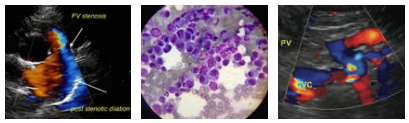
IMAGING PERFORMED BY

IntraPet.com



SonoPath
Clinical Sonography & Telecytology
EDUCATIONAL TELECONSULTATION SERVICES™
1-800-838-4268 info@sonopath.com SonoPath.com

DATE
3/17/22

PATIENT
Junior Anderson

SPECIES
Canine

BREED
Pitbull

SEX
Neutered male

AGE
3/4/14

WEIGHT
79.5 lbs

INTERPRETED BY
Eric Lindquist, DMV
DABVP, Cert. IVUSS

HOSPITAL NAME
Northwind AH

REFERRING VET
Dr. Cross

INVOICE
96937

PRESENTING CLINICAL SIGNS

P has a heart murmur 3/6 diagnosed 1/14/22. P on PE unremarkable very BAR.
Current Medications: N/A.
Lab Results: Unremarkable.
Date of Previous IntraPet Ultrasound: No previous.
Sedation: Not required to complete full diagnostic ultrasound.
Stat Report: Not requested.
Imaging Performed By: Andi Parkinson, RDMS.

ULTRASONOGRAPHIC EXAMINATION

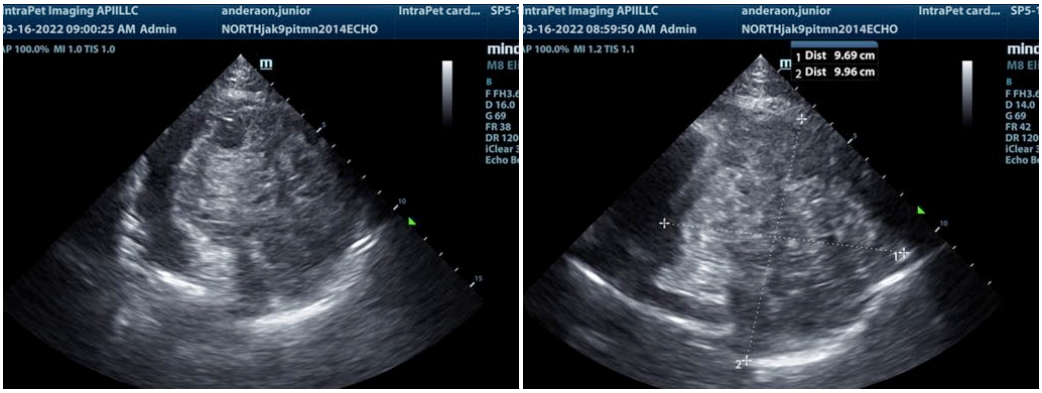
The cardiac presentation in this patient revealed a 10.+ cm, mixed echogenic, heart based mass. The mass occupied the right auricle. The right atrium was significantly enlarged with a 2:1 ratio with the left atrium in 4 chamber long axis. No pericardial effusion was noted. Impingement on the right atrium was noted. Ascites was noted with passive congestion liver pattern.

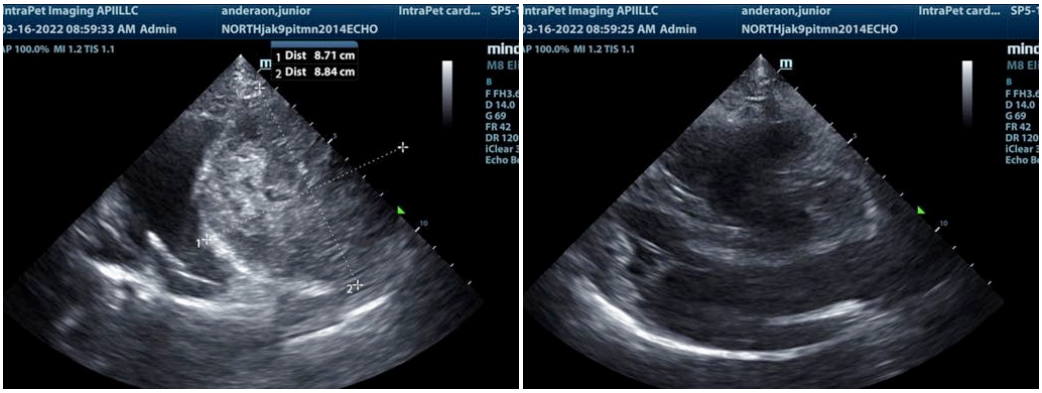
ULTRASONOGRAPHIC FINDINGS

Heart base mass.

