

**DATE**

10/12/22

**PATIENT**

Buddy Dauses

**SPECIES**

Canine

**BREED**

Shih Tzu

**SEX**

Intact Male

**AGE**

4/14/22

**WEIGHT**

12.8 Pounds

**INTERPRETED BY**Eric Lindquist, DMV  
DABVP, Cert. IVUSS**IMAGING PERFORMED BY**

Andi Parkinson RDMS

**HOSPITAL NAME**

Northwind AH

**REFERRING VET**

Dr. Repsher

**INVOICE**

42031

**PRESENTING CLINICAL SIGNS**

Presented for neuter and cherry eye surgery. Pre-op BW showed elevated ALT and ALP. Did baseline BA and values came back elevated. Rec. US to R/O shunt/micro hepatica. No abnormalities in behavior/eating noted at home.

Current Medications: BNP Dex Drops as needed for secondary conjunctivitis

Lab Results: ALT 267, ALP 169. BA Pre 16.9 or Post 167.4

Date of Previous IntraPet Ultrasound: No previous.

Sedation: Not required to complete full diagnostic ultrasound.

Stat Report: Not requested.

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

The **urinary bladder**, trigone, and pelvic urethra presented normal thicknesses and normal tone. The ureters were not visible which is normal. No uroliths or sediment were visualized and anechoic urine was present. No evidence of inflammatory or neoplastic changes were noted. Ureteral papillae were normal.

The **kidneys** were mildly swollen with slight pinpoint mineralizations noted. The left kidney measured 4.15 cm. The right kidney measured 4.15 cm.

**Adrenal Glands**

The **left adrenal gland** was flattened and subnormal in size, measuring 1.98 cm x 0.26 cm at the cranial pole and 0.36 cm at the caudal pole.

The **right adrenal gland** was flattened, but technically within normal limits, measuring 1.8 cm x 0.37 cm at the cranial pole and 0.48 cm at the caudal pole.

**Spleen**

The **spleen** presented a smooth homogeneous parenchyma hyperechoic to liver and renal cortical parenchyma. The capsule was smooth without noticeable expansion or deviation from within the spleen or adjacent pathology. The splenic vasculature demonstrated normal volume without signs of congestion or thrombosis. No sonographic evidence of acute or chronic inflammatory, neoplastic, or infarctual changes were noted.

**Liver**

The **liver** was subnormal in size. The gallbladder and common bile duct were unremarkable. The portal hilus revealed an extra vessel, creating a double aorta sign, which would indicate an azygos shunt, measuring approximately 5.0 mm in width and entering into the diaphragmatic inlet at the level of the esophageal inlet. The portal vein was slightly subnormal in size at the portal hilus, measuring 0.38 cm. The vena cava measured 0.38 cm. Aorta measured 0.62 cm.

**Gastrointestinal**

Examination of the **gastrointestinal tract** revealed a stomach and intestine free of stasis, of normal wall thickness, acceptable curvilinear mural detail, and peristaltic activity. Small and large intestine demonstrated normal luminal chyme and stool consistency respectively. No obstructive or overt infiltrative disease was noted. No associated abnormal lymphatic activity was noted.

## **Pancreas**

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

## **ULTRASONOGRAPHIC FINDINGS**

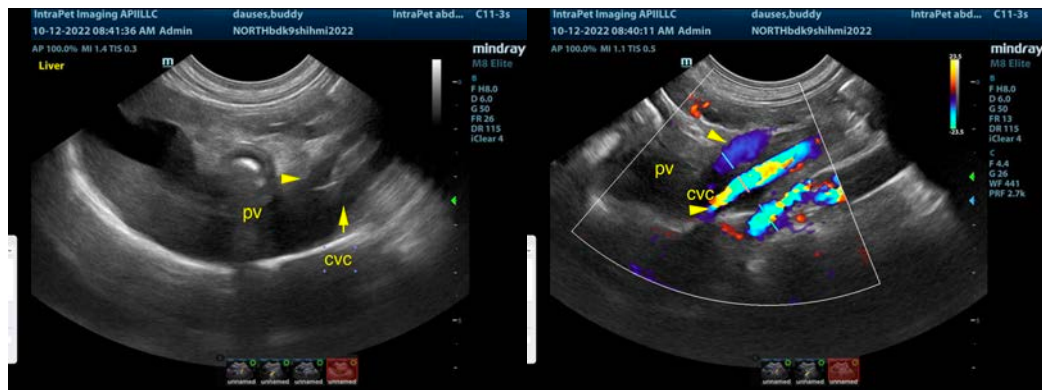
- Double aorta sign – indicative of an azygos shunt.
- Microhepatica
- Swollen kidneys
- Flattened adrenal glands

