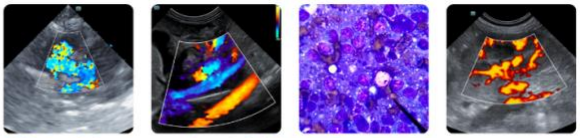

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PATIENT

Ziggy Nelson

SPECIES

Canine

BREED

Spaniel Mix

SEX

Neutered Male

AGE

16 Years

WEIGHT

22 pounds

INTERPRETED BY

Eric Lindquist, DMV, DABVP(CFM), Cert. IVUSS

IMAGING PERFORMED BY

Rebecca Hamilton

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PRESENTING CLINICAL SIGNS

- Cystotomy performed 8/24 (CaOx stones)
- Slight pot belly appearance
- SRR has been consistent at 15 bpm
- no coughing, or exercise intolerance noted
- Labored respirations per o esp when anxious X 2 years, Inc. Abdominal effort noted on 2/18/26 exam
- Meds: Pimo 5 mg 1/2 BID- last got at 7 AM, Lasix 12.5 mg 1.5 BID- last 7 AM, Gaba 100 mg q8-12 hr prn for pain- owner currently gives 100mg SID, Apoquel 5.4 mg SID
- Echo for further eval to det. app. tx and better assess prognosis to pursuing anesthesia dental.

Abnormal PE/Chem/CBC/UA Results: Consistently high ALP 3477, hx of mild elevated ALT, GGT 16 H,Chol 458 H, K 6.0 H, Chloride 103 L, Urine: Bacteria Rods, PH 5.5, USG 1.016, Reticulocytes 190 H, RDW 19.4 H, Plat 579 H Rads: Alveolar lung pattern noted in caudo/caudal dorsal lung fields, tracheal elevation, cardiac silhouette rounded w/ enlargement of both L atrium and L ventricle- sug. of active CHF, Hepatomegaly noted

ULTRASONOGRAPHIC EXAMINATION OF THE HEART & ABDOMEN

CANINE CARDIAC PARAMETERS	MR VMAX (m/s)	TR VMAX (m/s)	LA/AO (M-Mode)	LA/AO (Heart Base; Swe)	FS (%)	EF (%)	EPSS (cm)
NORMAL PARAMETER	4.5-5.5	<2.7	1.3	Up to 1.6	28-40	40-100	<0.6
PATIENT	5.9	2.5	1.4	1.9	47	81	0.2
CANINE CARDIAC PARAMETERS	**HR** (BPM)	**AV VMAX** (m/s)	**PV MAX** (m/s)	**BODY WEIGHT** (lbs)	**LAD** LA MAX 4 Chamber	**LVIDd** Avg; 2D and m-mode short axis (cm)	**LVIDs** Avg; 2D and m-mode short axis (cm)
NORMAL PARAMETER	50-100	0.7-1.7	0.7-1.6				
PATIENT	NM	2.0	1.4	22.0	3.3	3.07	--

E-wave Velocity: 1.2

Cardiac Presentation

The echocardiogram in this patient demonstrated upper limits of normal **left atrial** size. Chamber volumes and echogenicity were normal. Prolapse of the anterior **mitral valve** leaflet was present. Doppler indicated measurable insufficiency. The **left ventricle** presented normal thicknesses with linear contour and was not dilated nor restricted. The **myocardium** presented normal echogenicity without subjective evidence of significant fibrotic or ischemic disease. **Contractility** of the ventricular walls was adequate and in normal range for this patient evidenced by the fractional shortening measurement and subjective evaluation of the different regions of the myocardium. Minor aortic

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insufficiency was present. The **right atrium** and auricle revealed normal size, structure and content. No evidence of masses was noted or chamber overload. **Tricuspid** valvular assessment demonstrated adequate linear morphology. The **right ventricle** was of normal size (1/3 diameter of LV), chordae structure, myocardial echogenicity and thickness. **Pulmonic** tract assessment revealed normal valve structure, laminar flow, and diameter (approx.1:1 pa/ao ratio). No visible **pericardial** or free pleura fluid was noted. No echographically detectable evidence of infiltrative disease was visible. The cranial **mediastinum and pericardial regions** were free of masses in the visible window. Frequent arrhythmia is noted in this patient.

