



PATIENT

Athena Hanna

PRESENTING CLINICAL SIGNS

Hypoglycemia
Abnormal PE/Chem/CBC/UA Results: Hypoglycemia- Pending insulin/Gluc

SPECIES

Canine

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.

BREED

Greyhound

SEX

Spayed Female

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 right kidney measured 6.62 cm. The left kidney measured 6.37 cm.

AGE

11 Years 7 Months

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 2.39 cm x 0.71 cm at the caudal pole and 0.63 cm at the cranial pole. The left adrenal gland measured 2.55 cm x 0.57 cm at the caudal pole and 0.70 cm at the cranial pole.

WEIGHT

62 Pounds

Spleen

The **spleen** was enlarged yet uniform. No evidence of vascular insult.

INTERPRETED BY

Eric Lindquist, DMV

Liver

The **liver** images submitted revealed subjectively normal liver size, contour, and structure. Parenchymal echogenicity was naturally coarse and hypoechoic to the spleen. Vascular and biliary tracts were of normal volume with no evidence of congestion. 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.

DABVP, Cert. IVUSS

IMAGING PERFORMED BY

Jessica Miller

HOSPITAL NAME

ACC Flanders

Gastrointestinal

Examination of the **gastrointestinal tract** revealed an unremarkable stomach and small intestine regarding structure. were minor areas of luminal fluid noted. There was no evidence of obstructive pattern. Curvilinear patterns were retained throughout the gastrointestinal tract. Areas of mucosal fogging and striations noted in the small intestine, and variable thickening. There Areas of hyperperistalsis were noted. This is consistent with response to irritation. The colon was unremarkable.

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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.

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Free Abdomen

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Free fluid noted in the caudal abdomen, adjacent to the spleen.

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Canine

ULTRASONOGRAPHIC FINDINGS

- Gastroenteritis pattern with reactive mesentery and free fluid
- Mild hypersplenism

BREED

Greyhound

INTERPRETATION OF THE FINDINGS & FURTHER RECOMMENDATIONS

No obvious evidence of insulinoma. If the albumin level was <1.5 at the time of the sonogram, then protein losing enteropathy is a potential. Abdominocentesis and cytospin of the free fluid warranted to rule out underlying occult neoplasia and assess the nature of the free fluid. Further diagnostics necessary. Assessment for possible xylitol toxicity would also be appropriate. GI protectant protocol warranted. If albumin levels are low, then plasma transfusion would be indicated, as well as plasma expanders. If insulin to glucose ratio suggests insulinoma, abdominal CT with contrast warranted, as this is the gold standard to assess for insulinoma, yet no overt pathology related to insulinomas visible.

