



PATIENT

Frankie Downs

SPECIES

Canine

BREED

Shih Tzu

SEX

Male

AGE

10 Months

WEIGHT

6.7 Pounds

INTERPRETED BY

Eric Lindquist, DMV

DABVP, Cert. IVUSS

IMAGING PERFORMED BY

Dr. Ebersole

HOSPITAL NAME

Scanvet

REFERRING VET

Dr. Lane

INVOICE

42051

DATE

10/13/22

PRESENTING CLINICAL SIGNS

Pre-anesthetic blood work for neuter on 8/15/22 revealed elevated ALT. Treated with Orbax and Denamarin. Recheck, ALT decreased but still elevated. No clinical signs. Planning anesthesia for neuter. Abnormal PE/Chem/CBC/UA Results: BW (8/15/22): ALT 174. Recheck (9/26/22): ALT 128

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** revealed normal size and structure, corticomedullary definition and ratio for this age. The cortices presented largely uniform texture with normal echogenic relationship to liver and spleen. Medullary structure differed distinctly from the cortex and no evidence of pelvic dilation was present. The capsules were acceptably uniform without significant irregularities. The left kidney measured 3.6 cm. The right kidney measured 3.57 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 right adrenal gland measured 0.85 cm at the cranial pole and 0.42 cm at the caudal pole. The left adrenal gland measured 0.43 cm at the caudal pole and 0.33 cm at the cranial 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 slightly subnormal in size with normal contour and structure. Parenchymal echogenicity was naturally coarse and hypoechoic to the spleen. The gallbladder presented acceptably thin walls with primarily anechoic content. The cystic and common bile ducts were normal. No pathological hepatic lymphadenopathy was evident. No overt structural evidence of inflammatory, infiltrative or regenerative pathology was evident.

No evidence of intrahepatic or extrahepatic shunting. Intrahepatic vascular volume appeared normal. Portal vein to vena cava ratio was 1:1, approximately 5.0 mm each.

Gastrointestinal

Minor amount of ingesta noted in the **stomach**. The small intestine and colon were unremarkable.



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Pancreas

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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.

SPECIES

Canine

ULTRASONOGRAPHIC FINDINGS

- Normal abdomen with likely reactive hepatopathy

BREED

INTERPRETATION OF THE FINDINGS & FURTHER RECOMMENDATIONS

Shih Tzu

No evidence of macroscopic shunting. If bile acids are elevated, portal vein hypoplasia is likely. No contraindication to anesthetic procedure, if necessary, unless bile acids are elevated.

SEX

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The hepatic clinical sonographic presentation is most consistent with Reactive Hepatopathy which is the most common cause of liver enzyme elevation in dogs and cats. The presumption is that gut and other organ antigen stimuli may be causing a low-grade immune response through portal system with which the liver is reacting to causing low-grade enzyme elevations. US-guided FNA could be performed to assess if low grade lymphoplasmacytic inflammation is present that would support this theory. If FNA is performed, please ask the cytologist to emphasize the primary inflammatory cell type. Empirical treatment measures to address this issue can include diet change to hydrolyzed diet, probiotics, deworming, nutraceuticals (SAmE, Actigall...), dental exam and cleaning, and potentially antibiotics such as Clavamox. Metronidazole and Tylosin have traditionally been utilized for this purpose but new studies show that both these antibiotics can disrupt the normal intestinal bacterial flora (intestinal dysbiosis) for weeks and up to 4-6 months. Therefore, Metronidazole and Tylosin should be utilized as a last resort if other efforts have not been effective and sonographic organ appearance remains benign.

