

**PATIENT**

Ella Balke

**SPECIES**

Canine

**BREED**

Basset Hound

**SEX**

Female Spayed

**AGE**

9 years, 9 mos

**WEIGHT**

63.8 lbs

**INTERPRETED BY**

Beth Johnson, DVM  
DACVIM

**IMAGING PERFORMED BY**

Ashley Whitesell

**HOSPITAL NAME**

Dickson AC

**REFERRING VET**

Ashley Whitesell

**INVOICE**

12994

**DATE**

5.9.23

**PRESENTING CLINICAL SIGNS**

Abnormal PE/Chem/CBC/UA Results: tender cranial abdomen palpation, temp 104.4 F, WBC 30.23 (5.5-16.9), radiographs unremarkable, wanted to rule out cancer

**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. Both sterile inflammation as well as urinary tract infection can also present with echogenic debris. No masses or cystoliths are observed. The trigone and visible pelvic urethra are normal in thickness with a smooth mucosal surface.

Left kidney is normal in size (7.54 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 (7.04 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 (0.57 cm at cranial pole / 0.60 cm at caudal pole), shape and overall architecture, echogenicity and echotexture. Visible surrounding vasculature appears normal.

Right adrenal gland is normal in size (0.82 cm at cranial pole / 0.47 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.

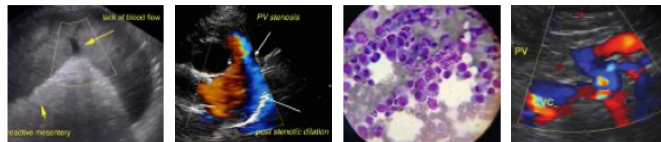
**Liver**

Liver is subjectively 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 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.

**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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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.

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The visible colon is normal in wall thickness and layering. Contents are consistent with normal formed feces and gas.

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***Pancreas***

The observed pancreas 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 evidence of peritoneal effusion. There is no apparent lymphadenopathy.

**ULTRASONOGRAPHIC FINDINGS**

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**Findings**

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.

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**INTERPRETATION OF THE FINDINGS & FURTHER RECOMMENDATIONS**

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- There is not a definitive ultrasonographic explanation in these images for the patient's reported fever, leukocytosis, etc. Given the reported concurrent cranial abdominal pain, further investigation for possible pancreatitis could be considered via a quantitative PLI. Alternatively, or in addition to a PLI, recheck imaging of the cranial abdomen could be considered pending patient's clinical response in a day or two, as pancreatitis could be emerging.

**IMAGING PERFORMED BY**

Ashley Whitesell

- Additionally, 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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- In the meantime, and/or pending the results of the above, further investigation of spinal and/or orthopedic and/or joint pain is recommended to help rule out other causes of fever and leukocytosis such as discospondylitis, infectious and/or immune-mediated polyarthritis, etc.

