINICAL SIGNS

Presenting for diarrhea, hyporexia, lethargy, and abdominal distension. Abdomen was distended and patient was tachycardic with muffled heart sounds on exam. Radiographs (thoracic and abdominal): Revealed a globoid cardiac silhouette consistent with pericardial effusion. No evidence of intestinal obstruction was noted. Bloodwork: Results did not show evidence of anemia or significant inflammation. Focused Assessment with Sonography for Trauma (FAST) scan: Confirmed significant pericardial effusion and a large volume of free fluid in the abdomen (ascites). Echocardiogram (comprehensive): Confirmed pericardial effusion. No obvious cardiac mass was identified, though a small or right atrial mass cannot be definitively ruled out. Abdominal effusion was straw colored. Pericardial effusion was hemorrhagic (drained 300mL)

ULTRASONOGRAPHIC EXAMINATION OF THE ABDOMEN

Urinary System

Urinary bladder is adequately distended with primarily anechoic contents and occasional echogenic non-shadowing debris. Apical urinary bladder wall is diffusely thick (0.74 cm). Mucosa is hyperechoic and irregular. No masses or cystoliths are observed. The trigone and visible pelvic urethra are normal thickness with a smooth mucosal surface.

Prostate is symmetrically enlarged (4.6 cm in transverse view) with smooth margins that are well differentiated from surrounding tissue. Normal bilobed shape is maintained. Parenchyma is heterogenous with scattered hyperechoic foci present. No mineral or cysts are noted.

The right kidney is normal in size (8.1 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.

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

The right adrenal gland is normal in size (1.8 cm at cranial pole and 0.6 cm at caudal pole), shape and overall architecture, echogenicity and echotexture. Visible surrounding vasculature appears normal.

The left adrenal gland is normal in size (0.5 cm at cranial pole and 0.5 cm at caudal pole), 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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The 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 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 a very large amount of free fluid noted in these images.

There is no apparent pathologic lymphadenopathy noted in these images.

PRIMARY FINDINGS

- A very large amount of free fluid is of unknown origin. Differentials (unless already ruled out) could include increased hydrostatic pressure (cardiac disease and/or vascular or lymph blockage), decreased oncotic pressure (low albumin), vasculitis, paraneoplastic fluid, rupture/leakage of/from an organ (GI, GB, UB, other), blood (hemoabdomen), other.

SECONDARY FINDINGS

- Chronic Cystitis - Urinary bladder wall changes are most consistent with chronic cystitis. Infiltrative neoplasia cannot be ruled out but is considered less likely give the location and diffuse nature of the changes.
- Benign Prostatic Hyperplasia – Prostatic findings are most consistent with Benign Prostatic Hyperplasia (BPH) and hyperechoic foci consistent with increased vascularity and fibrosis often associated with BPH. Active prostatitis cannot be ruled out. Infiltrative neoplasia cannot be ruled out but is considered less likely.

INTERPRETATION OF THE FINDINGS & FURTHER RECOMMENDATIONS

There is not a definitive ultrasonographically visible intraabdominal explanation for the free fluid. Given patient's history, continued evaluation/workup and treatment of the reported pericardial effusion is recommended to see if the free fluid may be secondary to cardiac tamponade versus congestive heart failure, etc.



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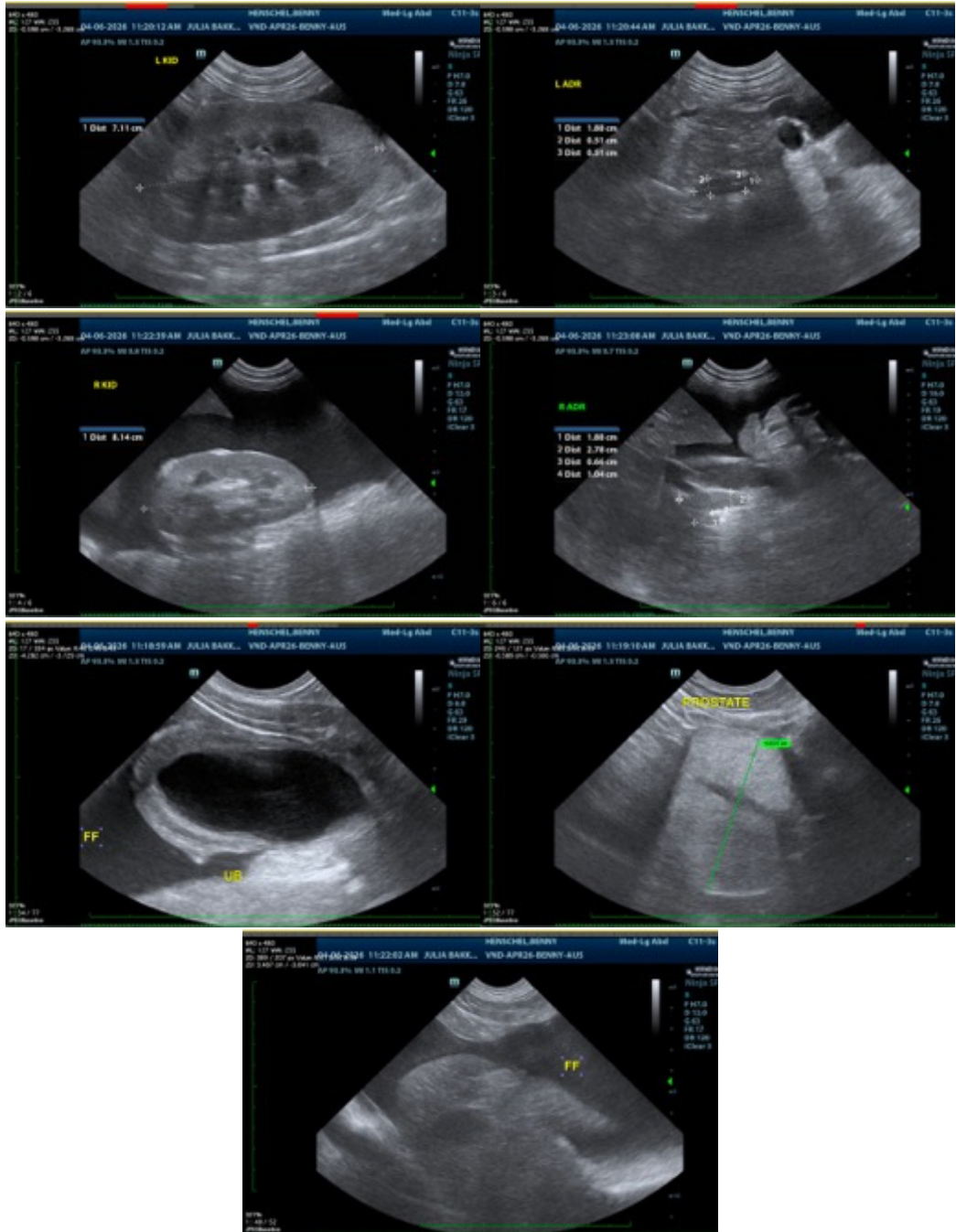
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Pending results of that workup, and/or in addition to that workup, sampling of the free fluid for analysis and cytology is recommended if patient's coagulation status is appropriate.

In the meantime, if not recently evaluated, urinalysis and, if indicated based on urinalysis results, urine culture is recommended. If protein is present in an otherwise quiet sediment, protein quantification with a urine protein to creatinine ration is recommended.





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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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