Chest Radiographs

Chest radiographs revealed mild cardiomegaly and slight left atrial enlargement with mild vascular congestion and some chronic bronchial disease, yet no evidence of left-sided heart failure.

Urinary System

The **urinary bladder** revealed sand accumulation/grouping of which measured 1.2 cm with slight bladder polyp measuring 5.0 mm deriving from the ventral lateral wall. The urethra was visible to a depth of 3.0 cm.

The **residual prostate** was slightly heterogenous yet normal in size measuring 0.85 cm.

The **kidneys** revealed largely normal size and structure, corticomedullary definition and ratio (cortex 1/3 of medulla) were essentially maintained with some age-related loss of curvilinear patterns regarding the capsule and C/M junction. The cortices presented largely uniform texture with some increased echogenicity expected for his age patient. Medullary structure differed distinctly from that of the cortex. Dystrophic mineralization was noted and non-obstructive at this time. The left kidney measured 5.73 cm in length. The right kidney measured 5.44 cm in length. Pyelectasia was noted with corticomedullary calculi. Cortical cysts were present with the largest in the left kidney measuring 1.8 cm. The patient is likely passing calculi from the kidneys to the bladder periodically.

Adrenal Glands

Both **adrenal glands** were slightly swollen and mildly heterogenous. The left adrenal gland measured 2.51 cm x 0.72 cm width at the cranial pole and 0.74 cm width at the caudal pole. The right adrenal gland measured 2.64 cm x 1.08 cm width at the cranial pole and 0.64 cm width at the caudal pole.

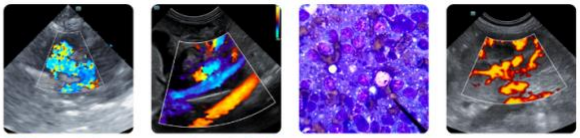
Spleen

The **spleen** was normal size and relatively normal contour with multifocal hyperechoic areas of mineralization. This is a benign change; however, can be related to Cushing's disease or other endocrinopathies.

Liver

The **liver** was uniformly swollen with minor, excessive gallbladder debris and over distension with dependent and suspended bile without evidence of overt mucocele formation. However, excessive sludge was present. The liver presented coarse architecture with mildly increased portal markings and subtle, mixed echogenic changes. This is consistent with vacuolar hepatopathy and some level of remodeling and history of inflammatory component. There was no overt suspicion of neoplasia.

Gastrointestinal



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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. Some mild parenchymal remodeling, however, with mild deviation from curvilinear normalcy was observed. Pancreatic duct and capsular irregularities were present consistent with age related changes. If pain upon imaging (+ Murphy sign) was present or if the patient is focally painful in subxiphoid palpation then low-grade smoldering chronic pancreatitis should be suspected.

ULTRASONOGRAPHIC FINDINGS

- Bladder sand and polyp.
- Nonobstructive renal calculi with degenerative changes and slight cortical cyst.
- Swollen adrenal glands.
- Mineralizing spleen.
- Early stage B2 valvular disease.

INTERPRETATION OF THE FINDINGS & FURTHER RECOMMENDATIONS

If clinical parameters of pituitary dependent hyperadrenocorticism/Cushing's are present, then work up following algorithm is recommended. Underlying Cushing's disease could be an issue. Management for UTI is also warranted. No evidence of abdominal neoplasia.

The heart has minor volume overload and is working to compensate for the valvular insufficiency. Target respiratory rate is < 20 resp/minute after therapy. After initiating or adjusting therapy, I recommend recheck on the clinical exam, BUN, Creatinine, USG, Chest radiographs & Blood pressure in 5-7 days. Recheck echo in 6 months, earlier if clinical decompensation is occurring. Minor anesthetic risk for a brief procedure at this time. Repeat preanesthetic echo is ideal if anesthesia is eventually necessary. A suggested anesthetic combination would involve Torbutrol premed, propofol induction, Isoflurane maintenance or equivalent protocol. No evidence of cardiac neoplasia.

EKG is indicated to define the underlying arrhythmias as a sinus arrhythmia. Recommend initiating Pimobendan 0.30 mg/kg BID and ACE inhibitor warranted if any systolic blood pressure is greater than 160.

