



**PATIENT**

Bella Whisenhunt

**SPECIES**

Canine

**BREED**

Shih Tzu

**SEX**

Spayed Female

**AGE**

10 Years

**WEIGHT**

10.3 Pounds

**INTERPRETED BY**

Beth Johnson, DVM  
DACVIM

**IMAGING PERFORMED BY**

Dr. Harold Mike Beard

**HOSPITAL NAME**

Animal Care  
Veterinary Center

**REFERRING VET**

Dr. Greg Hartman

**INVOICE**

39875

**DATE**

7/28/22

**PRESENTING CLINICAL SIGNS**

5 day hx of anorexia and vomiting. Being treated with sc fluids, Baytril and Cerenia. RDVM radiographs reveal gaseous bowels.

Abnormal PE/Chem/CBC/UA Results: Positive Murphy sign cranial abdomen. CBC = neutrophilia and eosinopenia. Chemistry = decreased BUN, Phos, Amylase; increased ALT.

**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.

The right kidney is normal in size (4.5 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 (3.9 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 (0.83 cm at the cranial pole and 0.56 cm at the caudal pole), shape and contour. Corticomedullary structure is unremarkable. Visible surrounding vasculature appears normal.

The area of the left adrenal gland is examined without evident pathology.

**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 smooth without visible thickening. Luminal contents are primarily anechoic. There is no evidence of cystic or common bile duct dilation.

**Gastrointestinal**

The visible stomach wall is normal in thickness and layering. The lumen of the stomach is mildly distended with very echogenic reverberation artifact from intraluminal gas. There is no evidence of obstruction, foreign material or infiltrative disease; however, complete visualization of far wall is partially inhibited by gas. 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 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.

**SPECIES**

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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***

**BREED**

Shih Tzu

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.

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Spayed Female

***Free Abdomen***

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

There is no apparent lymphadenopathy noted in these images.

**AGE**

10 Years

**ULTRASONOGRAPHIC FINDINGS**

- Urinary bladder debris
- Mild gastrointestinal gas

**WEIGHT**

10.3 Pounds

**INTERPRETATION OF THE FINDINGS & FURTHER RECOMMENDATIONS**

There is no obvious ultrasonographic cause for this patient's gastrointestinal signs or reported cranial abdominal discomfort. Pancreatitis cannot be ruled out. Therefore, 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.

Given the reportedly increased ALT, testing for Leptospirosis could be considered, as could a fine needle aspirate of the liver if patient's coagulation status is appropriate and clinical signs persist beyond medical management without another definitive diagnosis.

Urinalysis and, if indicated based on urinalysis results, urine culture are recommended. If protein is present in an otherwise quiet sediment, protein quantification with a urine protein to creatinine ration is recommended.

In the meantime, medical management of possible mild pancreatitis/gastroenteritis/mild hepatopathy is recommended in the form of supportive symptomatic care with antiemetics, gastroprotectants, appetite stimulants, pain management (given the reported abdominal pain), broad-spectrum antibiotics, and fluid therapy.

If clinical signs persist and/or progress beyond medical management, recheck fasted abdominal imaging is recommended for further, more thorough evaluation of the GI tract, given the presence of gas in this study.

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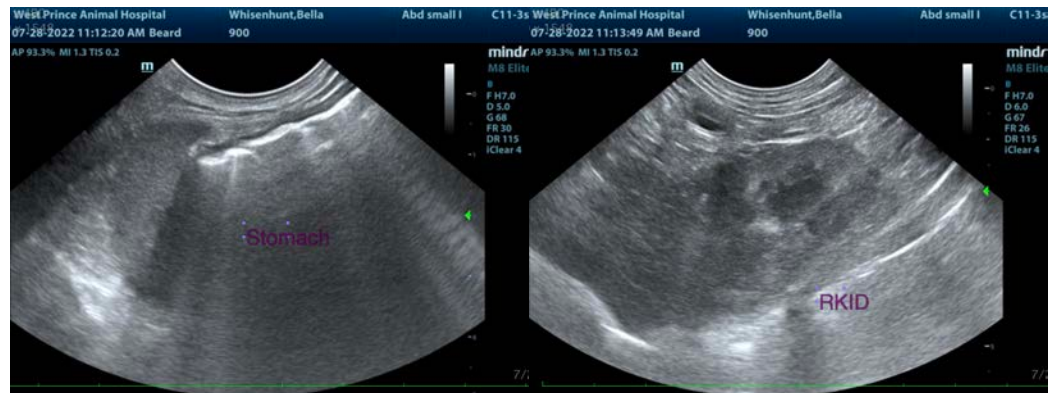
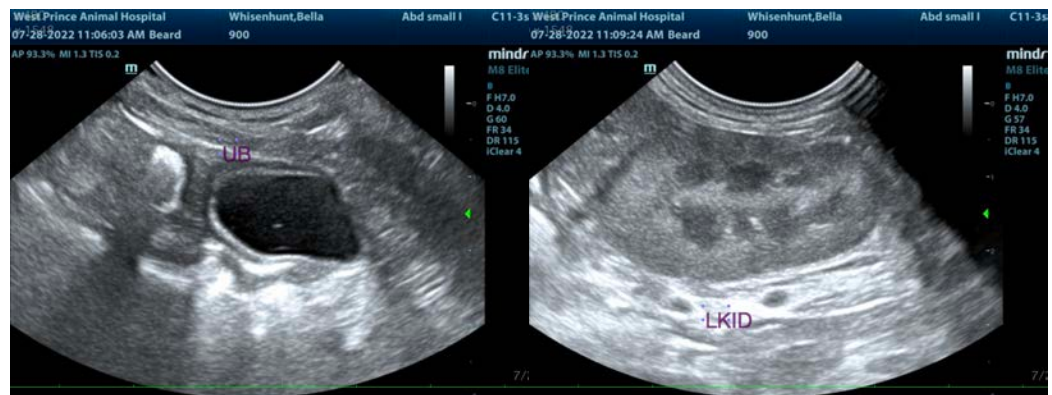
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The information and recommendations provided are based on the images presented by the referring veterinarian/sonographer. No evaluation can be communicated regarding pathology that was not visible in the image/video clips provided.

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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