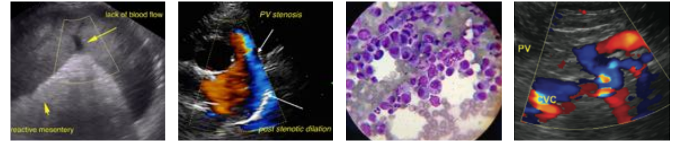


SonoPath.com™
1-800-838-4268 info@sonopath.com

PATIENT

Magnum Burke

SPECIES

Canine

BREED

Alaskan Malamute Mix

SEX

Neutered male

AGE

6 years

WEIGHT

84 lbs

INTERPRETED BY

Dr Brittany Sinclair, BVSc(hons), DACVECC

IMAGING PERFORMED BY

Diane McFadden CVT

HOSPITAL NAME

Newton VH

REFERRING VET

INVOICE

43544

DATE

3/28/23

PRESENTING CLINICAL SIGNS

History: Vomiting, elevated ALT, tbili. Lepto vaccinated. On ampicillin and cerenia
Abnormal PE/Chem/CBC/UA Results: ALT 2905, tbili 1.5

ULTRASONOGRAPHIC EXAMINATION OF THE ABDOMEN

Urinary System

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.

The kidneys were both normal size and structure, with smooth capsule and normal corticomedullary definition and ratio (cortex 1/3 of medulla). Medullary structure differed distinctly from that of the cortex. No evidence of pelvic dilation was present. The right kidney measured 6.71 cm. The left kidney measured 7.14 cm.

Adrenal Glands

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 2.48 cm in length and 0.77 cm at the cranial pole and 0.75 cm at the caudal pole. The right adrenal gland measured 3.57 cm in length and 0.71 cm at the cranial pole and 1.88 cm at the caudal pole.

Spleen

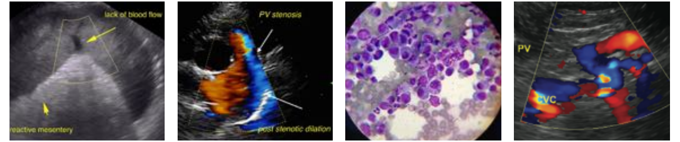
The spleen was normal in size with a mottled parenchyma and smooth capsule. Normal splenic vasculature with no signs of congestion or thrombosis.

Liver

The liver is subjectively normal in size with normal contours and structure. There is appropriate echogenicity and echotexture. No overt structural evidence of inflammatory, infiltrative or regenerative pathology is evident. Vascular and biliary tracts are of normal volume with no evidence of congestion. No pathological hepatic lymphadenopathy observed. Gallbladder is moderately distended with normal wall thickness and anechoic contents. Common bile duct is non-distended and tapers normally

Gastrointestinal

The stomach contains minimal luminal contents. It measures at a normal thickness of 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. 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



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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. The ileocecal junction was visualized and exhibited normal intact wall layering and is subjectively of normal thickness. 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.

Pancreas

The base and limbs of the pancreas were observed to be largely isoechoic to surrounding omental fat. Pancreatic duct and capsular contour and parenchyma were normal. No overt evidence of active inflammatory or neoplastic disease was noted.

Lymph Nodes

No clinically significant lymphadenopathy or abnormalities noted.

Free Abdomen

No masses or free fluid were noted.

ULTRASONOGRAPHIC FINDINGS

Primary Findings

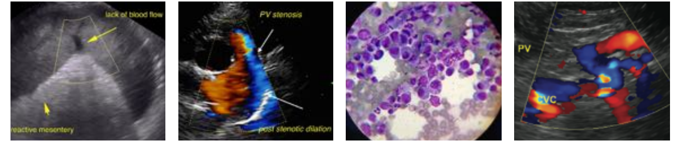
1. Splenic parenchymal changes with smooth capsule
2. Normal liver
3. Normal GI tract and pancreas

INTERPRETATION OF THE FINDINGS & FURTHER RECOMMENDATIONS

The liver parenchyma appears normal and there is no ultrasonographic explanation for the elevated liver enzymes in this patient. There is no significant disruption of architecture noted to suggest significant pathology. Fine needle aspirate is recommended to further characterize parenchymal changes and bile acid profile to assess liver function. Ultimately liver biopsy is often required for more definitive diagnosis. Empiric treatments (SAM-E, milk thistle, Vitamin E, ursodiol if bilirubin elevated or gall bladder 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.

Splenic changes are a common benign age related change, or may represent reaction to immune stimulation, but infiltrative disease (lymphoma, MCT, other) cannot be definitively ruled out. No significant disruption of architecture noted to suggest significant pathology. Fine needle aspirate could be considered to further characterize parenchymal changes if clinically indicated, especially if any weight loss is noted or for baseline cytological assessment.

Pancreas and GI tract are within normal limits. Consideration for dietary indiscretion, 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



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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 GI panel (TLI/PLI/cobalamin/folate), baseline cortisol +/- ACTH stimulation test, 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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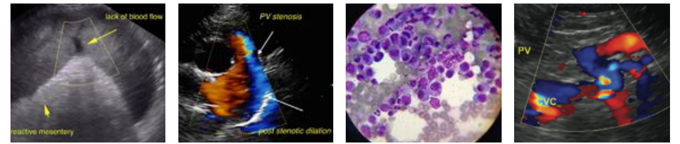

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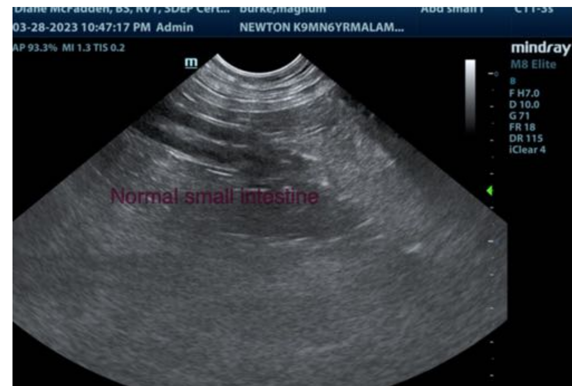

The information and recommendations provided are based on the images presented by the referring veterinarian/sonographer. No evaluation can be communicated regarding pathology that was not visible in the image/video clips provided.

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
info@SonoPath.com