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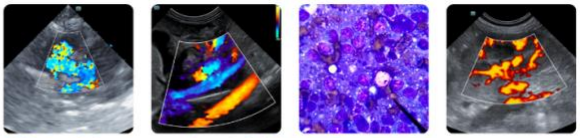

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Educational Teleconsultation Services™

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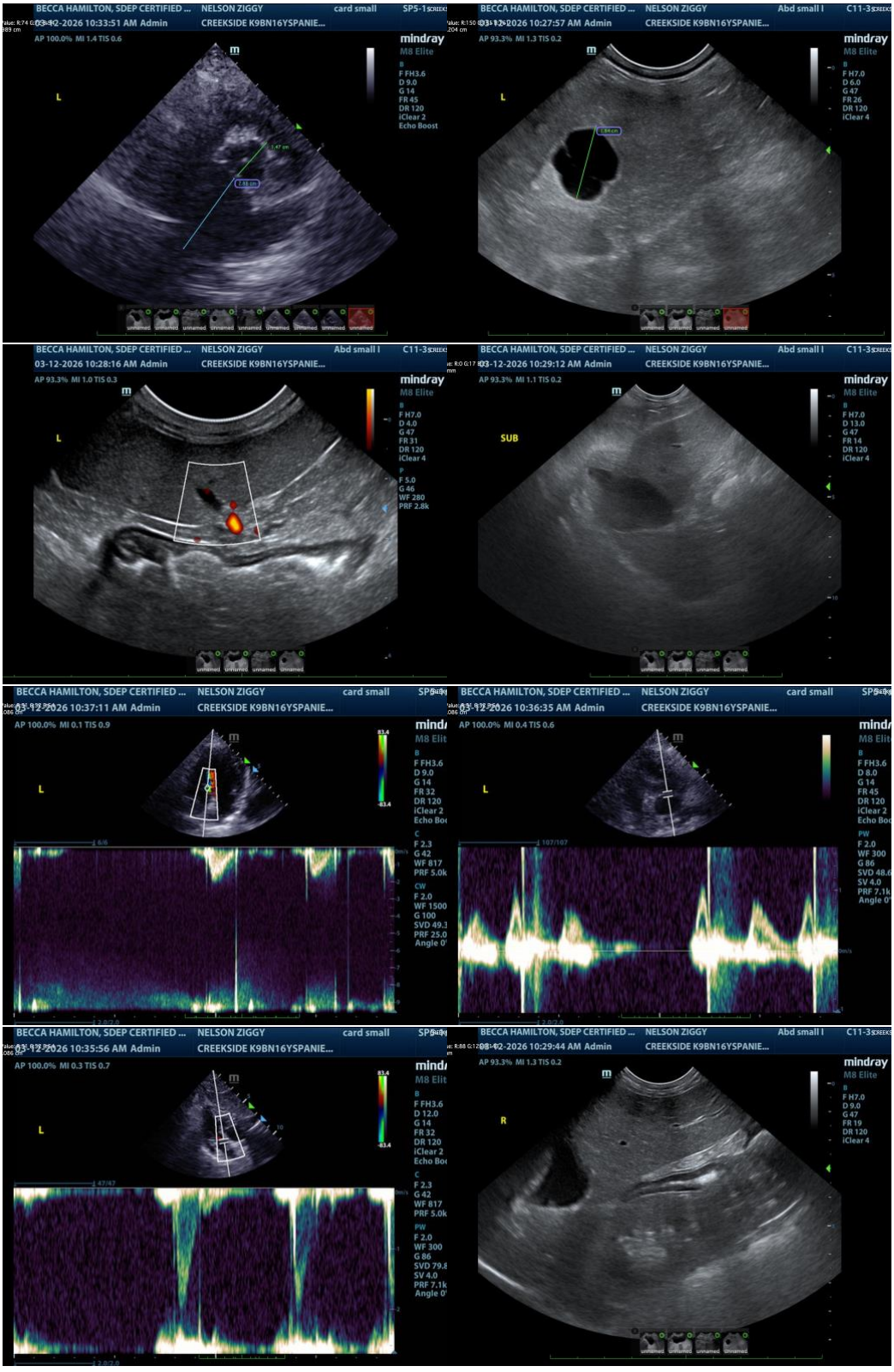