INTERPRETATION OF THE FINDINGS & FURTHER RECOMMENDATIONS

Hemangiosarcoma is possible, yet fibrosarcoma or aortic body tumor is possible. With some risk FNA could be considered as the mass impinges upon the body wall. No tamponade was present; however, impingement upon vena cava inflow into the right atrium is likely the cause of ascites.





The information and recommendations provided are based on the images presented by the referring veterinarian. 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
Eric.Lindquist@SonoPath.com

Pericardial Effusion and Cardiac Neoplasia

http://www.sonopath.com/CardiacNeoplasiaEffusion

Description: The pericardium is a fibrous sac that encloses the heart and the great vessels—aorta, pulmonary artery, proximal pulmonary veins, and vena cava—located at the heart's base. It is attached caudally to the diaphragm and under normal circumstances contains 1-15 mL of fluid. The latter is comprised of phospholipids that lubricate the heart and allow it to expand and contract without generating friction. The pericardium also fixes the heart, prevents excess motion, and links the diastolic distensibility of the ventricles, thus limiting the degree to which either the left or the right ventricle will distend during diastole. When there are acute changes in venous return (i.e., during exercise), the pericardium plays a critical role in limiting ventricular filling. In cases of chronic cardiac enlargement, the pericardium also becomes distended, and its ability to limit ventricular filling, especially when the heart is at rest, becomes compromised. Pericardial tamponade occurs when there is a rapid accumulation of fluid and the pressure inside the pericardium increases significantly. With tamponade, ventricular filling is restricted and cardiac output is decreased. The right atrium and ventricle are the most vulnerable to this condition as these compartments have thinner walls and a lower pressure.

Etiology: Causes of pericardial effusion include:

- Neoplasia
  - Right atrial (RA) hemangiosarcoma

    - Heart base (aortic body) tumors
    - Mesothelioma
    - Rhabdomyosarcoma
    - Ectopic thyroid carcinoma
    - Metastatic neoplasia
- Idiopathic
- Congestive heart failure
- Peritoneal-pericardial diaphragmatic hernia
- Pericardial cyst
- Hypoalbuminemia
- Infectious pericarditis (bacterial, *Coccidioides immitus*)
- Feline infectious peritonitis
- Left atrial tear secondary to valvular disease
- Coagulopathy

The majority of neoplastic masses consist of hemangiosarcoma and heart-based tumors (chemodectomas or ectopic thyroid adenocarcinoma). Idiopathic pericardial effusion is a diagnosis of exclusion; the effusion is typically hemorrhagic. Approximately 50% of dogs will be cured with a single pericardiocentesis, while some dogs will require multiple pericardiocenteses as well as surgery. A peritoneal-pericardial diaphragmatic hernia is a congenital hernia seen in dogs and cats in which the abdominal contents (i.e., liver, small intestine, spleen, stomach) herniate into the pericardial sac. Constrictive pericarditis is an uncommon condition in which a non-distensible, thickened, fibrotic pericardium develops over time.

Clinical Signs: One will observe the following clinical signs, which often present in combination: ascites, lethargy, exercise intolerance, pale mucous membranes, weak pulses, *pulsus paradoxus*, and respiratory distress.

Diagnostics: Survey radiographs will reveal hepatomegaly, cardiomegaly (generalized or sectorial globoid), and small pulmonary vessels. Pulmonary edema is typically not found, although one may discover concurrent pulmonary metastatic disease. An ECG will show electrical alternans or small complexes, but often the changes are very subtle and difficult to detect.

Echocardiography is usually considered the gold standard for diagnosing pericardial effusion. Findings include:

- Anechoic space between the heart and the pericardium.
- Abnormal side-to-side cardiac motion.
- Decreased chamber size (right ventricle [RV] and left ventricle [LV]).
- Presence of a pericardial or cardiac mass.
- Tamponade with early diastolic RA and RV collapse.

Cytology is helpful in the diagnosis of lymphoma, septic pericarditis, and idiopathic effusion, but not in cases of neoplasia.

According to a study that found troponin I levels to be higher in dogs with neoplastic pericardial effusion, the cardiac troponin I assay can be helpful in the diagnosis hemangiosarcoma.

Prognosis:

- Cardiac hemangiosarcoma: < 8 months with surgical debulking and chemotherapy.
- Chemodectoma (aortic derived): MST 730 days post pericardectomy.
- Idiopathic: 50% complete resolution post cardiocentesis; curative with pericardectomy, which can be done via thoracotomy, or thorascopy, or using a balloon to tear the pericardium.
- Mesothelioma: Poor.
- Restrictive pericarditis: Poor, especially when the pericardium has not been surgical stripped.

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