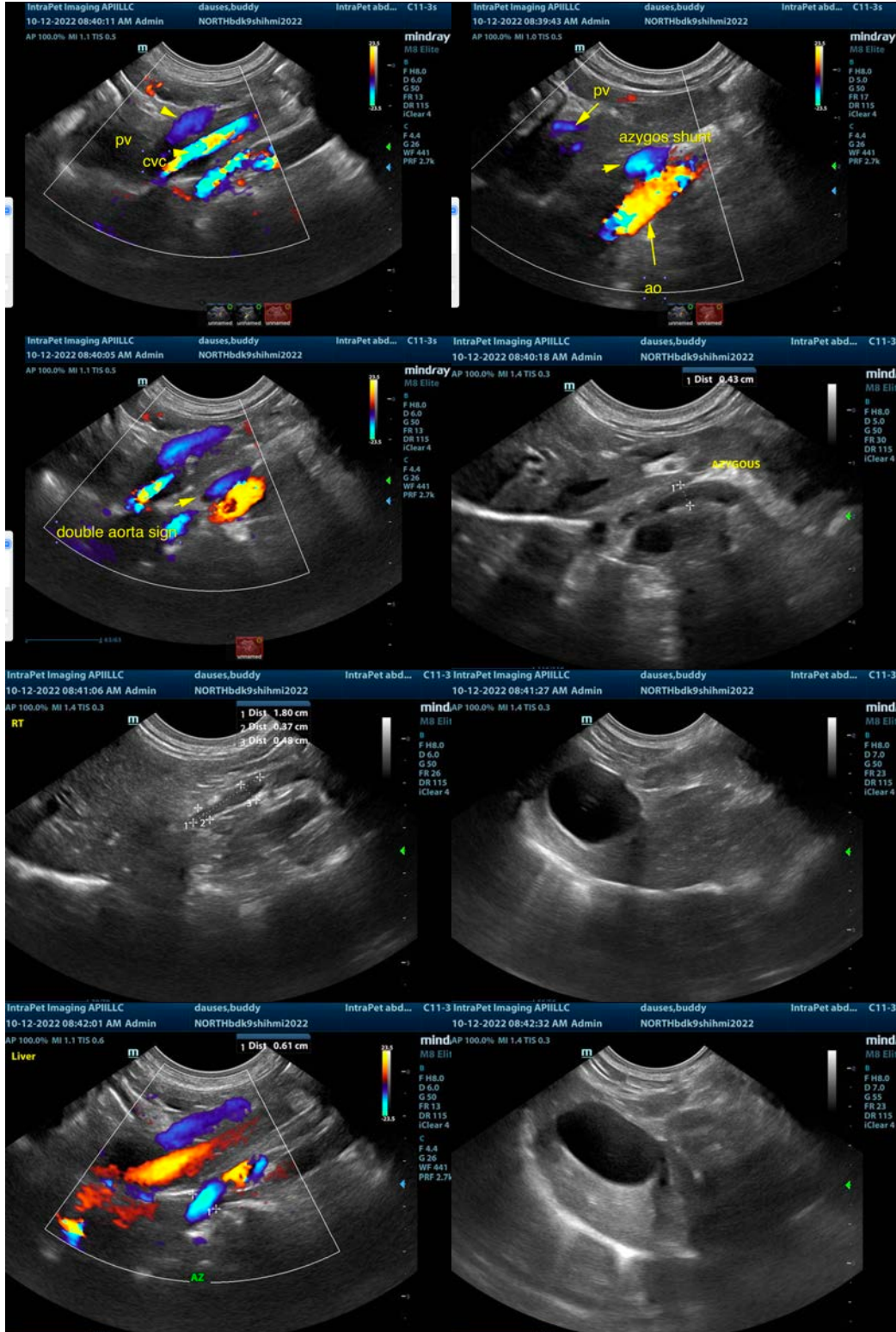
## **INTERPRETATION OF THE FINDINGS & FURTHER RECOMMENDATIONS**

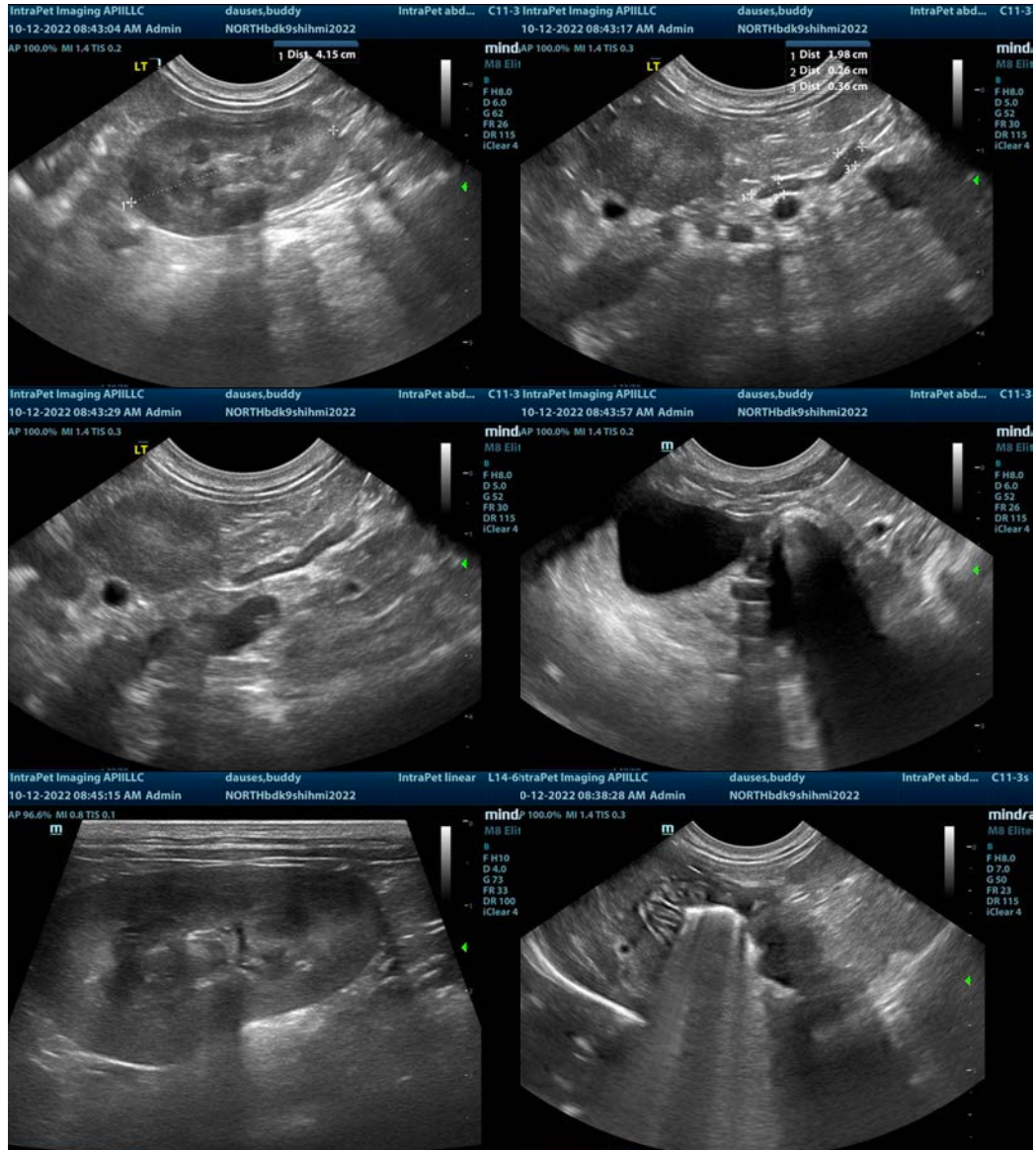
Sonographic appearance of the portal hilus is consistent with azygos shunting. The exact origin of the azygos is likely the splenic vein. CT evaluation for surgical planning recommended. Medical management with the following recommended in the meantime. Screening for Addison's with baseline cortisol or ACTH stimulation recommended to ensure that concurrent Addison's is not an issue, given the flattened adrenal glands. No evidence of bladder calculi at the time of the sonogram. Eventual shunt attenuation and liver biopsy indicated.

### **Hepatic Support for Bile Acid Elevation +/- Hepatic Encephalopathy**

**Royal Canin Hepatic Support diet or Hills L/D, Metronidazole (7.5 mg/kg PO bid) over the next 14 days, Lactulose (Oral: 3.1-3.7 g/5 ml lactulose in a syrup base) long term to target 2-3 soft stools/day, with a high-quality protein supplement of minor amount of yogurt or cheddar cheese.** Monitor bile acids, with attention paid to dropping albumin, BUN or cholesterol. SAME and nutraceuticals as needed. **Ursodiol (10-15 mg/kg p.o. q24h)** can be considered as hepatoprotectant and to enhance bile flow. **Zinc** serum level keep between 200–500 ug/dl. If deficient then Tx zinc acetate 1-3 mg/kg/day. Gastrointestinal protectants are recommended if the patient is anorexic.







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.

Eric Lindquist, DMV, DABVP, Cert. IVUSS, CEO of SonoPath.com  
[info@SonoPath.com](mailto:info@SonoPath.com)