



**PATIENT PRESENTING CLINICAL SIGNS**

Meena Hoffer chronic recurrent GI issues and weight loss: vomiting secondary to constipation vs IBD vs other Current Medications Gabapentin 100mg capsules Primary Question/Differential to Be Answered in This Exam Cause of constipation & vomiting

**SPECIES**

Feline

**ULTRASONOGRAPHIC EXAMINATION OF THE ABDOMEN**

**BREED**

Abyssinian

**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.

**SEX**

Spayed Female

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 and no evidence of pelvic dilation was present. The left kidney measures 3.7 cm. The right kidney measures 4.19 cm.

**AGE**

9 Years

**WEIGHT**

6.6 Pounds

**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 left adrenal gland measured 0.43 cm. The right adrenal gland measured 0.29 cm.

**INTERPRETED BY**

Eric Lindquist, DMV  
DABVP, Cert. IVUSS

**Spleen**

The **spleen** was mildly enlarged with uniform, but subtly micronodular parenchyma, and undulating capsular contour. This is consistent with reactive spleen owing to immune stimulus or early infiltrative disease such as mast cell disease or lymphoma. 25-gauge FNA would be ideal if weight loss is an issue to differentiate early round cell neoplasia versus splenitis or reactive spleen all of which can present in this manner.

**IMAGING PERFORMED BY**

Jenna Walsh, CVT

**HOSPITAL NAME**

The Ark Vet Clinic

**Liver**

The **liver** presented coarse architecture and increased portal markings. Normal size, contour, and vascularity. History of cholangitis likely. The cystic duct was mildly tortuous.

**REFERRING VET**

Dr. Mercer

**Gastrointestinal**

The **gastrointestinal** presentation revealed mild uniform prominence of the gastric mucosa as well as areas of "ropey" small intestinal wall with slight disruption of the normal 1:3 muscularis/mucosal ratio. The intestinal submucosa was slightly irregular, thickened and hyperechoic suggestive of low grade, chronic disease. Some areas of mucosal fogging noted. No concerning lymphadenopathy was visible. No evidence of obstruction was present. Chronic inflammatory bowel disease is likely with a low possibility of an early neoplastic event such as lymphoma. Full thickness tissue biopsies via open laparotomy, ideally guided by intraoperative ultrasound in order to obtain the most representative mural sample, would be necessary to rule out this possibility.

**INVOICE**

41604

**DATE**

9/23/22



## PATIENT *Pancreas*

Meena Hoffer

## SPECIES

Feline

## BREED

Abyssinian

## SEX

Spayed Female

## AGE

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6.6 Pounds

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The base and limbs of the **pancreas** were observed to be largely isoechoic to surrounding omental fat. Some 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 subxyphoid palpation then low-grade smoldering chronic pancreatitis should be suspected.

## ULTRASONOGRAPHIC FINDINGS

- Chronic triad presentation with intestinal thickening, renal and pancreatic changes
- Chronic cholangitis liver pattern
- Mildly enlarged, micronodular spleen

