

**PATIENT**

Bekah Wichtman

SPECIES

Canine

BREED

Min Pin

SEX

Spayed Female

AGE

14 Years

WEIGHT

12 Pounds

INTERPRETED BYBeth Johnson, DVM
DACVIM**IMAGING PERFORMED BY**

Amy Mayhew, LVT

HOSPITAL NAME

SVS Imaging MI

REFERRING VET

Dr. Dyer

INVOICE

43568

DATE

6/29/23

PRESENTING CLINICAL SIGNS

Has been losing weight. No changes in appetite. Normal bowel movements.

Abnormal PE/Chem/CBC/UA Results: 1# weight loss - owner can visibly see dog getting thinner.

History of increased ALT CBC - neutrophilia Chem - ALT increased but has been higher in the past - all other values WNL. No definitive reason for weight loss Can try antibiotic due to neutrophilia which was not noticed previously but if no improvement, recommend abdominal ultrasound +/- chest rads. **Please see attached in link

ULTRASONOGRAPHIC EXAMINATION OF THE ABDOMEN**Urinary System**

The urinary bladder is moderately 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 in size (4.37 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 (3.96 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 (0.39 cm at the cranial pole and 0.40 cm at the caudal pole), shape and contour. Corticomedullary structure is unremarkable. Visible surrounding vasculature appears normal.

The left adrenal gland is normal in size (0.42 cm at the cranial pole and 0.46 cm at the caudal pole), shape and contour. Corticomedullary structure is unremarkable. Visible surrounding vasculature appears normal.

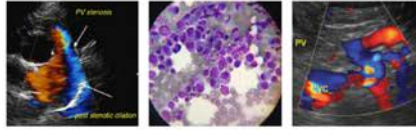
Spleen

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. A discrete 0.50-0.70 cm hyperechoic nodule is noted in the left liver as well as a 1.5 cm x 2.0 cm hypoechoic nodule in the deep right liver. 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.

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Gastrointestinal

The visible stomach wall is normal in thickness and layering. The lumen of the stomach is mildly distended with echogenic non-shadowing luminal contents and gas consistent with normal ingesta. There is 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. Hyperechoic mucosal fogging or speckling is noted. Small intestinal motility appears adequate (1-3 contractions per min). The lumen is mildly distended with echogenic non-shadowing luminal contents and gas consistent with normal ingesta. There is no evidence of obstruction or foreign material noted.

The visible colon is normal in wall thickness (< 0.2 cm) and layering. Contents are consistent with normal formed feces and gas.

Pancreas

The pancreatic parenchyma is appropriately isoechoic to surrounding tissue. Visible capsule is smooth and normal in contour. There is no visible pancreatic duct dilation. There is no evidence of active peripancreatic inflammation.

Free Abdomen

There is no evidence of free peritoneal effusion noted in these images.

The medial iliac lymph nodes are prominent in size with swollen capsular contour. Normal elongated shape (length to width ratio) is maintained. There is no loss of parenchymal detail.

ULTRASONOGRAPHIC FINDINGS

- **Hyperechoic liver nodule**- Differentials for a discrete liver nodule include primarily benign changes such as nodular hyperplasia, fibrosis of an old hematoma, granuloma, myelolipoma, etc.; however, while considered less likely, primary hepatic neoplasia, infiltrative round cell neoplasia and metastatic disease can mimic benign lesions and cannot be definitively ruled out.
- **Hypoechoic liver nodule** – This also trends in appearance towards benign, as is seen with nodular hyperplasia, steroid or vacuolar hepatopathy, extramedullary hematopoiesis, etc. However, infiltrative neoplasia, either benign such as an adenoma, hepatoma, or malignant such as a hepatocellular carcinoma versus other cannot be ruled out without tissue sampling.
- **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.
- **Mucosal speckling** – Mucosal speckling is often present with inflammatory bowel disease (IBD). It is not specific for type or severity of disease. Mild speckling change can occur as a normal patient variant in the post-prandial state.
- **Reactive medial iliac lymph nodes** – infiltrative neoplastic disease cannot be ruled out but is considered less likely.



