

**PATIENT**

Rocky Zizumbo

**PRESENTING CLINICAL SIGNS**

History: History of coughing, PU/PD, distended abdomen.

**SPECIES**

Canine

**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 (X 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. The bladder measures 0.4 cm thick.

**BREED**

Yorkie

The prostate is normal for a neutered dog.

**SEX**

Neutered Male

Left kidney is normal is size (4.31 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.

**AGE**

13 years

Right kidney is normal is size (4.79 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.

**WEIGHT**

14 lbs

**Adrenal Glands**

Left adrenal gland is enlarged measuring 0.9-1.0 cm at the cranial pole and the caudal pole measures 1.58 cm. The left adrenal gland has diffusely, heterogenous parenchymal changes. Swollen capsular expansion is noted with suspect, possible capsular escape and caval invasion. A mineral foci is noted in the caudal pole.

**INTERPRETED BY**Beth Johnson, DVM  
DACVIM

Right adrenal gland is normal in size (0.66 cm at cranial pole and 0.78 cm at caudal pole), shape and overall architecture, echogenicity and echotexture. Visible surrounding vasculature appears normal.

**IMAGING PERFORMED BY**

Amy Mayhew LVT

**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.

**HOSPITAL NAME**

SVS Imaging Michigan

**REFERRING VET**North Oakland Visiting  
Vet**Liver**

Liver is subjectively enlarged (swollen contour) without disruption of architecture. It has a normal homogenous echotexture. Parenchyma is diffusely hyperechoic characterized by less prominent than normal portal vein walls and increased echogenicity relative to the spleen and falciform fat. No focal lesions are observed. Visible vasculature and biliary tree appear normal without distension or congestion.

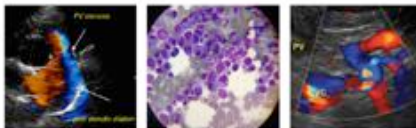
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Gallbladder is moderately distended with anechoic bile as well as suspended and gravity dependent echogenic debris. The wall is smooth without visible thickening. There is no evidence of cystic or CBD dilation. There is no evidence of effusion or inflammation.

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**Gastrointestinal**

The visible stomach wall is normal in thickness and layering. The 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 observed pancreas appears appropriately isoechoic to surrounding omental fat. The capsule is mildly irregular in shape. Parenchyma is mildly heterogenous and coarse. There is no visible pancreatic duct dilation. There is no evidence of active peripancreatic inflammation.

**Free Abdomen**

There is no evidence of peritoneal effusion or apparent lymphadenopathy noted in these images.

**ULTRASONOGRAPHIC FINDINGS**

- **Left adrenal mass.** This is most consistent with an adrenal cortical tumor versus hyperplasia. There is some concern for vascular invasion, which further supports malignancy such as an adrenal cortical carcinoma or pheochromocytoma. A benign mass such as adrenal adenoma with a secondary thrombus due to a hypercoagulable state is possible, but considered less likely.
- **Hyperechoic hepatomegaly.** This appearance is most consistent with a benign steroid (endocrine) or vacuolar hepatopathy or reactive or idiopathic hepatopathy. Infiltrative neoplasia such as round cell neoplasia is also possible, but considered less likely.
- **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.
- **Pancreatic age-related remodeling -** Mild irregularities are consistent with benign age-related change. Low-grade smoldering chronic pancreatitis cannot be ruled out and should be suspected in the face of appropriate clinical signs.
- **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.



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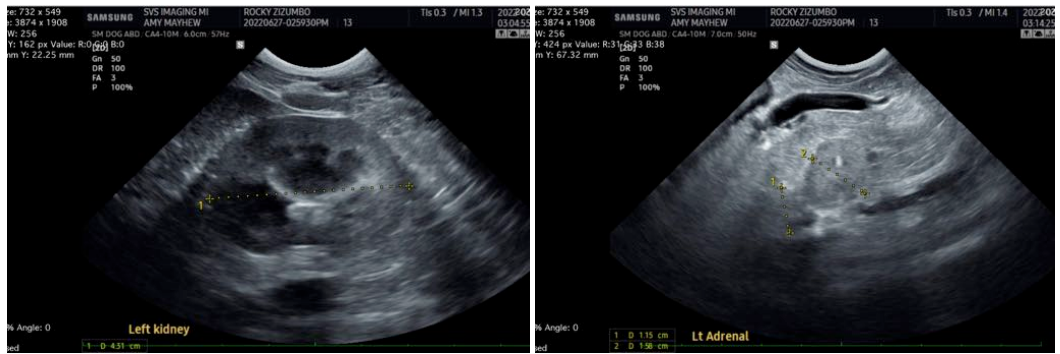
**INTERPRETATION OF THE FINDINGS & FURTHER RECOMMENDATIONS**

The described adrenal gland, liver and gallbladder changes are all suggestive of hyperadrenocorticism. If clinical signs of hyperadrenocorticism, such as polyuria, polydipsia, polyphagia, panting, hair loss, hypertension, etc. are present, testing for hyperadrenocorticism with a LDDS test is warranted. If clinical signs are not present, monitoring is recommended with testing pursued when/if clinical signs develop.

If not recently evaluated, blood pressure is recommended.

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

Given the appearance of the left adrenal gland an adrenalectomy may be warranted with recommendations for pre-surgical planning abdominal CT scan to definitively evaluate capsular integrity and/or vascular involvement.



**IMAGING PERFORMED BY**

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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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