

**DATE PRESENTING CLINICAL SIGNS**

7/19/22 Having diarrhea for 2 days then watery. Seems uncomfortable in his abdomen, increased gut noises. Then started vomiting today. Had a similar episode about a year ago.

**PATIENT**

Alphonso White

Current Medications: Provable, Metronidazole, Ampicillin, Buprenorphine, Entyce, Cerenia, Protonix.  
Lab Results: See attached.

Radiographs: No obvious FB or obstructive pattern.

Date of Previous IntraPet Ultrasound: 6/7/19. See attached.

Sedation: Not required to complete full diagnostic ultrasound.

Stat Report: Not requested.

**SPECIES**

Canine

**BREED**

Miniature Schnauzer

**ULTRASONOGRAPHIC EXAMINATION OF THE ABDOMEN****Urinary System**

The urinary bladder is moderately distended with anechoic contents. No masses or inflammatory changes. A mineral focus within the urethra at the level of the level of the prostate is noted, and appears to be more embedded in the wall of the urethra or prostate versus lumina. This mineral was present several years ago, and is therefore considered insignificant unless clinical signs suggest otherwise. The urinary bladder, trigone and visible pelvic urethra are normal in thickness with a smooth mucosal surface.

**SEX**

Neutered male

**AGE**

4/27/13

The right kidney is normal in size (4.91 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**

20.9 Pounds

The left kidney is normal in size (5.18 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.

**INTERPRETED BY**Beth Johnson, DVM  
DACVIM**Adrenal Glands**

The right adrenal gland is normal in size (2.33 cm long x 0.64 cm at the cranial pole and 0.67 cm at the caudal pole), shape and contour. Corticomedullary structure is unremarkable. Visible surrounding vasculature appears normal.

**IMAGING PERFORMED BY**

Rachel Brilhart RDMS

The left adrenal gland is normal in size (1.79 cm long x 0.58 cm at the cranial pole and 0.59 cm at the caudal pole), shape and contour. Corticomedullary structure is unremarkable. Visible surrounding vasculature appears normal.

**HOSPITAL NAME**Animal Emergency  
Hospital**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.

**REFERRING VET**

Dr. Ruby

**Liver**

Liver is subjectively enlarged with mildly irregular margins. Parenchyma is heterogenous characterized by multiple poorly defined hypoechoic nodules within otherwise hyperechoic liver parenchyma. A discrete hypoechoic nodule measuring 1.5 cm x 2.0 cm is noted, resulting in a slight capsular bulge near the gallbladder. Visible vasculature and biliary tree appear normal without distension or congestion.

**INVOICE**

39658

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 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 empty with no evidence of obstruction or foreign material.

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.

There is no apparent lymphadenopathy noted in these images.

Slightly hyperechoic mesentery and fat noted in the mid abdomen, surrounding bowel loops.

## **PRIMARY FINDINGS**

- **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.
- **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.  
\*\*Differentials for the more discrete nodule include benign change such as a more marked nodular hyperplasia, granuloma, benign hepatoma, etc., as well as infiltrative early or emerging neoplasia such as well differentiated hepatocellular carcinoma, round cell neoplasia, etc. Benign change is prioritized based on appearance.