AGE

11 Years 7 Months

WEIGHT

62 Pounds

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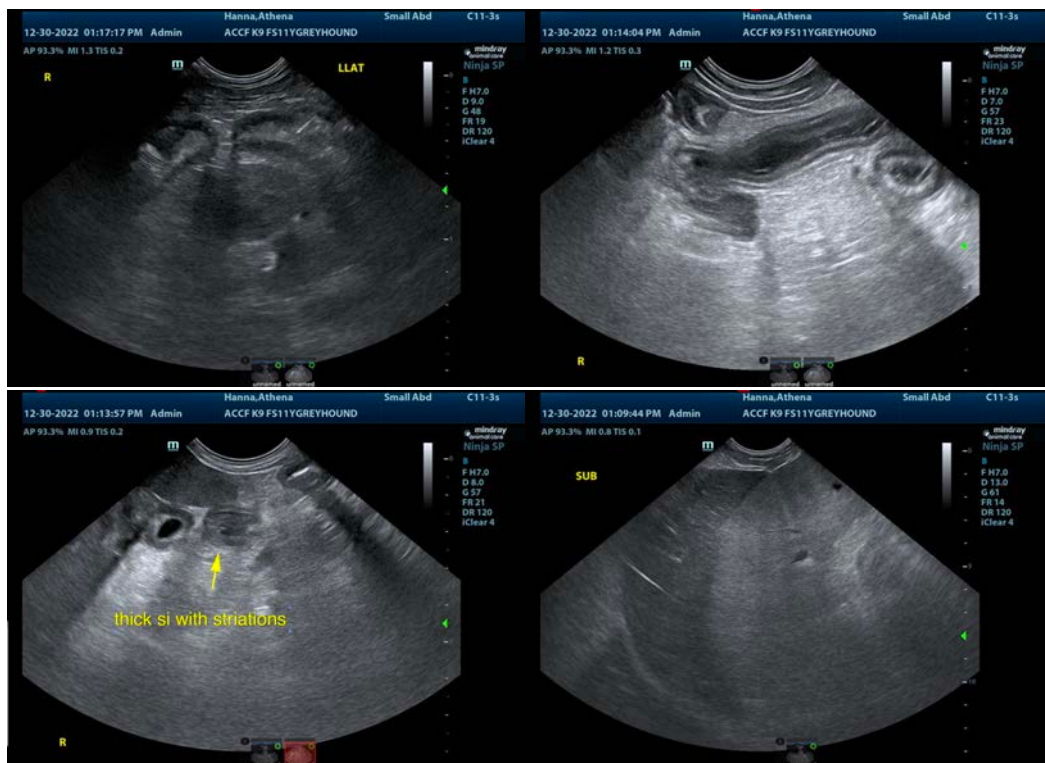
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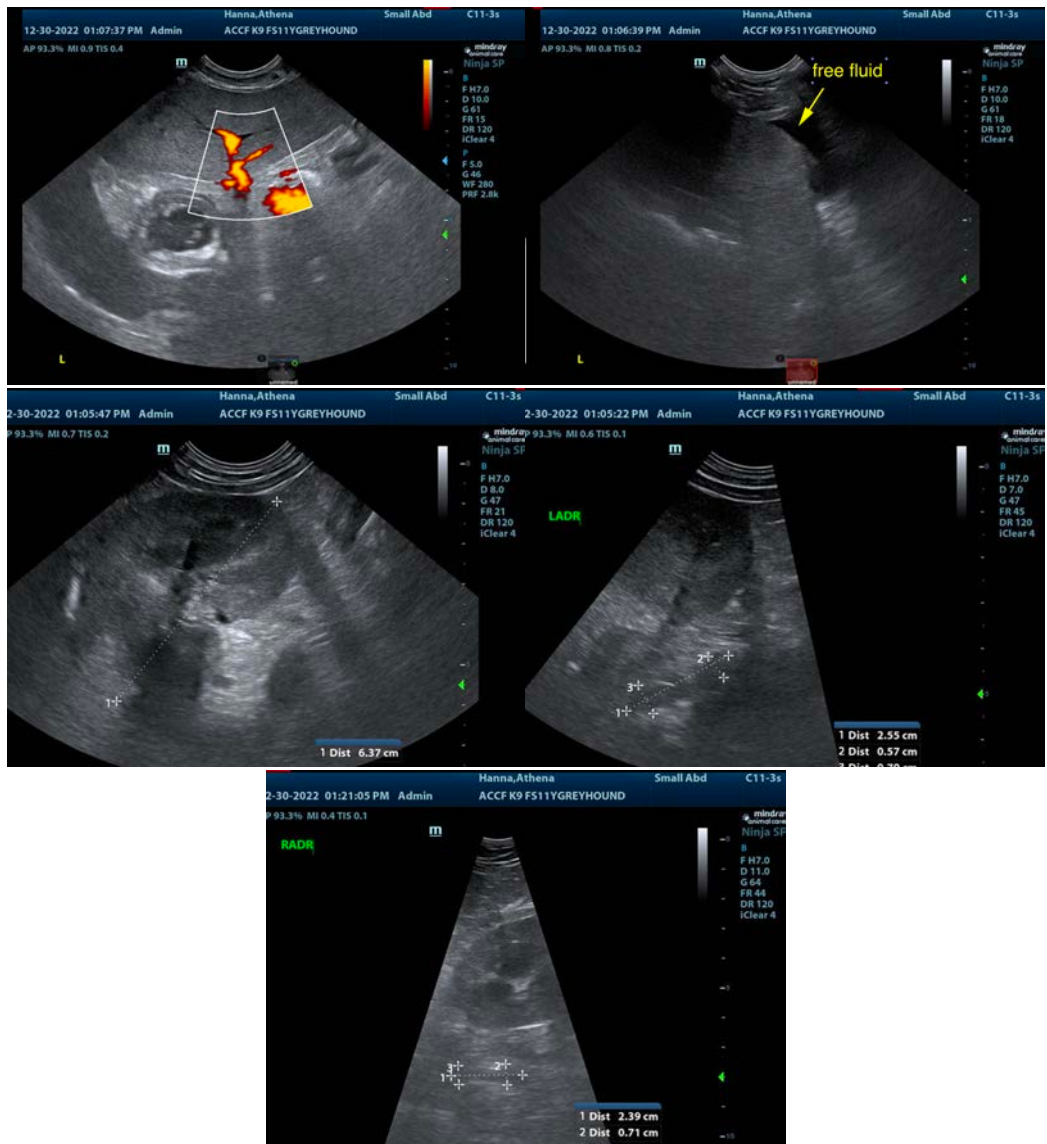
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The information and recommendations provided are based on the images presented by the referring veterinarian/sonographer. No evaluation can be communicated regarding pathology that was not visible in the image/video clips provided.

