



PATIENT

Marty Edwards

SPECIES

Canine

BREED

Shih Tzu

SEX

Neutered Male

AGE

8 Years

WEIGHT

10.5 Pounds

INTERPRETED BY

Beth Johnson, DVM
DACVIM

IMAGING PERFORMED BY

Jessica Miller

HOSPITAL NAME

Whippany Vet Hospital

REFERRING VET

Dr. Smith

INVOICE

39721

DATE

7/21/22

PRESENTING CLINICAL SIGNS

Elevated liver enzymes persistent. Current meds: Hepti-Clear, Post Antibiotics (Enrofloxacin)
Abnormal PE/Chem/CBC/UA Results: AT 169, ALT 1089, Alk Phos 598 UA: pH 5.5, WBC 2-3hpf SG: 1.028

ULTRASONOGRAPHIC EXAMINATION OF THE ABDOMEN

Urinary System

Urinary bladder is only mildly distended (empty). Visible contents are anechoic. Urinary bladder wall is unable to be fully assessed for pathology without further distension. No visible masses or cystoliths are observed. The trigone and visible pelvic urethra are normal thickness with a smooth mucosal surface. If there are urinary signs and/or concern for urinary bladder pathology, reassessment after complete filling is recommended.

Prostate is normal in size, echotexture and echogenicity for a neutered male.

The right kidney is normal in size (3.93 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 (3.63 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

Adrenal glands are plump/swollen in size. Normal shape and contour are maintained without evidence of capsular invasion. Corticomedullary structure is unremarkable. Visible surrounding vasculature appears normal. The left adrenal gland measures 2.08 cm long x 0.54 cm at the cranial pole and 0.53 cm at the caudal pole. The right adrenal gland measures 1.37 cm long x 0.87 cm at the cranial pole and 0.54 cm at the caudal pole.

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. No focal lesions are observed. Visible vasculature and biliary tree appear normal without distension or congestion.

The gallbladder is non-distended in size. The wall is mildly thick, measuring 0.20 cm, and is mildly hyperechoic. Luminal contents include anechoic fluid as well as mineral debris with shadow. There is no evidence of cystic or common bile duct dilation. There is no evidence of vascularity of the luminal contents.

Gastrointestinal

The stomach wall is normal in thickness (canine < 0.5 cm and feline < 0.4 cm) 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 (canine duodenum < 0.5 cm and feline duodenum < 0.4 cm; other < 0.3 cm). 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 (< 0.2 cm) and layering. Contents are consistent with normal formed feces and gas.

Pancreas

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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.

SEX

Neutered Male

Free Abdomen

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

There is no apparent lymphadenopathy noted in these images.

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ULTRASONOGRAPHIC FINDINGS

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- **Bilateral adrenomegaly** – consistent with adrenal hyperplasia secondary to pituitary dependent hyperadrenocorticism vs stress or normal variant. Interpret in combination with clinical signs of hyperadrenocorticism.
- **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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Recommendations include:

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- An obvious cause for the reported increased liver enzymes is not identified in these images. Microscopic disease such as Leptospirosis, bacterial cholangiohepatitis, chronic active hepatitis, copper-associated hepatotoxicity, other hepatotoxicity, infiltrative neoplasia (considered unlikely), etc. cannot be definitively ruled out.
- Ursodiol could be added to the current treatment regimen, given the presence of gallbladder debris with monitoring of liver enzymes for improvement. However, given the lack of improvement with previous supportive care already, testing for Leptospirosis is recommended. Bile acids are recommended, if tbili is not increased. FNA of the liver can be performed to assess inflammatory cell type, rule in/out round cell neoplasia, etc. If round cell neoplasia is not diagnosed, a liver biopsy (including copper level assessment) may be required to definitively diagnose the underlying hepatopathy. If surgery for biopsy is pursued, further evaluation of gallbladder health is recommended at the time of surgery.

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- 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 a LDDS test has been evaluated with a normal result, investigation of possible atypical hyperadrenocorticism with a full ACTH stimulation adrenal



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panel to the University of Tennessee could be considered. 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.