**REFERRING VET**

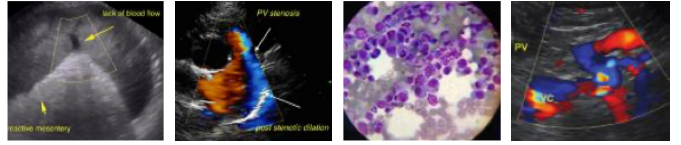
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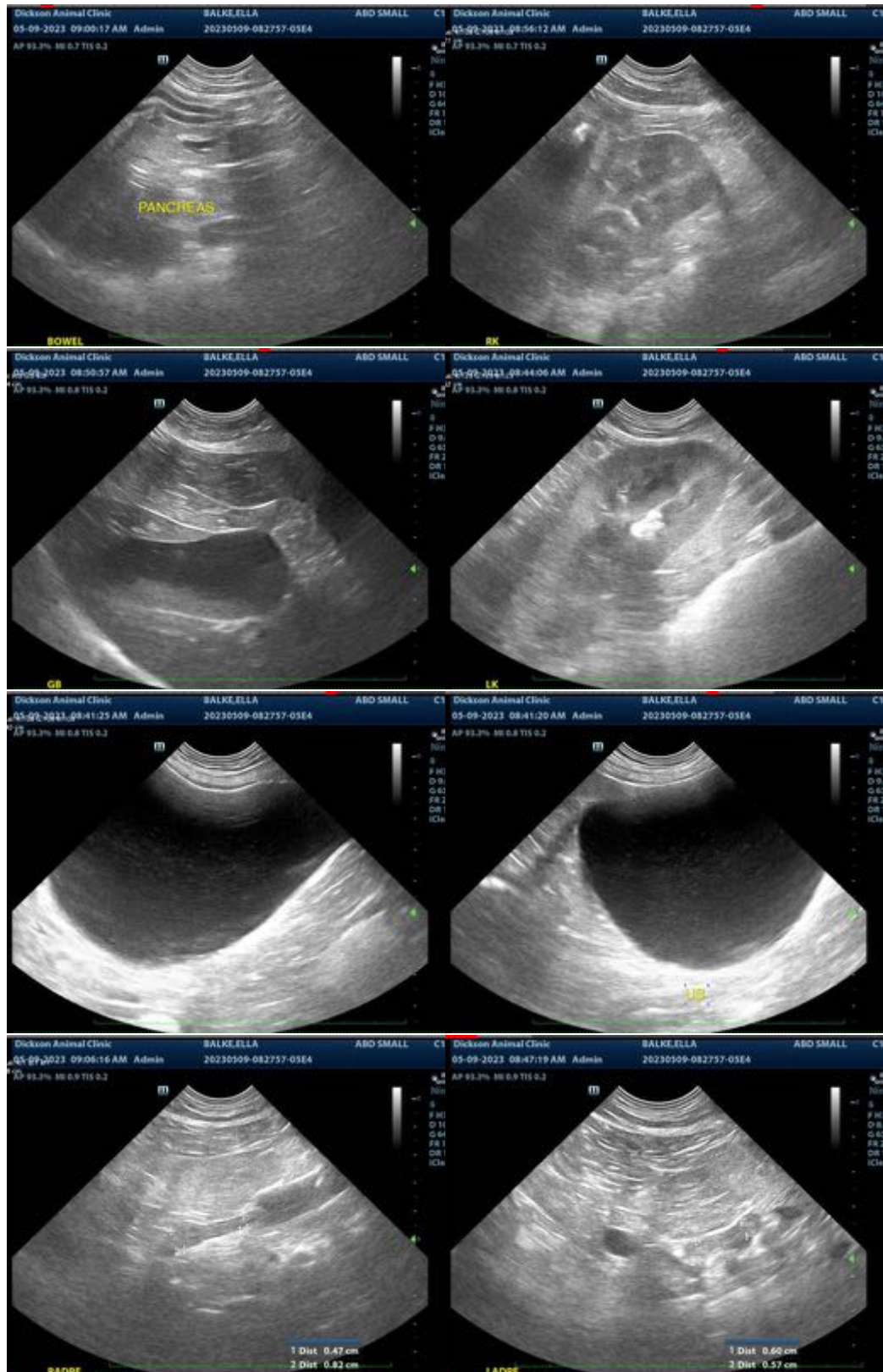
Ashley Whitesell

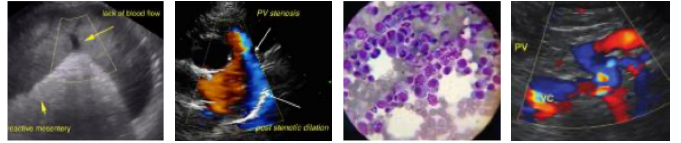
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The information and recommendations provided are based on the images presented by the referring veterinarian. No evaluation can be communicated regarding pathology that was not visible in the image/video clips provided.

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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.

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**Beth Johnson, DVM DACVIM**  
Beth.Johnson@SonoPath.com

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