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Clinical Sonography & Telecytology
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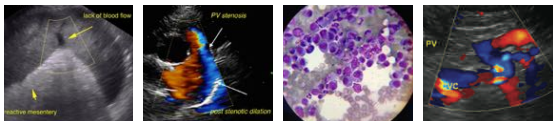

ANIMAL SOUNDS NW
MOBILE VETERINARY ULTRASOUND
IMAGING PERFORMED BY
AnimalSoundsNW.com 541-357-9423

PATIENT
Camie Hinkle

SPECIES
Canine

BREED
Boxer Cross

SEX
Spayed Female

AGE
13 years

WEIGHT
56 lbs

INTERPRETED BY
Eric Lindquist, DMV, DABVP, Cert. IVUSS

IMAGING PERFORMED BY
Sara Hansen

HOSPITAL NAME
Edgewood AC

REFERRING VET
Dr. Kimball

DATE
4/6/22

Invoice
98098

PRESENTING CLINICAL SIGNS

History: Large cranial abdominal mass
Abnormal PE/Chem/CBC/UA Results: ABNORMAL Labratory Findings AST-81, ALT- 469, Alkp- 232, PSL- 2843

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 was 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 7.47 cm. The right kidney measured 6.25 cm.

Adrenal Glands

The right **adrenal gland** was uniform and measured 2.25 x 1.18 cm at the cranial pole and 0.62 cm at the caudal pole. The left adrenal gland was slightly enlarged and measured 3.49 x 1.0 cm at the caudal pole and 1.11 cm at the cranial pole.

Spleen

Minor heterogenous **splenic** changes were noted with hypoechoic nodules that measured up to 0.6 cm.

Liver

The **liver** was swollen with irregular contour. Multi-focal, nodular changes and an overt parenchymal mass measuring 10+ cm appeared to be deriving from the right medial liver. Regional free fluid was noted with irregular swelling and nodular changes. This is strongly suggestive for infiltrative disease. The gallbladder presented acceptably thin walls with primarily anechoic content. The cystic and common bile ducts were normal. The hepatic lymph nodes were enlarged, irregular and hypoechoic measuring up to 2.5 x 3.0 cm.

Gastrointestinal

Some retention of ingesta or possible small foreign matter was noted in the **stomach**. The small intestine and colon were unremarkable.

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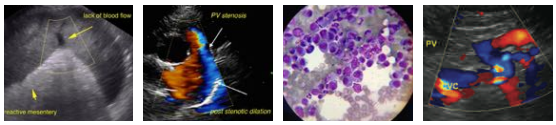

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Pancreas

Heterogenous **pancreatic** changes were noted and enveloped the upper duodenum, which was also thickened.

ULTRASONOGRAPHIC FINDINGS

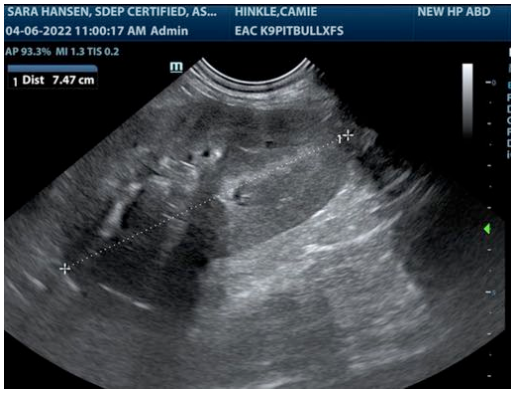
Infiltrative hepatic disease with parenchymal mass and nodular changes.

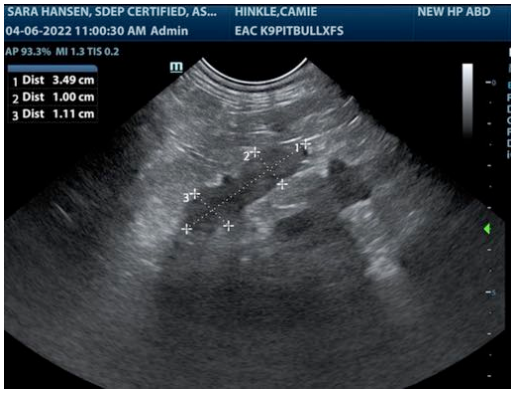
Probable splenic involvement.