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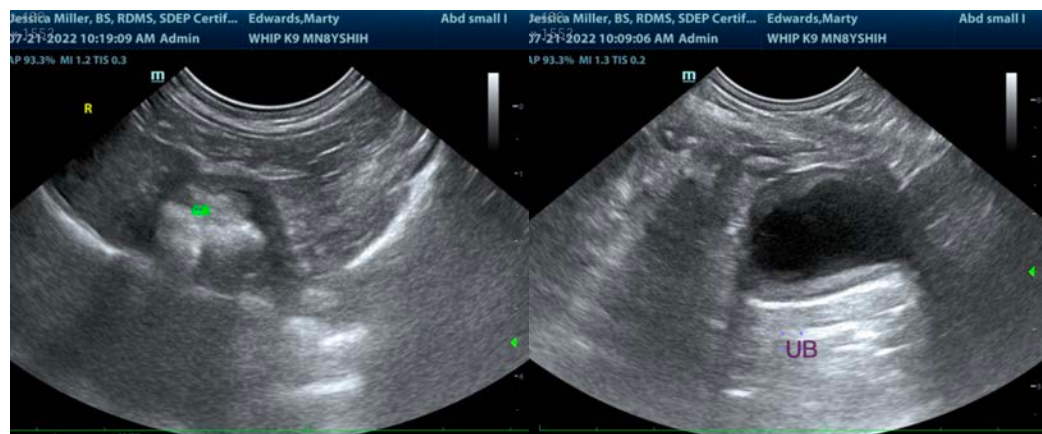
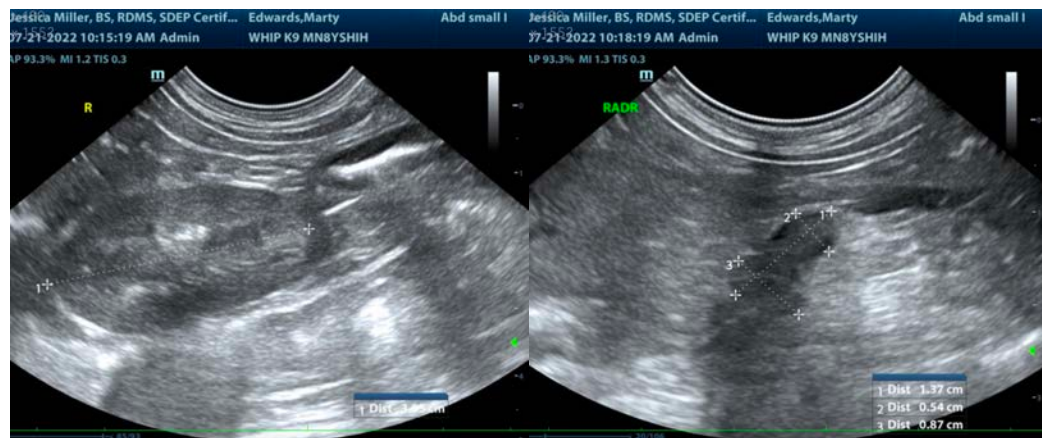
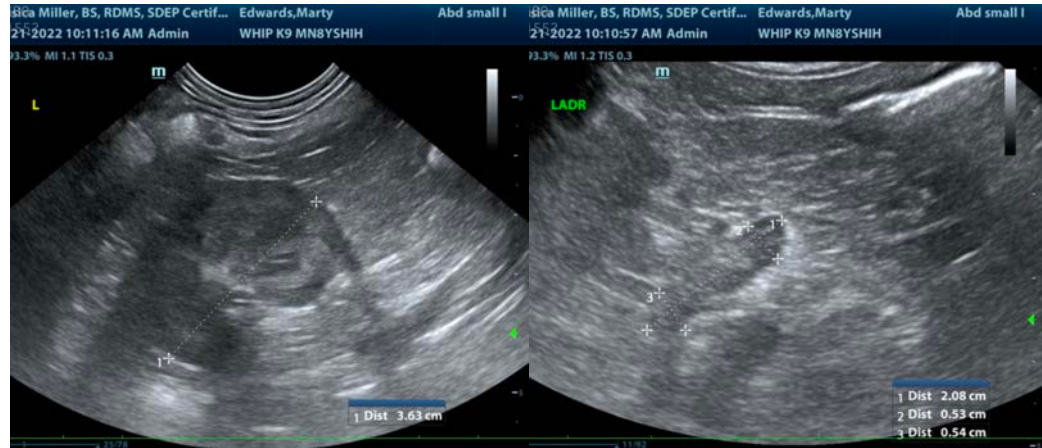
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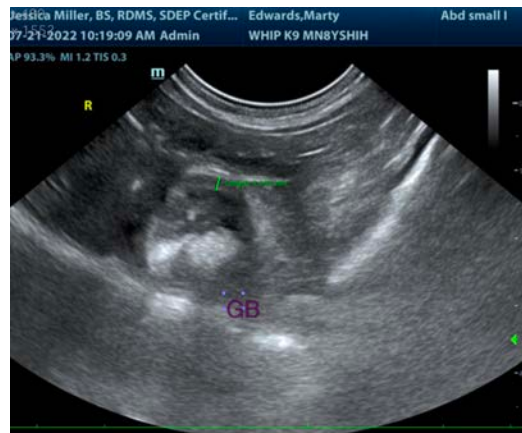
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The information and recommendations provided are based on the images presented by the referring veterinarian/sonographer. No evaluation can be communicated regarding pathology that was not visible in the image/video clips provided.

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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