



PATIENT

Vito Balestra

SPECIES

Canine

BREED

Shih Tzu

SEX

Male

AGE

7 Years 4 Months

WEIGHT

8.7 kg

INTERPRETED BY

Beth Johnson, DVM
DACVIM

IMAGING PERFORMED BY

Natalia Franco

HOSPITAL NAME

Eagleson VC

REFERRING VET

Dennis Verbickas

INVOICE

37147

DATE

5/19/26

PRESENTING CLINICAL SIGNS

History of hematuria and prostatic enlargement

Abnormal PE/Chem/CBC/UA Results: Intravesical hematoma – persistent per recent follow-up ultrasound at emergency facility; hematuria resolved following antibiotic treatment for concurrent UTI. Prostatic cavitory lesions – noted on emergency ultrasound. FNA of prostate results pending.

ULTRASONOGRAPHIC EXAMINATION OF THE ABDOMEN

Urinary System

Urinary bladder is adequately distended. It has a normal uniform wall thickness. Contents include primarily anechoic fluid with occasional echogenic non-shadowing debris, most consistent with exfoliated cells, mucous and/or small blood clots, as well as dependent mineral “sand” (crystals) debris. Both sterile inflammation as well as urinary tract infection can present with echogenic debris. No masses or discrete definitive cystoliths are observed. The trigone and visible pelvic urethra are normal in thickness with a smooth mucosal surface.

Prostate is symmetrically enlarged (2.7 cm wide in the sagittal view) with smooth margins that are well differentiated from surrounding tissue. Normal bilobed shape is maintained. Parenchyma is diffusely hyperechoic. Several small anechoic cysts are noted. No mineral is noted.

Left kidney is normal in size (4.4 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 (4.8 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

Left adrenal gland is normal in size (0.48 cm at cranial pole and 0.41 cm at caudal pole), shape and overall architecture, echogenicity and echotexture. Visible surrounding vasculature appears normal.

Right adrenal gland is normal in size (0.38 cm at cranial pole and 0.54 cm at caudal pole), 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 enlarged with mildly irregular margins. Parenchyma is mildly heterogenous characterized by multiple poorly defined hypoechoic nodules within otherwise hyperechoic liver parenchyma. 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 lumen of the stomach is empty with no evidence of obstruction, foreign material or infiltrative disease. Pyloric outflow tract appears patent.

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Shih Tzu

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.

SEX

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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 area of the pancreas contains irregular hyperechoic pancreatic remodeling.

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Free Abdomen

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

There is no apparent pathologic lymphadenopathy noted in these images.

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ULTRASONOGRAPHIC FINDINGS

- Mildly heterogenous liver- 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.
- 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.
- Hyperechoic pancreas- This finding is suggestive of pancreatic fibrosis, possibly secondary to chronic pancreatitis. A TLI is recommended to rule out exocrine pancreatic insufficiency (EPI), especially if clinical signs (weight loss, diarrhea, etc.) are present.
- Benign prostatic hyperplasia with cysts- Prostatic findings are most consistent with Benign Prostatic Hyperplasia (BPH) and concurrent benign prostatic cysts. Active prostatitis cannot be ruled out. Infiltrative neoplasia cannot be ruled out but is considered less likely.
- A mild to moderate amount of echogenic urinary bladder mineral/sand debris. Pinpoint punctate cystoliths within the debris cannot be definitively ruled out.