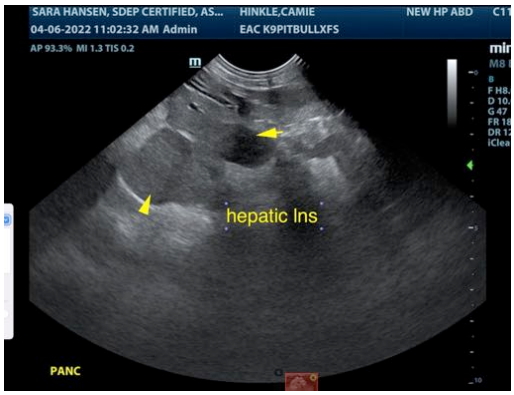
Hepatic lymphadenopathy.

INTERPRETATION OF THE FINDINGS & FURTHER RECOMMENDATIONS

FNA of the spleen, general liver and liver mass is recommended. The prognosis is guarded to poor depending upon eventual responsiveness to chemotherapy. This appears to be a diffuse hepatic process with focal manifestation of a mass, probable splenic involvement with lymph node metastasis.







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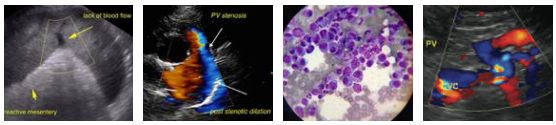

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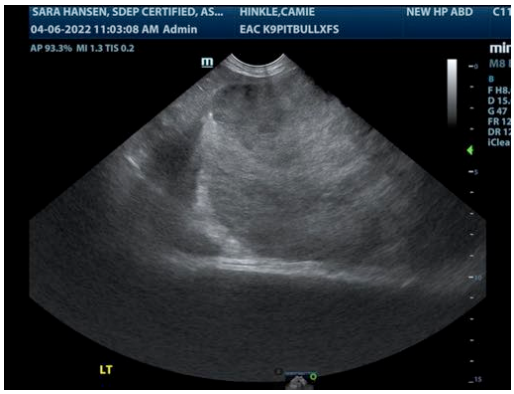

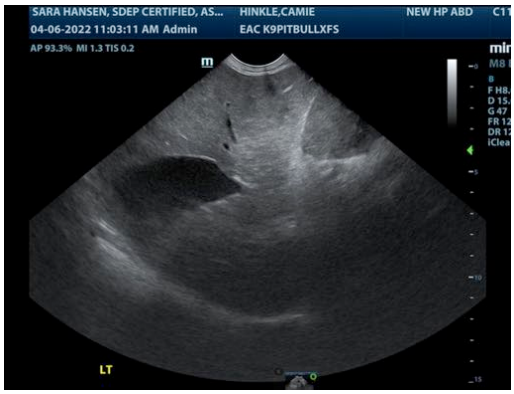

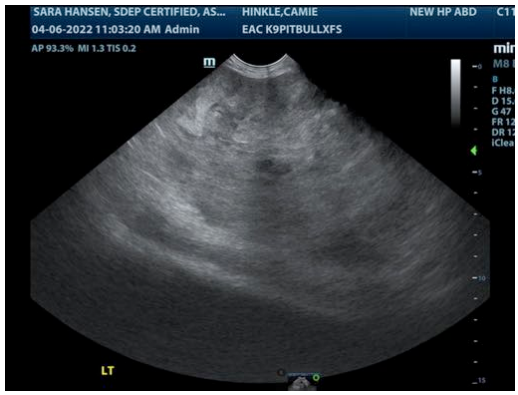

The information and recommendations provided are based on the images presented by the referring veterinarian/sonographer. No evaluation can be communicated regarding pathology that was not visible in the image/video clips provided.

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.

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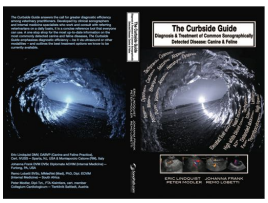
CEO of Sonopath.com

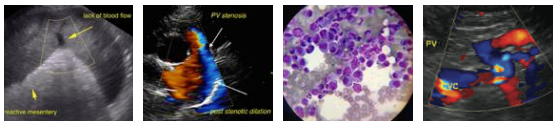
Eric.Lindquist@SonoPath.com



The following is an applicable excerpt from the *Curbside Guide to Diagnosis & Treatment of Sonographic Disease* offered by SonoPath.com Lindquist, Frank, Lobetti, and Modler.