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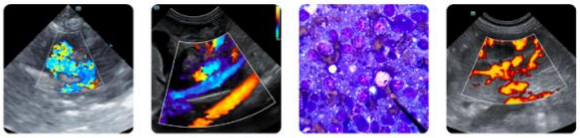

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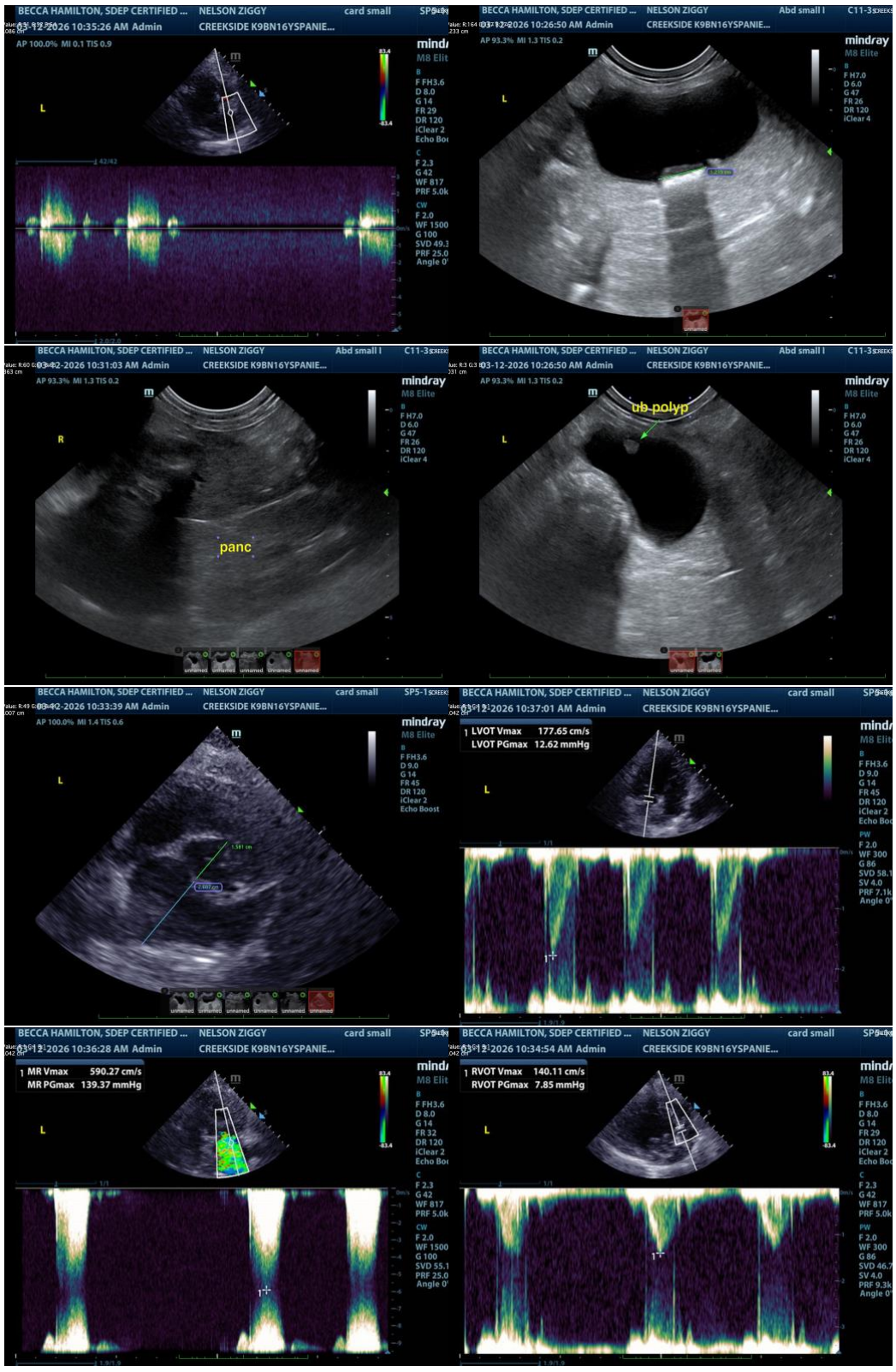