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INTERPRETATION OF THE FINDINGS & FURTHER RECOMMENDATIONS



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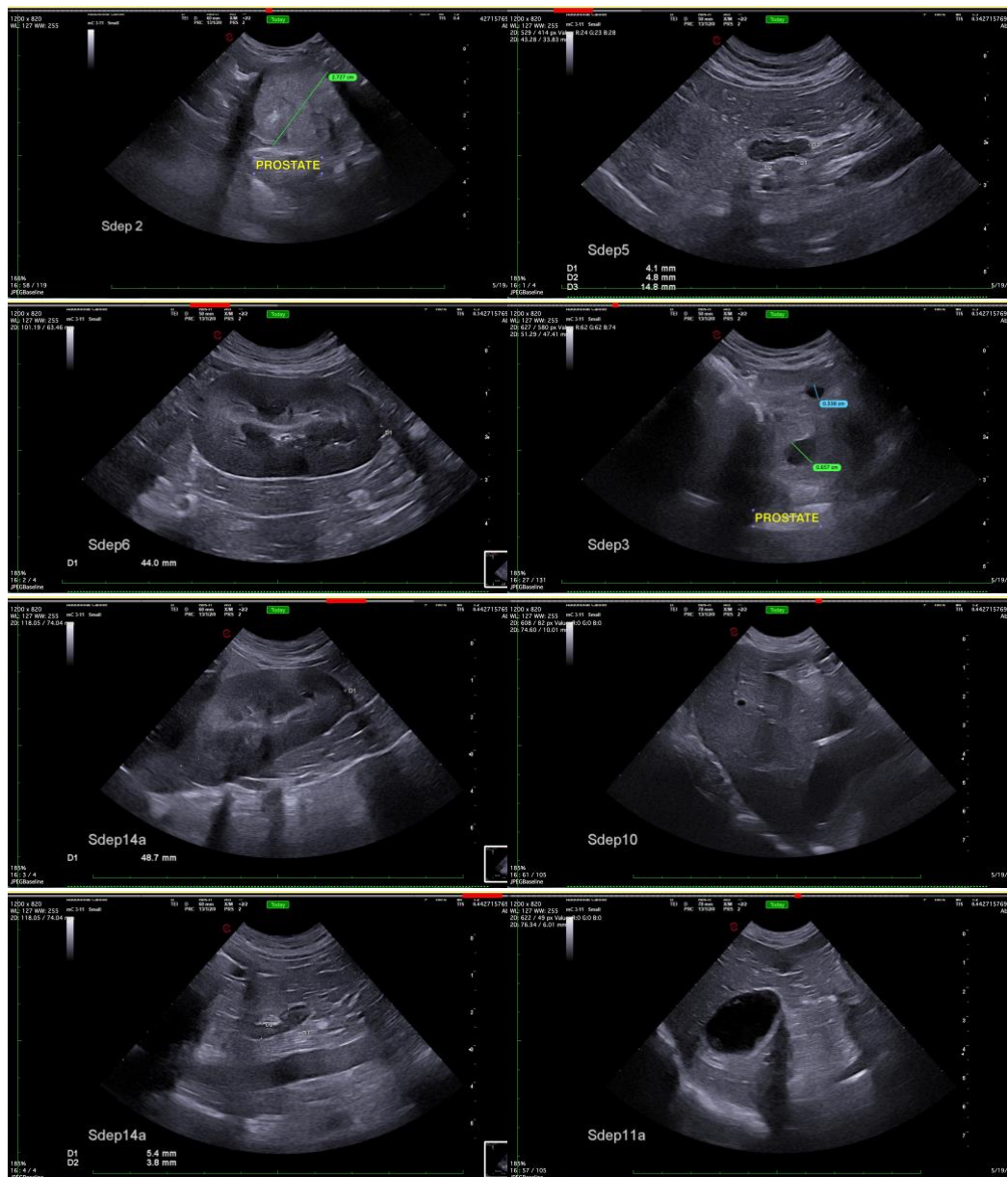
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Urinalysis and urine culture, if indicated based on urinalysis results, are recommended. Submission of urine to look for BRAF gene mutation, which is associated with urinary bladder/prostate cancer, could be considered. Other diagnostic options include traumatic catheterization, fine needle aspirate (with small risk of tumor seeding/trailing) or cystoscopy for further sampling. In the meantime, empirical therapy with a broad-spectrum antibiotic (or ideally an antibiotic based on culture and sensitivity results) as well as an anti-inflammatory (unless otherwise contraindicated based on patient co-morbidities) may begin to help alleviate clinical signs.

Pending results of above, a heavily sedated/anesthetized urinary bladder flush could be considered to obtain some of the mineral debris for analysis, which may help further guide future medical management.





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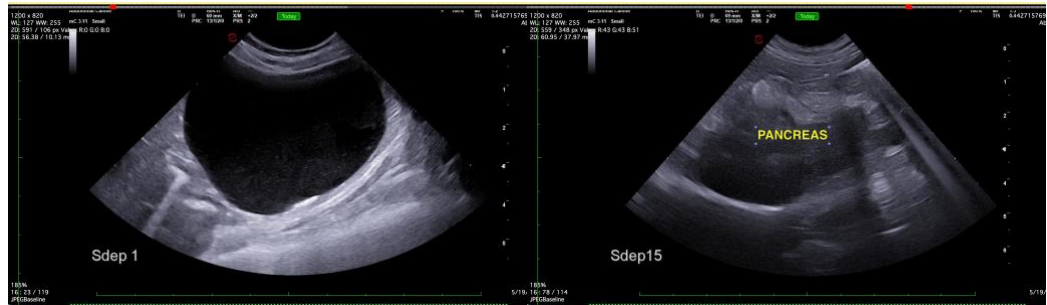
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The information and recommendations provided are based on the images presented by the referring veterinarian/sonographer. No evaluation can be communicated regarding pathology that was not visible in the image/video clips provided.

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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