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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The following is an applicable excerpt from the *Curbside Guide to Diagnosis & Treatment of Sonographic Disease* offered by [SonoPath.com](http://www.sonopath.com) Lindquist, Frank, Lobetti, and Modler.

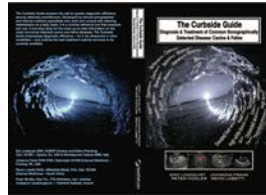
SPECIES

Canine

An essential quick guide for every general practitioner and sonographer.

BREED

Greyhound



SEX

Spayed Female

AGE

11 Years 7 Months

Hypoglycemic Syndrome: Insulinoma and Other

<http://www.sonopath.com/Hypoglycemia>

WEIGHT

62 Pounds

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Short axis of the left pancreatic limb in a dog with an insulinoma seen as an ovoid hypoechoic mass lesion expanding the pancreatic capsule.

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Description: Hypoglycemia can be found incidentally or associated with non-specific clinical signs, such as listlessness and weakness. It is essential to consider the multiple differentials for hypoglycemia in order to avoid a potential hypoglycemic crisis. One must perform a rapid and efficient workup to arrive at a diagnosis and prescribe the proper therapy.

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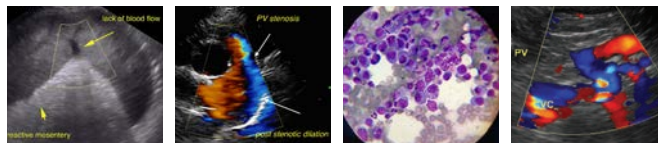
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Differentials for hypoglycemia include: laboratory or handling error; sepsis; toxins (e.g. xylitol, ethylene glycol); hunting dog hypoglycemia; Addison's disease; polycythemia; liver failure; poorly regulated diabetes mellitus; and neoplasia (e.g. leiomyosarcoma, hepatic, lymphoma, and insulinoma).

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Once other causes of hypoglycemia have been ruled out, one may initiate an investigation into the



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possibility of insulinoma. Insulinoma is a tumor of the pancreas that originates in the beta cells and leads to the unregulated secretion of insulin and hypoglycemic syndrome. The tumor can be a malignant carcinoma or a more benign form of adenoma. There is, however, controversy regarding the exact histopathology associated with insulinoma types.