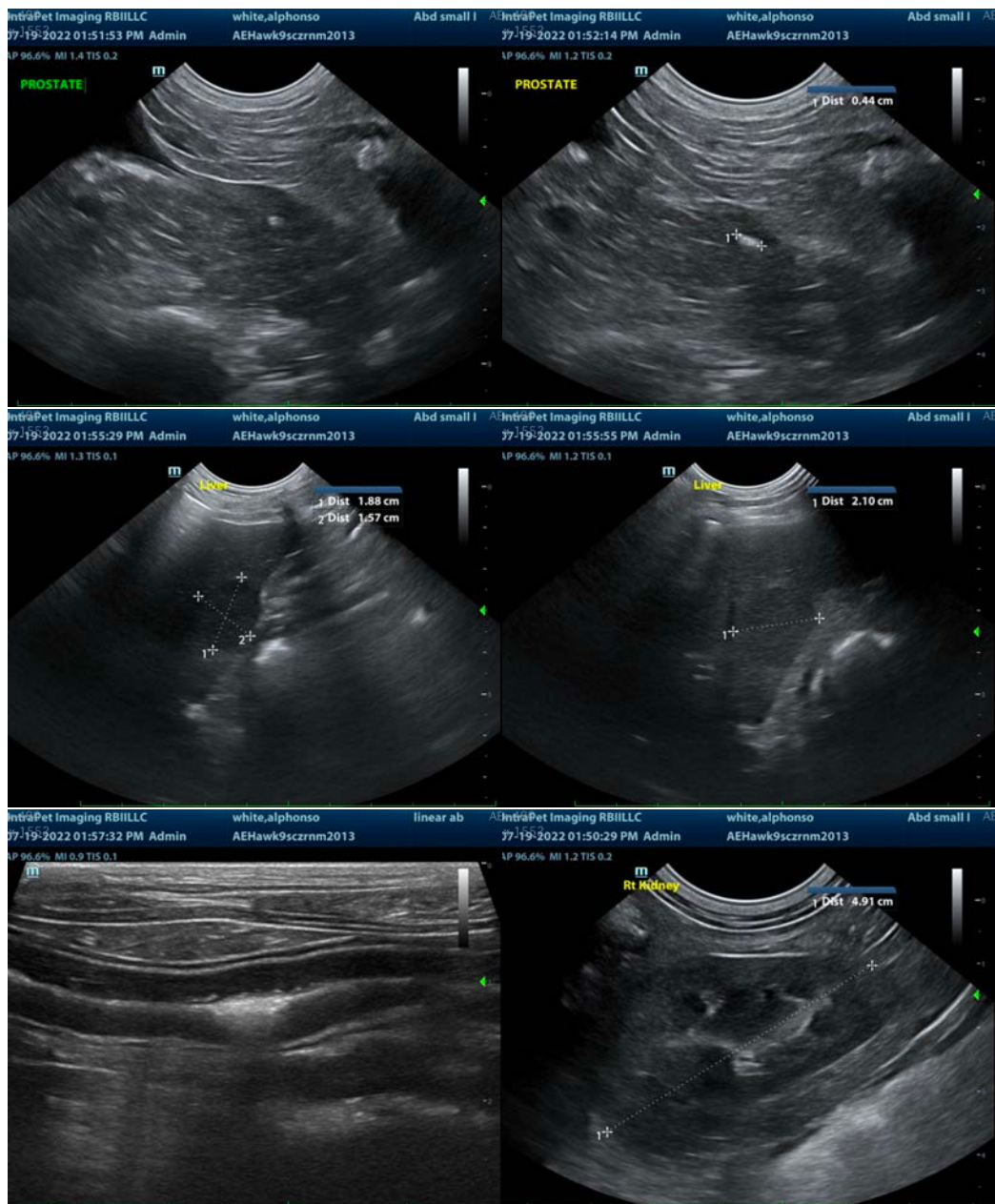
## **SECONDARY FINDINGS**

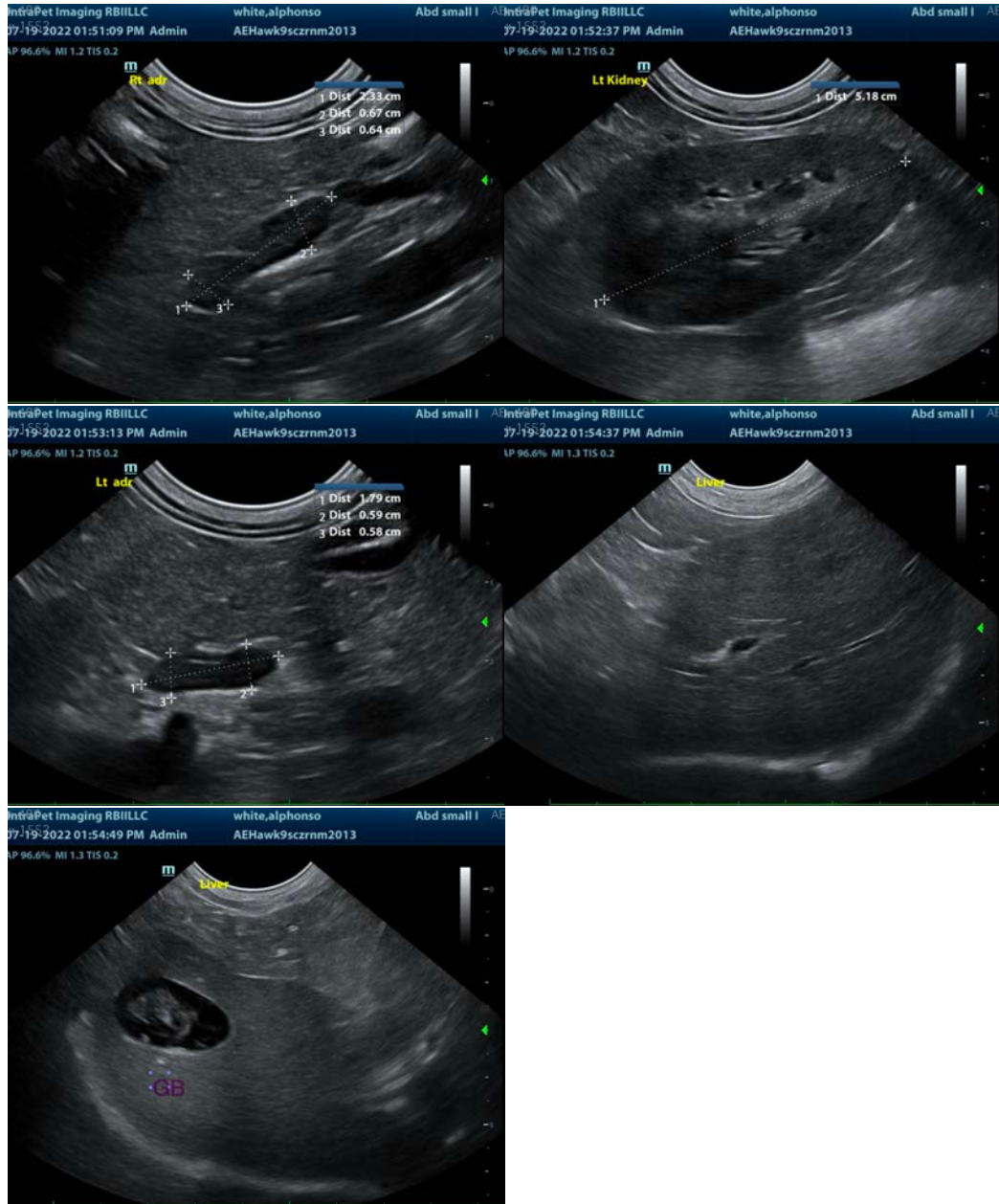
- **Gallbladder debris** - Cholecystic debris is of unknown clinical significance. It can be seen with biliary stasis from fasting or illness. Cholecystic debris is not necessarily related to hepatobiliary disease. Echogenic bile is most commonly an incidental finding in dogs and should be interpreted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

## **INTERPRETATION OF THE FINDINGS & FURTHER RECOMMENDATIONS**

Given this patient's reported gastrointestinal signs and mucosal speckling, recommendations include:

- A gastrointestinal malabsorption panel (including cobalamin, folate, TLI and PLI) to Texas A&M GI Laboratory is recommended for further evaluation of GI and pancreatic function.
- A fine needle aspirate of the liver nodule could be considered if it can be reached safely and patient's coagulation status is appropriate. If not, monitoring of the nodule with a recheck ultrasound in 6-8 weeks is recommended.
- In the meantime, considerations for diet transition to a low-fat diet on a trial and error basis followed by a hydrolyzed or novel protein diet (if a low-fat diet doesn't help), etc., may be considered.





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**  
Beth.Johnson@sonopath.com