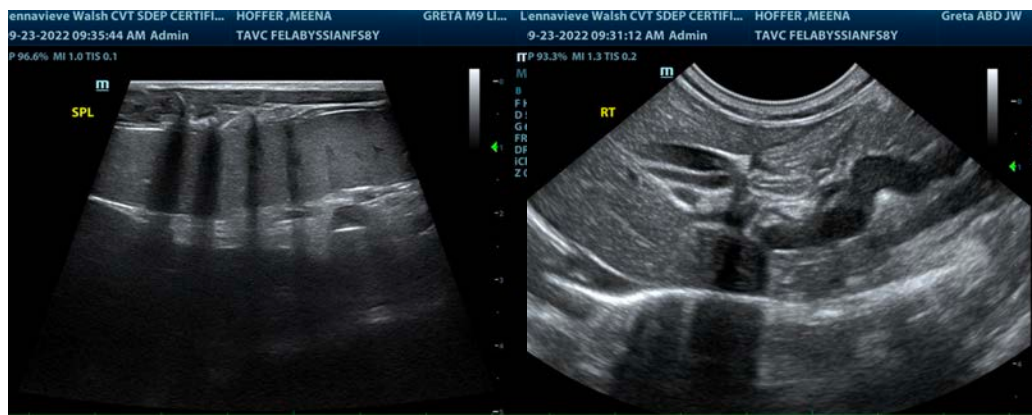
## INTERPRETATION OF THE FINDINGS & FURTHER RECOMMENDATIONS

Chronic inflammatory bowel with potential malabsorption of nutrients should be considered. No neoplastic criteria met. Maldigestion panel, three view chest radiographs and full CNS examination is recommended to examine for occult disease that could be responsible for the weight loss. Evaluation for competitive eating environments should also be considered. A clinical trial of the following may be effective.

### Triaditis/Pancreatitis protocol

Part or all of this protocol may be considered based on your clinical impression of the patient:

Recommend pain management when anorexic with **Buprenorphine** (0.01-0.02 mg/kg IM or SC), clinical trial of **Zithromax** (50 mg sid/cat x 10 days, 3 weeks if bartonella +), **Prednisolone** (0.5-2 mg/kg tapering over 1 week to minimal effective dose), and **B12 injections** if weight loss (Cyanobalamine 250 mcg sub-q once-weekly x six weeks, then every other week for six weeks and then once-monthly, long-term if necessary), **novel-protein or hydrolyzed diet** (*Hydrolyzed diets have been shown to be more effective in dietary intolerance case management compared to hypoallergenic diets*) or the **magical Purina DM** (changing protein source is crucial and may need rotation every 6 months if clinical signs recur) Diet trials is a whatever works phenomenon. If vomiting becomes a persistent issue then endoscopy would be warranted and/or recheck sonogram to assess more emerging disease. One diet does not work for all patients so different trials may be necessary or protein source rotation every 6 months as new sensitivities develop.





