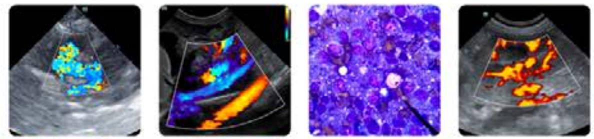

PATIENT
Bella Andrich

SPECIES
Canine

BREED
Golden Retriever

SEX
Spayed Female

AGE
3 Years

WEIGHT
29 kg

INTERPRETED BY
Beth Johnson, DVM DACVIM

IMAGING PERFORMED BY
Dr. Goeres

HOSPITAL NAME
Kelowna Veterinary Hospital

REFERRING VET
Dr. Little

INVOICE
74369

DATE
4/9/26

PRESENTING CLINICAL SIGNS

11:30pm last night acute vomiting. BW done today shows liver enzyme elevations. Pt is not icteric (serum is). hx of eating rocks, no known toxin exposure. Still drinking, not eating, no meds
UTD on all vax including lepto.

Abnormal PE/Chem/CBC/UA Results: A little quiet but overall Pt is acting normal. slightly overweight (BCS 6/9) Neut 14.49 ALT too high to read ALP normal @ 205 GGT 19 tBili 36 Chol 8.86 UA (free catch) showed trace cocci USG 1.024

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.

The right kidney is normal is size (5.3 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 is size (6.8 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 unable to be well visualized in these images.

The left adrenal gland is normal in size (0.49 cm at cranial pole and 0.40 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

Liver is subjectively enlarged (swollen contour) with a diffusely mildly coarse architecture and subtly increased portal markings. Mildly mixed echogenic changes are noted diffusely. 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 suspended and gravity dependent echogenic debris. The wall of the gallbladder appears as a thin hyperechoic/calcified rim casting a distinct distal acoustic shadow. 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 lumen of the stomach is mildly distended with very echogenic reverberation artifact from intraluminal gas. There is no evidence of obstruction, foreign material, or infiltrative disease; however, visualization is partially inhibited by gas.

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 no visible free peritoneal effusion noted in these images.

There is no apparent pathologic lymphadenopathy noted in these images.

ULTRASONOGRAPHIC FINDINGS

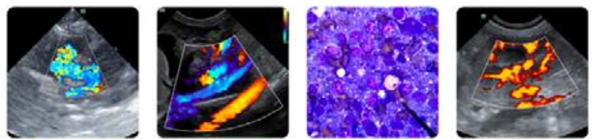
- Moderate gallbladder debris - Cholecystic debris is of unknown clinical significance. It can be seen with biliary stasis from fasting or illness. Cholecystic debris is not necessarily related to hepatobiliary disease. Echogenic bile is most commonly an incidental finding in dogs and should be interpreted in combination with clinical signs such as nausea, inappetence, cranial abdominal discomfort and/or laboratory changes such as increased ALP and/or increased Tbili.

- Porcelain gallbladder – Porcelain (calcified) gallbladder is an uncommon finding in companion animals and has been observed as both an incidental finding and associated with biliary neoplasia. In humans, porcelain gallbladder can be a manifestation of chronic gallbladder disease, chronic cholecystitis, intramural hemorrhage with subsequent calcification, imbalances in calcium metabolism, and even giardiasis. This finding should be interpretated in combination with any clinical signs and/or laboratory changes suggestive of biliary disease and/or calcium dysregulation, etc.

- Otherwise, an obvious cause for the subtle liver changes is not identified in these images. Microscopic disease such as Leptospirosis, bacterial cholangiohepatitis, chronic active hepatitis, copper-associated hepatotoxicity, other hepatotoxicity, other reactive hepatopathy, infiltrative neoplasia (considered unlikely), etc. cannot be definitively ruled out.

INTERPRETATION OF THE FINDINGS & FURTHER RECOMMENDATIONS

Comprehensive infectious disease evaluation including testing for Leptospirosis could be considered.