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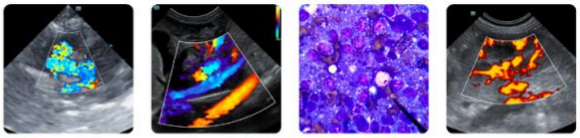

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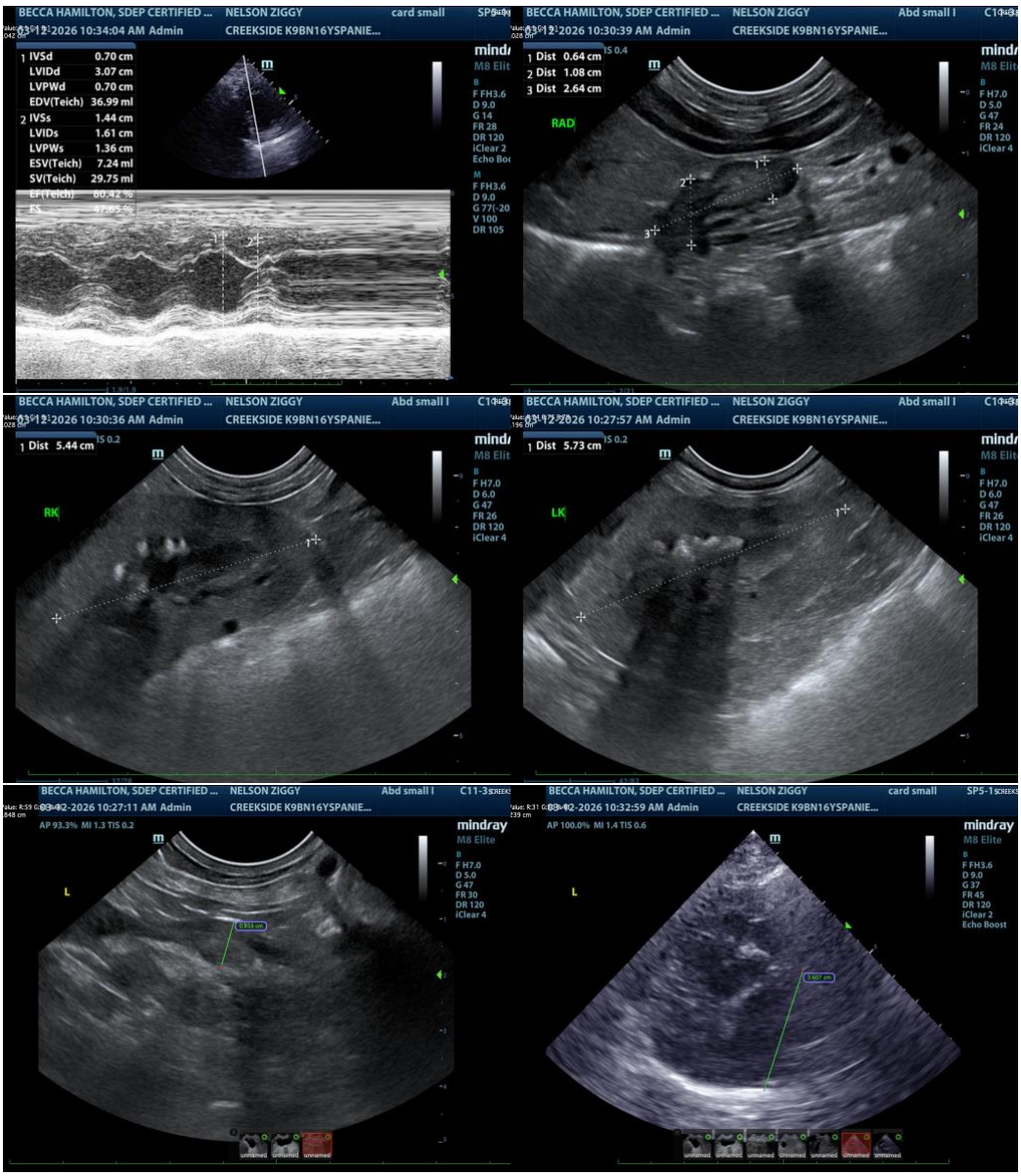

