



PATIENT PRESENTING CLINICAL SIGNS

Mira Damji

- Findings: Weight loss, hyporexia, Lethargic
- ABNORMAL Labwork Values: Bloodwork will be emailed.
- ALT is higher than the maximum value that can be read on the machine

SPECIES

Canine

Abnormal PE/Chem/CBC/UA Results: See attached BW Primary Question to Be Answered in This Exam Is there evidence of primary liver disease? Recommended diagnostic/treatment options?

BREED

Shih Tzu

ULTRASONOGRAPHIC EXAMINATION OF THE ABDOMEN

SEX

Urinary System

Spayed Female

The urinary bladder, trigone, and visible pelvic urethra were of normal thickness. The ureters were not visible which is normal. There was normal wall layering with no masses, uroliths or abnormal thickening visualized. Urine was anechoic. No evidence of inflammatory or neoplastic changes were noted.

AGE

13 Years

The kidneys have a smooth capsule and with mild hazing of corticomedullary definition. Hyperechoic, shadowing foci present in renal parenchyma and calyces consistent with nephrocalcinosis. The right kidney measured 4.26 cm in length. The left kidney measured 3.39 cm in length. Visualization of the right kidney is slightly hindered by overlying gas filled GI tract.

WEIGHT

5.4 kg

Adrenal Glands

INTERPRETED BY

Dr Brittany Sinclair,
 BVSc(hons), DACVECC

Both adrenal glands were visualized and recognized as having normal shape, size, position and echogenicity for this breed. The phrenic vasculature, glandular echogenicity and detail were unremarkable. Capsule, cortex, and medullary definition were normal for this age patient. The left adrenal gland measured 1.29 cm in length and 0.40 cm at the cranial pole and 0.45 cm at the caudal pole. The right adrenal gland measured 1.32 cm in length and 0.81 cm at the cranial pole and 0.41 cm at the caudal pole.

IMAGING PERFORMED BY

Amanda Stewart

Spleen

HOSPITAL NAME

Waterloo West AH

The spleen was normal with a smooth homogeneous parenchyma hyperechoic to liver and renal cortical parenchyma and smooth capsule, with normal splenic vasculature with no signs of congestion or thrombosis. No sonographic evidence of acute or chronic inflammatory, neoplastic, or infarct changes were noted.

REFERRING VET

Dr. Gajadhar

Liver

INVOICE

13401

The liver is subjectively normal in size with normal contours and structure. The parenchyma is heterogenous with a slightly coarse appearance. No specific nodules are visualized. Vascular and biliary tracts are of normal volume with no evidence of congestion. No pathological hepatic lymphadenopathy observed.

DATE

01/26/26

Gallbladder is moderately distended with normal wall thickness and anechoic contents. Common bile duct is non-distended and tapers normally.

Gastrointestinal



PATIENT

Mira Damji

The stomach contains minimal luminal contents. It measures at a normal thickness with some variability due to the presence of rugal folds. The distinction of the gastric wall layers is adequate and there is no impression of reduced peristaltic activity. No masses or focal lesions were observed.

SPECIES

Canine

The visualized areas of duodenum, jejunum and ileum have a relatively uniform diameter with minimal fluid distension. Wall thickness is normal. Bowel loops follow a curvilinear path with distinct wall layering maintaining the typical 1:3 muscularis: mucosa layer ratio. Visualized peristalsis appears appropriate. There were no focal lesions consistent with obstruction or a mass effect observed.

BREED

Shih Tzu

The ileocecal junction was not visualized. Sections of colon are visualized with formed fecal material and gas shadowing distally. There is no observed focal or generalized colon wall thickening or loss of layering.

SEX

Spayed Female

Pancreas

The area of the pancreas was isoechoic to surrounding tissue with no overt inflammation. Pancreatic tissue was not distinctly visualized which is common.

AGE

13 Years

Lymph Nodes

No clinically significant lymphadenopathy or abnormalities noted.

WEIGHT

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ULTRASONOGRAPHIC FINDINGS

- Slightly coarse liver.
- Mild aging renal changes.
- Normal GI tract.

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INTERPRETATION OF THE FINDINGS & FURTHER RECOMMENDATIONS

Liver changes are a common benign age-related change, but infiltrative disease (lymphoma, MCT, other) cannot be definitively ruled out. No significant disruption of architecture noted to suggest significant pathology. In the face of elevated liver enzymes, fine needle aspirate is recommended to further characterize parenchymal changes, and bile acid profile to assess liver function if Tbili normalizes, especially if any weight loss is noted or for baseline cytological assessment. Ultimately liver biopsy is often required for more definitive diagnosis. Empiric treatments (SAM-E, milk thistle, Vitamin E, ursodiol if bilirubin elevated or gallbladder sludge) could be tried and liver enzymes re-evaluated, especially if liver FNA does not show significant pathology before more invasive liver sampling is pursued.