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Insulinoma patients are usually middle-aged dogs. Half of all cases present with metastasis to the lymph nodes, liver, and mesentery at the time of diagnosis. There are 3 stages of insulinoma:

BREED

Greyhound

Stage 1: Pancreatic localization

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Stage 2: Pancreas and lymph nodes with a median survival time (MST) of 1.5 years

Stage 3: Organ metastasis with an MST of 6 months.

AGE

11 Years 7 Months

Clinical Signs: Neuroglycopenia syndrome results in lethargy, ataxia, collapse, and seizures. Catecholamine release from hypoglycemia leads to hunger, behavior changes, and muscle tremors. Postprandial exacerbation of clinical signs can occur.

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Diagnostics: When investigating for insulinoma, one should use a fluoride-containing tube (i.e., a grey top tube) to obtain an accurate glucose level. A fasting glucose level below 60 mg/dl is diagnostic for hypoglycemia. Insulinoma is indicated when one observes the Whipple's triad of hypoglycemia, clinical signs consistent are with hypoglycemia, and the latter resolve with the administration of dextrose.

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Fasting insulin and glucose ratio: A high normal to elevated insulin level with glucose < 60 mg/dl is diagnostic for insulinoma.

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Imaging: Localizing the lesion with staging is best approached by ultrasound. The ability to localize the lesion may be highly operator- and/or machine-dependent given the often small or even microscopic nature of insulinoma, especially early on in the disease. Primary or secondary lesions associated with insulinoma can often be identified with higher resolution sonography. Appropriate ultrasound-guided sampling (FNA or core biopsy) can be performed of any enlarged lymph node or hepatic nodule if a primary pancreatic lesion is not seen.

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Computed tomography (CT) with contrast is likely more sensitive than the average sonographer when it comes to assessing insulinoma.

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Tumor staging and histopathological characterization in conjunction with the Ki67 biomarker index will yield solid criteria for the prognostic evaluation of insulinoma.



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Treatment:

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In cases of emergency hypoglycemic crisis, apply corn syrup to the gums. Administer a dextrose bolus (0.5g/kg IV) and maintain 2.5-10% dextrose solution. If cerebral edema occurs, one should administer dexamethasone (2 mg/kg IV) and give mannitol (0.5 mg/kg IV) over a 20-minute period.

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One should perform a surgical pancreatectomy if the tumor is localized (i.e., stage 1 insulinoma). Given that the lesion may be difficult to locate with the naked surgical eye or via palpation, the surgical procedure can be enhanced by intraoperative ultrasound.

SEX

Spayed Female

In cases of stage 2 and 3 insulinoma, administer prednisolone (0.25 mg/kg PO BID). A glucagon IV infusion has also been suggested; it should be infused with saline at 5 mg/kg/min for refractory cases. If prednisone is not adequate, one can supplement with benzothiadiazide diazixide (5 mg/kg PO BID).

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Patients should be fed small, frequent portions of a diet high in fat, complex carbohydrates, and protein.

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Chemotherapy: In some cases, the use of alloxan (65 mg/ kg IV) has been shown to be helpful.

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Conclusion: The largest study of insulinoma patients identified a general MST of 547 days; however, the MST was 785 days for those undergoing pancreatectomy and 1316 days for those that relapsed after surgery and received treatment with prednisone. Other studies have reported an MST of 258 days with pancreatectomy. All of these results indicate that insulinoma is treatable. Using ultrasonography for staging and histopathological characterization is essential in order to determine whether the appropriate treatment should be surgical, medical, or both.