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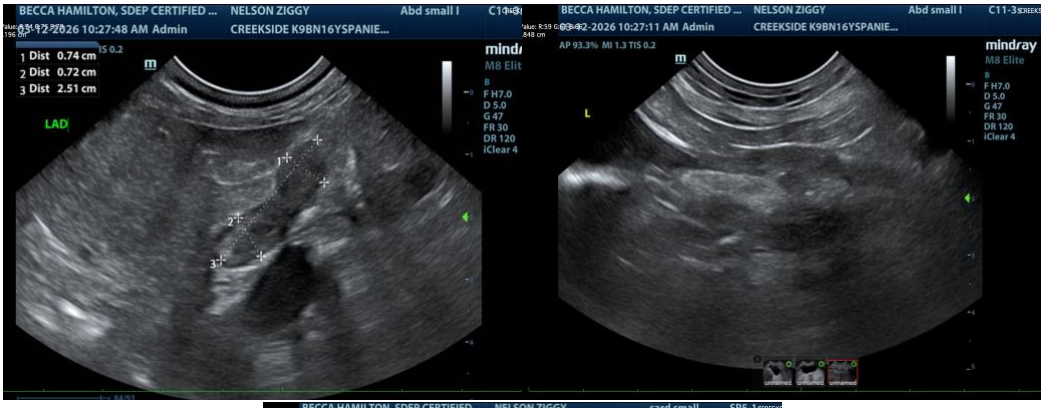

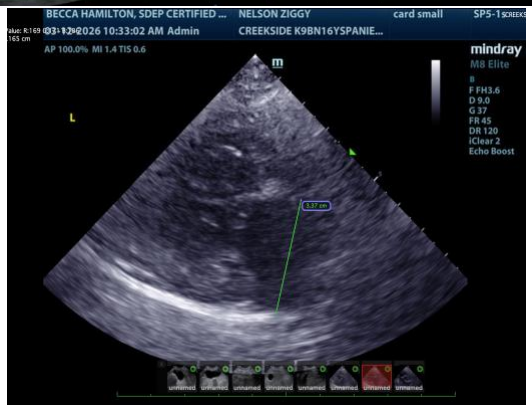

The information and recommendations provided are based on the images presented by the referring veterinarian/sonographer. No evaluation can be communicated regarding pathology that was not visible in the image/video clips provided.

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(CFM), Cert. IVUSS,

CEO, Owner, Founder -- SonoPath.com

info@SonoPath.com

Efficient & Accurate Cushing's Work up-Lindquist

Notes regarding Cushing's Clinical Presentations:

Nearly all Cushing's dogs have SAP elevations and true PU/PD (USG < 1.025) and most are polyphagic. Cushing's dogs are > 6 years and usually > 9 years old, usually have poor skin coats, body scores > 3/5, and are usually sedentary animals.
Its important to remember that Cushing's dogs usually look and play the part and other diseases cause false + stress related cortisol spikes. On rare occasion a Cushing's dog will not follow the rules but this is truly an exception.
Potential Cushing's patient workups can be costly and frustrating if not definitive and, in my experience, the non-definitive patient usually has something else going on that may be contributing to some of the clinical

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signs a Cushing's dog will have, especially SAP elevations or PU/PD. Based on this prelude of information I came up with the following algorithm in the spirit of diagnostic efficiency.
The following suggested protocol is based on current available literature on Cushing's disease and extensive clinical-sonographic experience evaluation + Cushing's and False + LDDST & ACTH stim. cases in order to maximize the efficiency of a Cushing's workup in practice.