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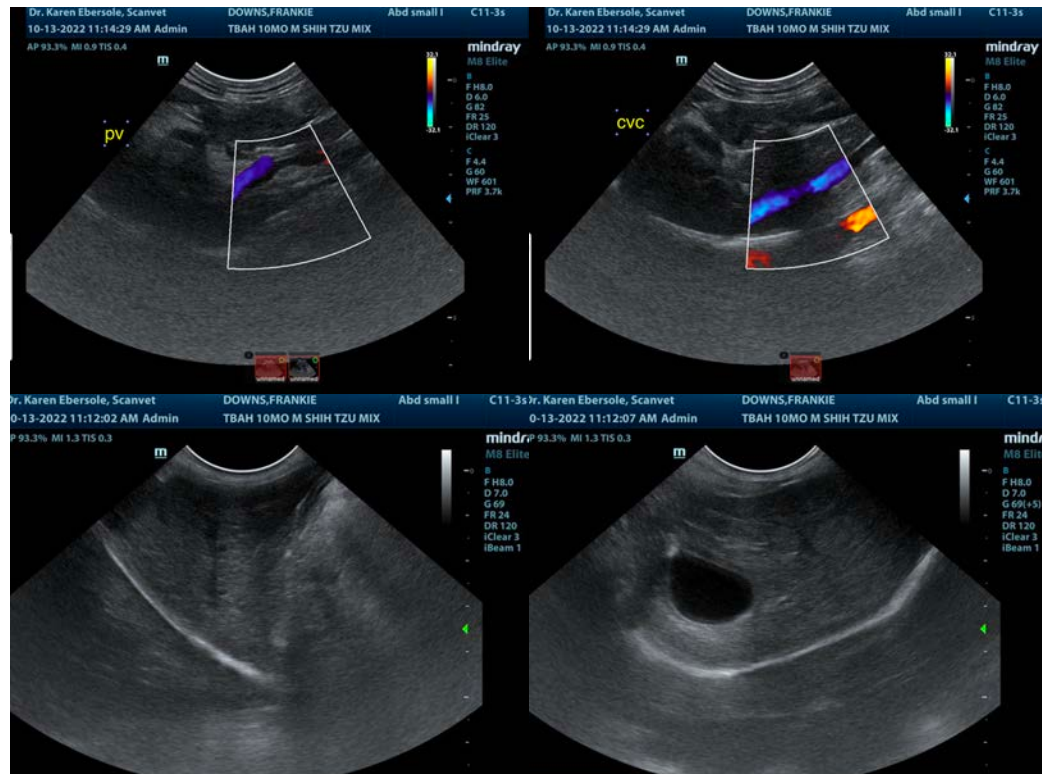
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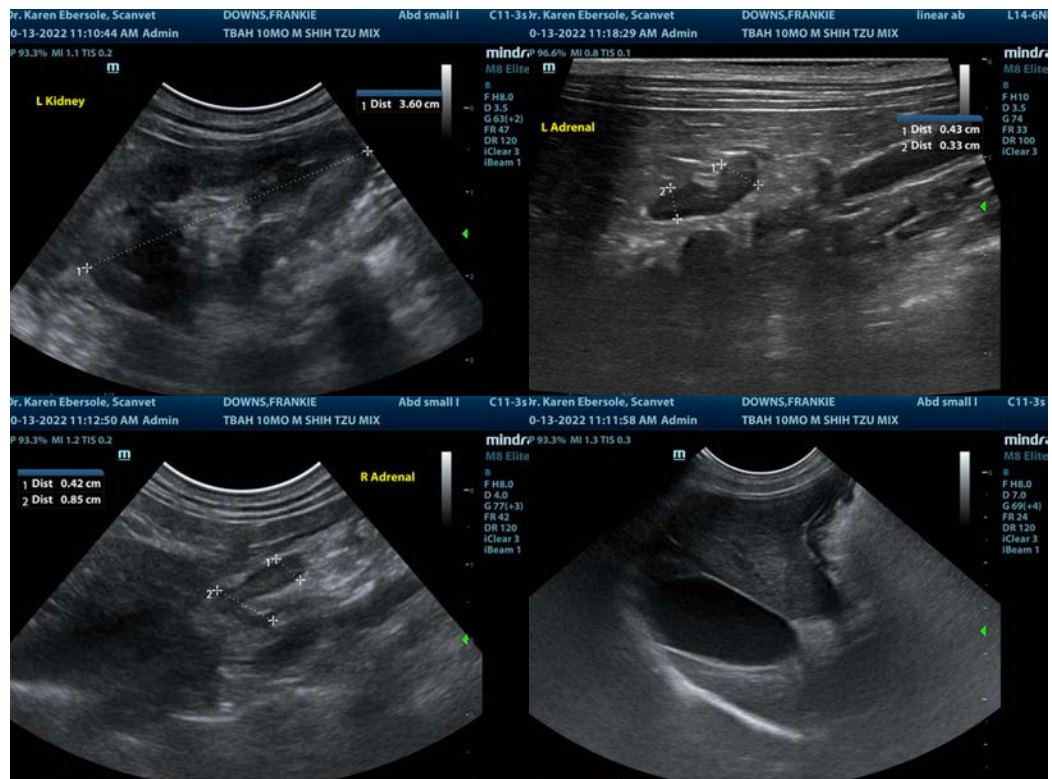
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The information and recommendations provided are based on the images presented by the referring veterinarian/sonographer. No evaluation can be communicated regarding pathology that was not visible in the image/video clips provided.

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.

Eric Lindquist, DMV, DABVP, Cert. IVUSS, CEO of SonoPath.com

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