IMAGING PERFORMED BY

Amanda Stewart

There is no other ultrasonographically evident cause of reported GI signs in this abdominal study. Pancreas and GI tract are within normal limits. Consideration for dietary indiscretion, infectious etiologies (bacterial, viral, parasitic), food sensitivity/allergy or mild inflammatory bowel disease is reasonable. While not sonographically evident, pancreatitis cannot be completely ruled out. Empiric treatment for GI signs including anti-nausea, appetite stimulant and fluid support as clinically indicated is warranted. A diet trial with hydrolyzed protein or select protein diet could be considered if food sensitivity is suspected clinically. If signs are persistent or recurrent, additional diagnostics to be considered include baseline cortisol +/- ACTH stimulation test, GI panel (TLI/PLI/cobalamin/folate), fecal pathogen panel, thyroid testing, bile acid profile, and thoracic radiographs to rule out occult neoplasia, cardiac disease and esophageal disease as potential causes. Ultimately GI biopsy may be required for more definitive diagnosis if the patient is not responsive to medical treatment.

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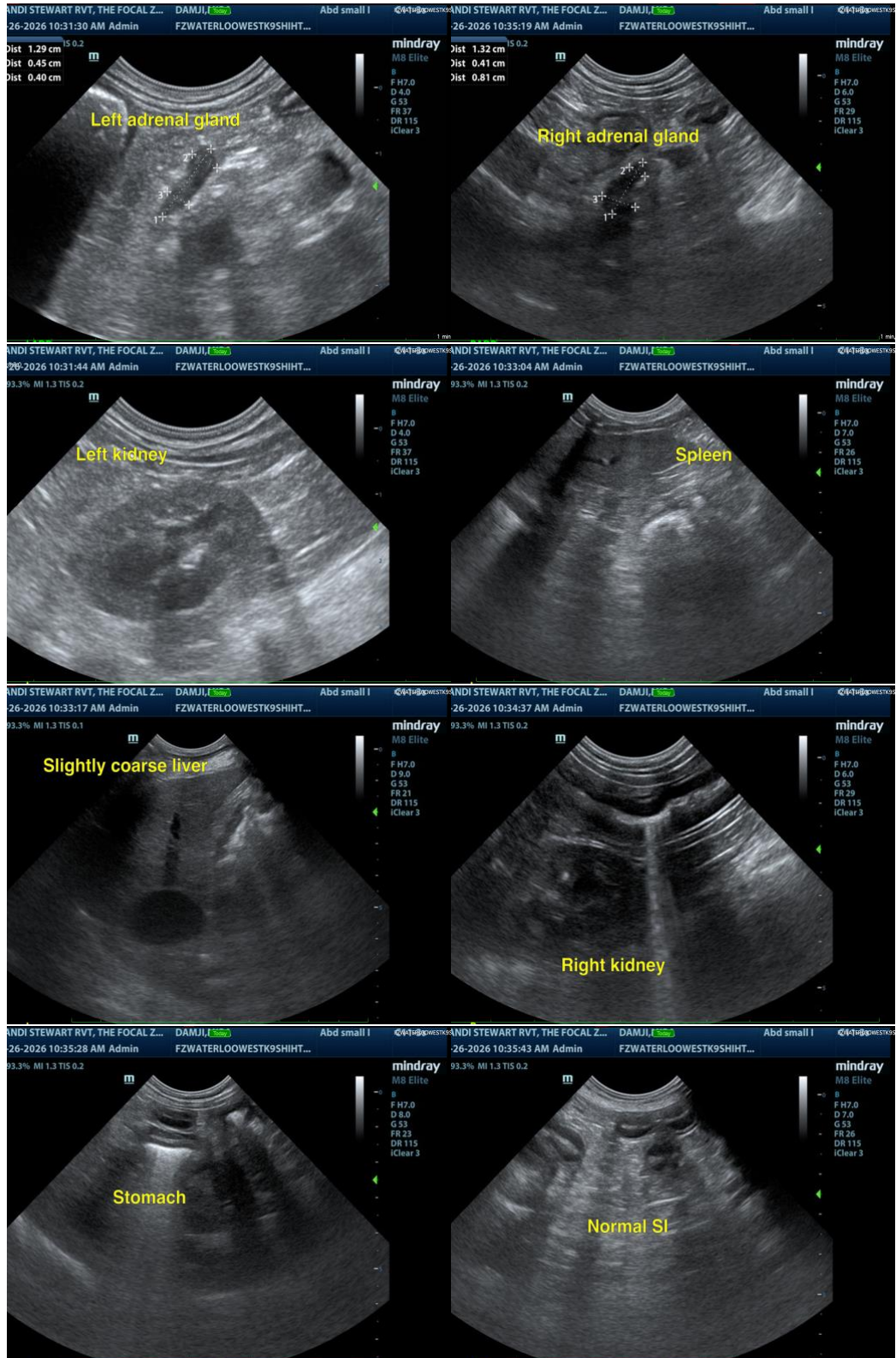
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The information and recommendations provided are based on the images presented by the referring veterinarian/sonographer. No evaluation can be communicated regarding pathology that was not visible in the image/video clips provided.

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.

Dr Brittany Sinclair, BVSc(hons), DACVECC

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