Screen first, workup second

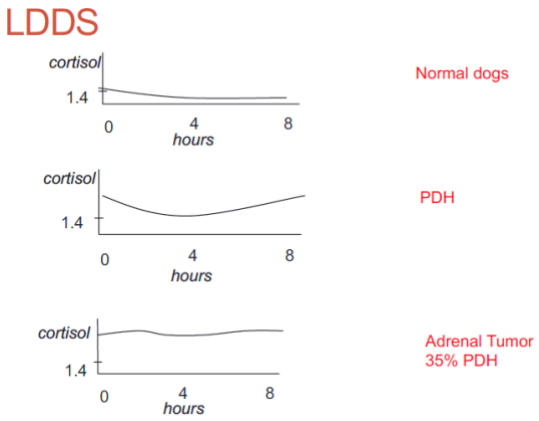
1) **UA:** Repeatable (2-3 urine samples) Urine specific gravity & urine cortisol/creatinine ratio (UCCR): If ***repeatable USG< 10.20 and + UCCR*** move to next step 2.

Note: UA is inexpensive and easy to obtain and if UA criteria is not met for Cushing's then resources can be spent into other more pertinent diagnostics or left on hold until the UA criteria is met in emerging Cushing's cases.

2) **Sonogram:** Does the patient **have concurrent disease** clinically or sonographically as non-Cushing's illness will influence the potential false + LDDST or even ACTH stim. The sonogram gives a global perspective of the internal health of the patient to be considered in the Cushing's workup as an assessment of concurrent disease. Is there a concurrent neoplastic process, UTI pancreatitis, mucocele….? Are the adrenals enlarged (Cushing's-PDH, stress, age related or breed variant), or atrophied (Iatrogenic Cushing's or adrenal burnout), have asymmetric enlargement (Adrenal tumor, hyperplasia, adenoma, age related variant), or is there vascular invasion (Invasive pheo with false + UA criteria or adenocarcinoma or phrenic thrombosis)? The sonogram answers these questions proactively.

Address & treat concurrent disease first before performing Cushing's testing or testing will be artificially altered increasing false negatives and positives.

3) **LDDST** (0.01 D-Sodium phosphate mg/kg IV ***with precise dosing****)*** (Better screening test but plagued with false + but considered more specific than ACTH stim) Use if there is potential early Cushing's or if adrenal asymmetry present on sonogram suspecting tumor. Use LDDST in cats at a higher dose (0.1 mg/kg IV). **Interpetation LDDST:** Look at 8-hour post first: If > 1.4 = Cushing's. Then look at 4-hour: if > 1.4 or > 50% baseline = Cushing's. 4-hour do then 8-hour spike most consistent with PDH. Flat line high constant curve without dip more consistent with tumor but can be PDH. See attached graph.



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Courtesy: Rebecca Berg DACVIM, DECVIM

4) **ACTH stim**. (Better confirming test but can have false +) Use if the patient "looks" Cushingoid or if bilateral adrenal enlargement is present, or high normal width on sonogram, or if iatrogenic Cushing's suspected (Cortisone Tx in past). ACTH stim is better for diagnosis of Addisons, Iatragenic Cushing's, and Cushing's therapy monitoring but problematic with initial Cushing's diagnosis. First dx LDDST is suggested.

5) If **diabetic** then run both LDDST & ACTH stim but stabilize as much as possible first.

5) Run a **serial blood pressure** in a BP friendly non "white coat effect" atmosphere. Run at least 3 at different times over a few hours or when eating as the patient tends to be calm when eating or give Torbutrol when entering the facility. Cushing's hypertension is usually 150-180 systolic range while pheochromocytoma range is more often > 180 systolic.

6) **Perform CT** of the pituitary to identify macro adenoma expansion if any lethargy or dullness or other central clinical CNS signs are minimally present. CT for adrenal may be more through for adrenalectomy surgical planning if ultrasound views of the CVC were problematic.

7) **Adrenectomy** for adrenal mass is prescribed then it is essential to stabilize the patient first regarding secondary disease such as organ dysfunction, hypertension, diabetes mellitus, hypernatremia, thromboembolic risk urinary and other infection in order to minimize potential for operative and postoperative complications as they are common in adrenalectomy. Trilostane stabilization therapy for Cushing's would be the first approach then address surgery and hypertension should be managed ideally < 160 systolic with ace inhibitors, phenoxybenzamine, or amlodipine.

Suggested reading:

Behrend EN, Kooistra HS, Nelson R, et al. Diagnosis of Spontaneous Canine Hyperadrenocorticism: 2012 ACVIM Consensus Statement (Small Animal). J Vet Intern Med 2013;27:1292–1304 .