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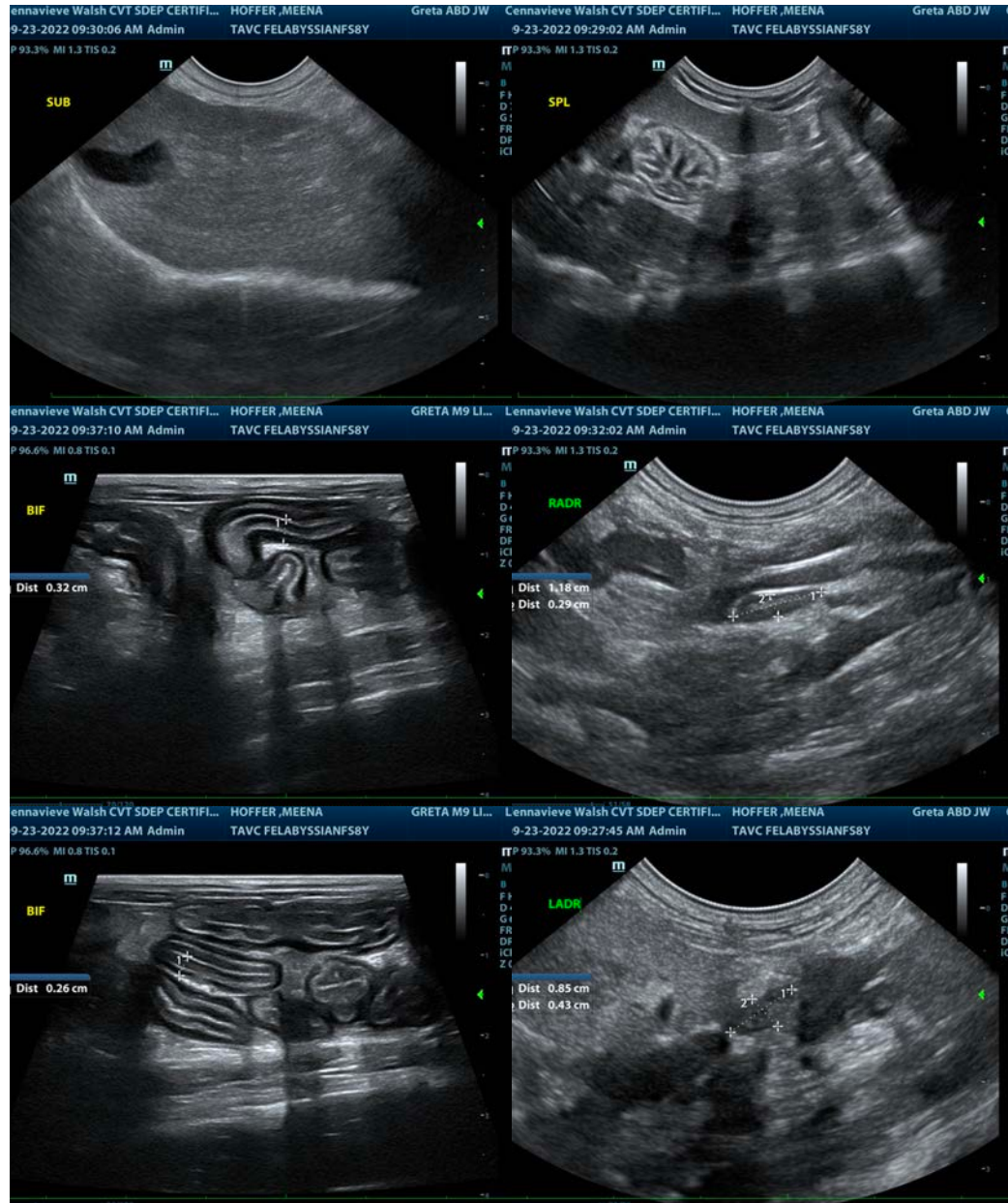
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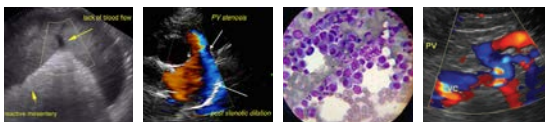
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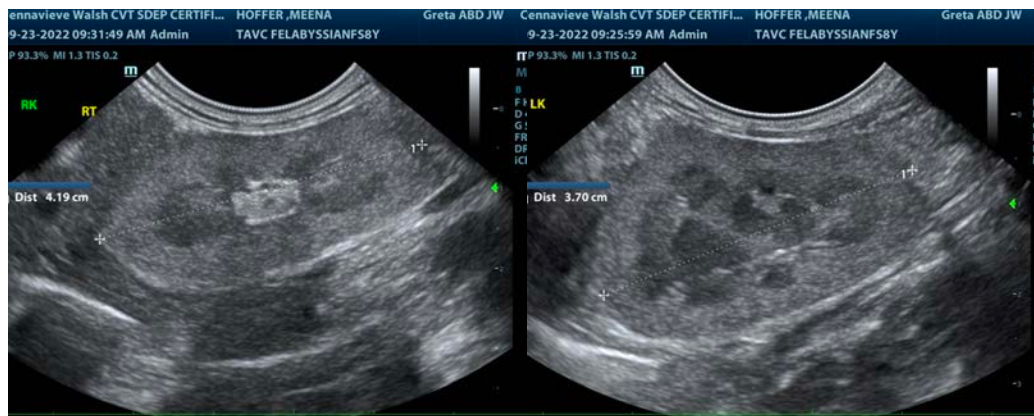
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The information and recommendations provided are based on the images presented by the referring veterinarian/sonographer. No evaluation can be communicated regarding pathology that was not visible in the image/video clips provided.

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, Cert. IVUSS, CEO of SonoPath.com

[info@SonoPath.com](mailto:info@SonoPath.com)