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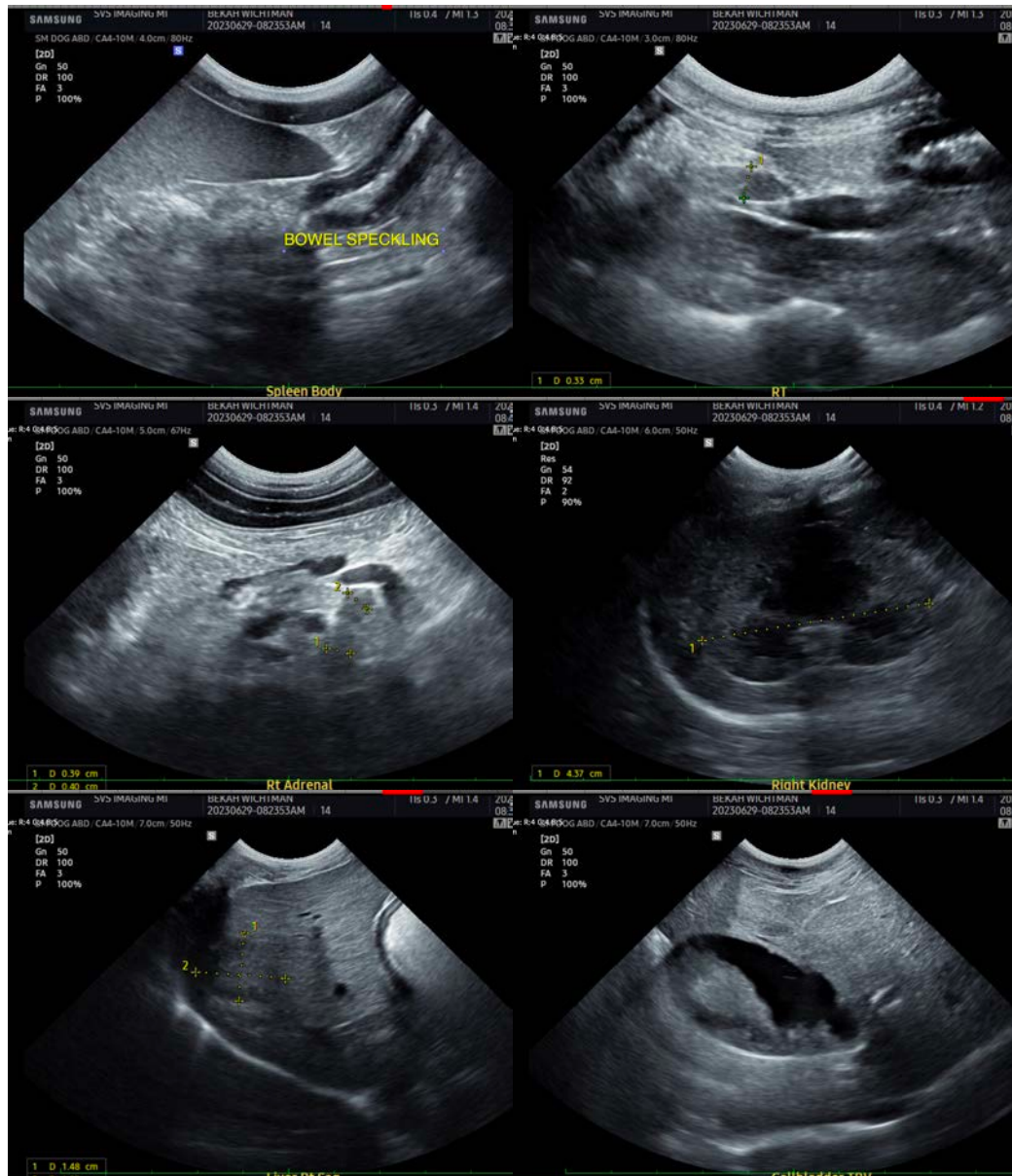
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INTERPRETATION OF THE FINDINGS & FURTHER RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendations include an “antigen search” for sources of reactive hepatopathy (including testing for Leptospirosis), followed by a course of empirical antibiotics and hepatic nutraceuticals, with monitoring of ALT for improvement. If improvement is noted, antibiotics should be continued until liver enzymes either normalize or plateau (recheck every 2-3 weeks); however, if improvement is not noted and/or enzyme increase progresses, antibiotics should not be continued long term and sampling, beginning with a FNA of the hypochoic liver nodule if patient’s coagulation status is appropriate or progressing to a liver biopsy (including copper level assessment) may ultimately be warranted.