An essential quick guide for every general practitioner and sonographer.

https://sonopath.com/products/curbside-guide-editing-due-release-12012015



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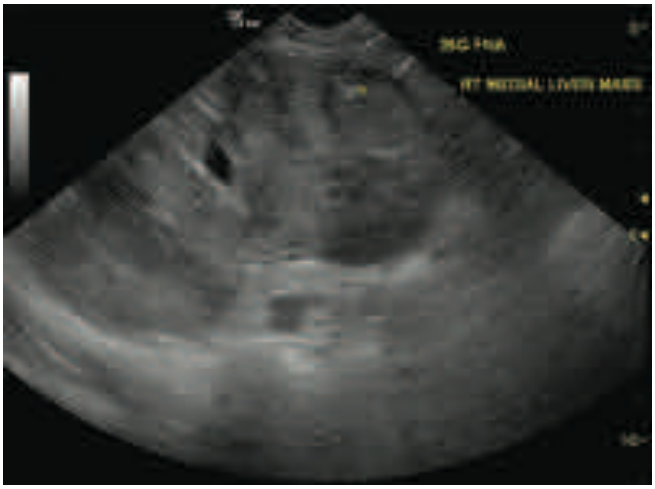
Hepatic Masses, Biliary Adenoma, and Biliary Adenocarcinoma

http://www.sonopath.com/HepaticMasses

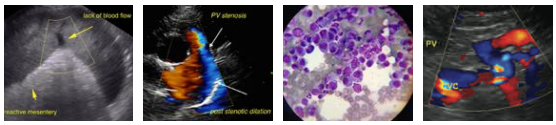


Fine needle aspiration of a right medial lobe mass of a canine liver in subxiphoidal short axis. A large heterogenous mass lesion is seen expanding upon the liver capsule. Note the hyperechoic needle tip (arrowhead) within the mass. US- guided FNA captures cells and may not be sensitive to structural pathology or carcinoma present in the midst of vacuolar hepatopathy or nodular hyperplastic changes. Hence, the sonographer should sample a variety of echogenicities within the lesion or perform a core biopsy.

Description: Hepatocellular carcinoma typically manifests in the liver's left lateral lobes, yet may cross over to the right lobes should it derive from the hilus. These masses often present cavitating, necrotic cores that are difficult to distinguish from hepatic abscesses. Vascular channels may also be involved, and bile duct obstruction is often present. Older felines often present solitary or multiple fluid-filled cysts within the hepatic parenchyma. The latter are typically benign cystadenomas and should be differentiated from: cystic adenocarcinoma; hepatic lymphoma (usually diffusely hyperechoic +/- FIV/FeLV association); metastatic neoplasia (diffuse hyper- to hypoechoic nodules secondary to mammary adenocarcinoma, splenic hemangiosarcoma, or pancreatic or intestinal adenocarcinoma); benign nodular hyperplasia (accompanied by minimal to no symptoms); hepatic cirrhosis (regenerative nodules); or rare carcinoids, fibrosarcomas, leiomyosarcomas, and osteosarcomas.

Clinical Signs: Possible clinical signs and physical exam findings include cranial abdominal organomegaly, sudden collapse associated with mass rupture, vomiting, ascites, jaundice (severe cases), and hypoglycemia secondary to a paraneoplastic syndrome. Sepsis and fever associated with secondary abscessation of the mass may also occur. Cats usually present with anorexia and lethargy.

Diagnostics: Routine biochemical analysis primarily shows liver enzyme elevation (i.e., ALT for cellular necrosis; SAP for hepatic congestion; elevated bilirubin for stasis/obstruction; bile acids > 75-100uM/L for significant function impairment). Staging of the disease with 3-view thoracic radiographs is essential, as is conducting a CBC, serum biochemistry, urinalysis, as well as abdominal and possibly also thoracic ultrasounds in order to provide the owner with adequate and well-informed options. Surgical and oncological referral is recommended after a coagulation panel has been assessed and ultrasound-guided biopsies of both normal and pathological tissue have been performed such that the disease is adequately characterized. In cases where surgical resection is impossible, direct chemoembolization of the tumor blood supply could be considered; however, this procedure is only performed at specific tertiary referral locations. Placement of palliative stents into the caudal vena cava (CVC) can be



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considered as well if compression by an unresectable tumor causes excessive ascitic fluid accumulation. Serum alpha-fetoprotein (AFP) has been shown to reemerge in dogs with malignant hepatobiliary adenocarcinoma. Ultrasound is important to localize the mass in relation to the portal hilus and gallbladder. The portal vein, CVC, aorta, gallbladder, and bile duct should all be identified with respect to the location of the mass to determine resectability. Ultrasound also allows for an examination of possible metastatic sites in the abdomen and, to some degree, in the thorax.