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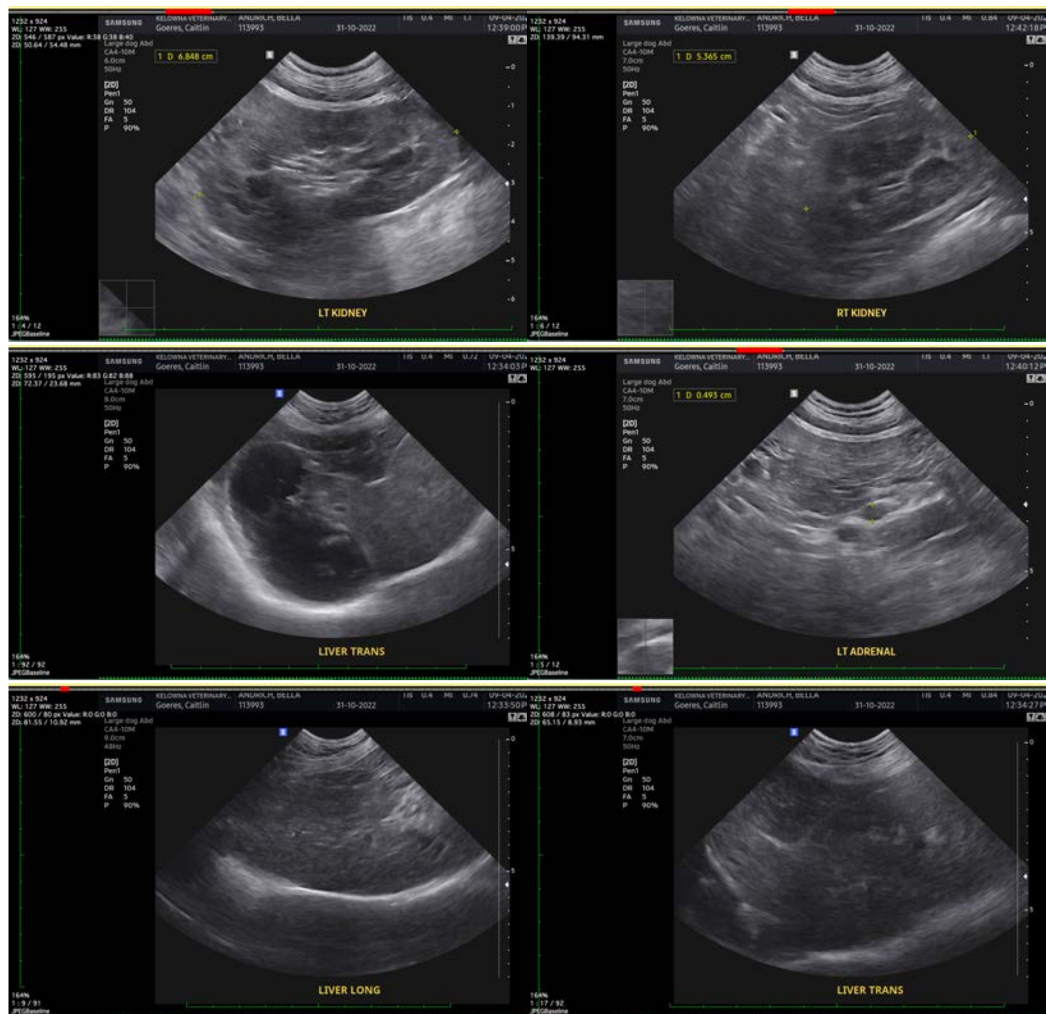
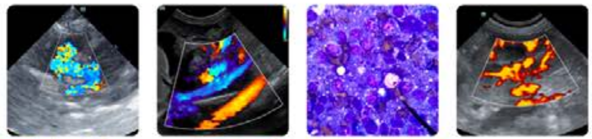
Fine needle aspirates of the liver and a sample of bile from the gallbladder were already reportedly obtained. Submission of the fine needle aspirates of the liver for cytology and submission of the bile for culture and sensitivity may be helpful in further identifying underlying inflammatory or infectious diseases and further guiding therapy.

In the meantime, additional diagnostic considerations could include looking for possible gastrointestinal infections that could be contributing to an ascending cholangiohepatitis. Therefore, 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.

Other than supportive/symptomatic medical management of clinical signs, further treatment recommendations are largely dependent on results of the above.





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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