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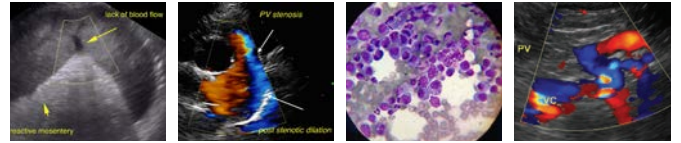
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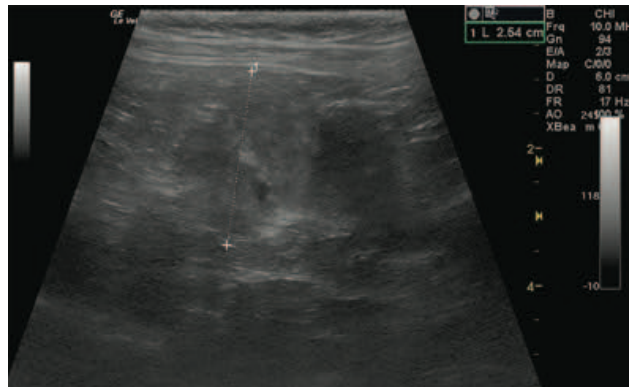
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Short axis of the left pancreatic limb in a cat with an insulinoma seen as a complex heterogenous mass lesion expanding the pancreatic capsule (between calipers). Note the mass effect of the tumor displacing the transverse colon caudally.

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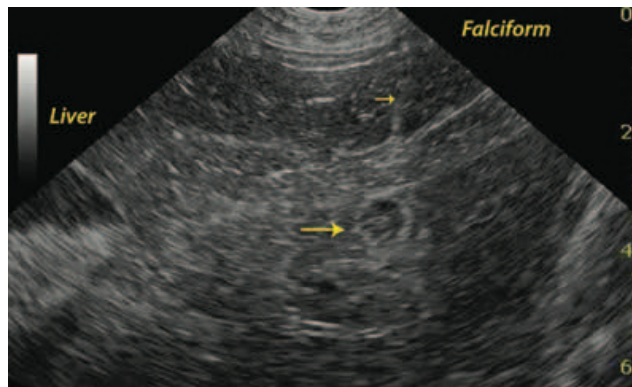
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Subxiphoidal short axis of the liver in a dog with an insulinoma during ultrasound guided sampling of a suspected metastatic lesion.

The needle trajectory is seen as a hyperechoic line (small arrow) approaching the hypochoic nodule (large arrow) within the liver parenchyma.

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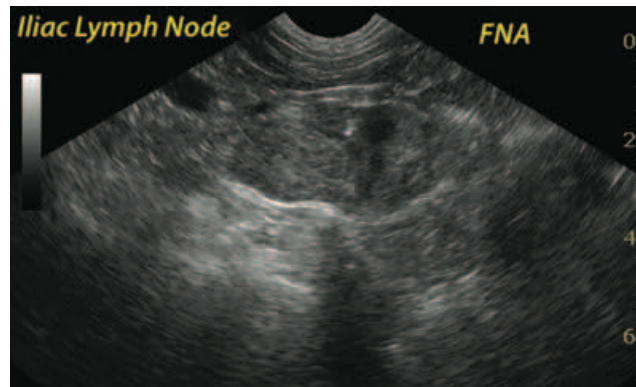
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Long axis of the medial iliac lymph node during ne needle aspiration in a dog with multifocal metastatic spread of an insulinoma. The echogenic needle tip is seen within the lymph node. The metastatic lymph node is enlarged, rounded, hypoechoic and heterogenous. The primary metastatic loci in insulinoma are the regional lymph nodes (hepatic, pancreaticoduodenal, gastric) and the liver. Hence, metastatic insulinoma lesions in the iliac lymph node in this case was not a typical occurrence.



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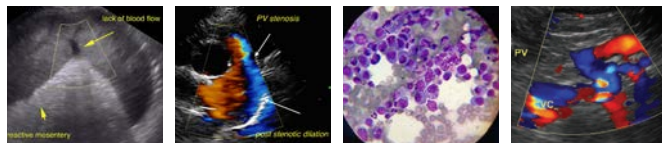
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