Given this patient’s concurrent weight loss with a good appetite, pending cytology results of the liver aspirate, further evaluation of digestion and absorption may be warranted, beginning with a gastrointestinal malabsorption panel (including cobalamin, folate, TLI and PLI) to Texas A&M GI Laboratory.



IMAGING PERFORMED BY

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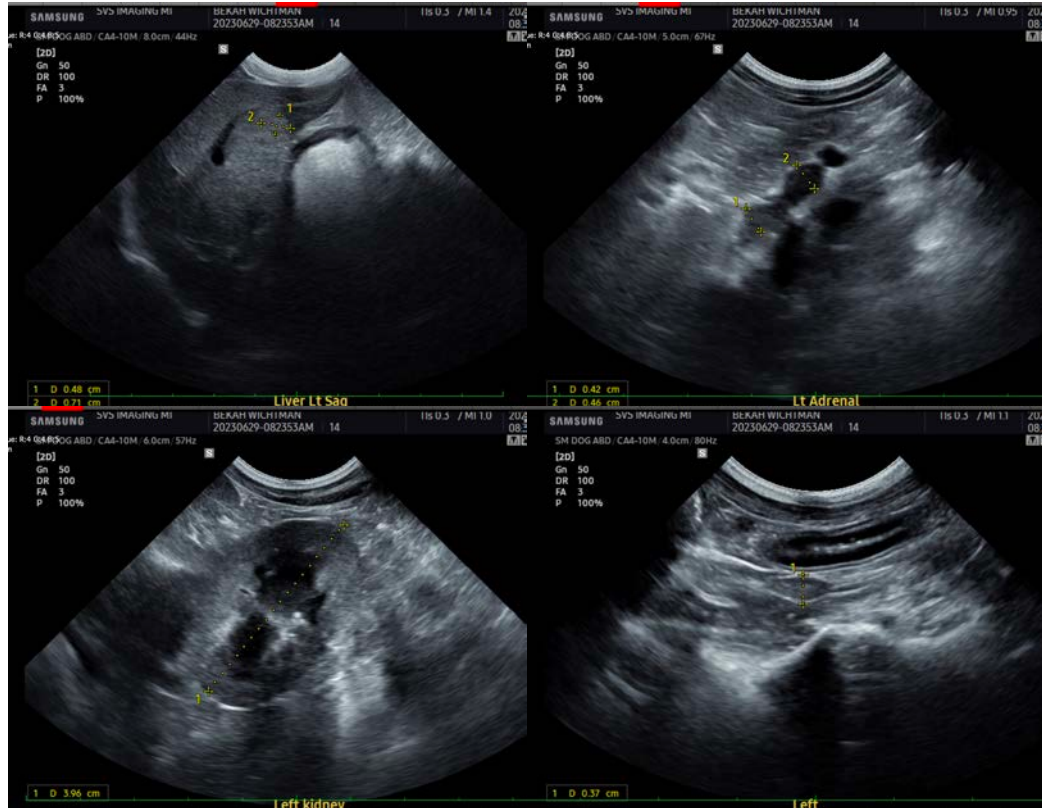
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The information and recommendations provided are based on the images presented by the referring veterinarian/sonographer. No evaluation can be communicated regarding pathology that was not visible in the image/video clips provided.

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
info@sonopath.com