Treatment: Hepatic adenoma, hepatoma, and adenocarcinoma are usually amenable to surgical resection via hepatic lobectomy should the pathology be isolated to single-lobe progression. Multi-lobar presentation may be amenable to lobectomy and debulking; this will be determined further during surgical consultation. These tumors tend to displace unaffected parenchyma, allowing for relatively straightforward surgical resection. Up to 80% of the liver can be removed without long-term functional deficits. Blood transfusions may be necessary during surgery. The development and implementation of the LDS™ stapler has helped to streamline the procedure. Most carcinomas have metastasized by the time of diagnosis yet tend to be slow-growing; thus, it may be possible for a certain quality of life to be attained via surgical resection. Hepatic hemangiosarcoma has usually metastasized at the time of diagnosis and carries a much poorer prognosis. Surgical resection and chemotherapy are recommended, but considered by many to be an "aggressive" approach.

Preliminary trials have shown that gemcitabine is well tolerated and yields good responses in cases of hepatic as well as pancreatic, colonic, and gastric carcinomas. Myelosuppression, however, remains the key issue. Doxorubicin, cyclophosphamide, and fluorouracil combinations have also proven fruitful.

Nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) have been demonstrated to have an anti-neoplastic effect due to their inhibition of COX-2 in certain tumor cells. The end product of the cyclooxygenase cascade is prostaglandin E2, which, when expressed in tumor cell lines—and not expressed in normal cells of that particular cell line—results in inhibited apoptosis, immunosuppression, and increased angiogenesis, proliferation, and invasiveness. Inappropriate increases in COX-2 expression have been documented in certain neoplasias, including squamous cell carcinoma, mammary carcinomas, prostatic carcinoma, malignant melanoma, and transitional cell carcinoma.

Metronomic chemotherapy is currently being investigated and compared to traditional chemotherapy protocols; it is thought to be at least as effective as the latter with substantially less toxic side effects. Metronomic chemotherapy is the practice of uninterrupted administration of low-dose cytotoxic drugs at regular and frequent intervals, as opposed to high-dose, shorter-term protocols characteristic of traditional chemotherapeutic practices. The lower dose allows for long-term administration without toxic side effects, and has been postulated as providing longer remission intervals. Moreover, it has the benefit of minimizing the intervals between drug regimens—the period during which tumor cells may repopulate the area—as well as the chance of developing multi-drug resistant genes. Metronomic chemotherapy has been used successfully in human patients who have undergone previous chemotherapy administration. It is thought to destroy endothelial cells, thereby retarding angiogenesis and targeting regulatory T cells. To date, there have only been a few small clinical trials in veterinary patients, and these have focused on animals that have hemangiosarcoma and soft tissue sarcomas.

Conclusion: With respect to hepatic neoplasia, many surgical and chemotherapeutic options exist; however, it is best to consult with a local board certified oncologist who can help determine the best course of action.

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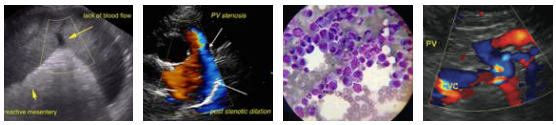

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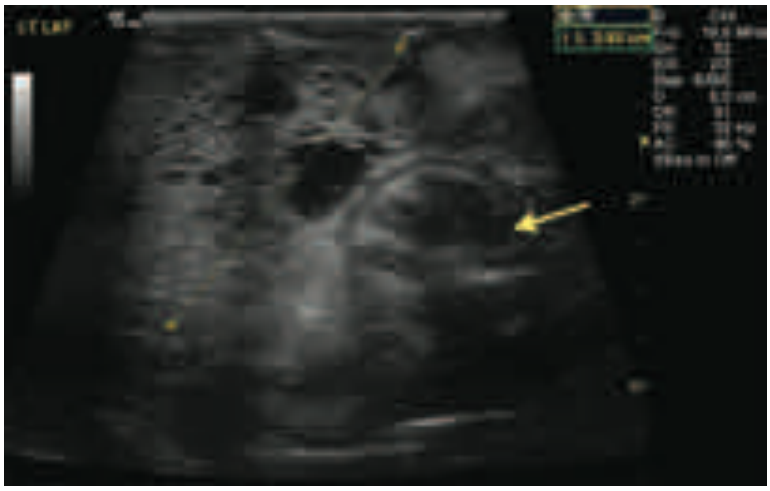
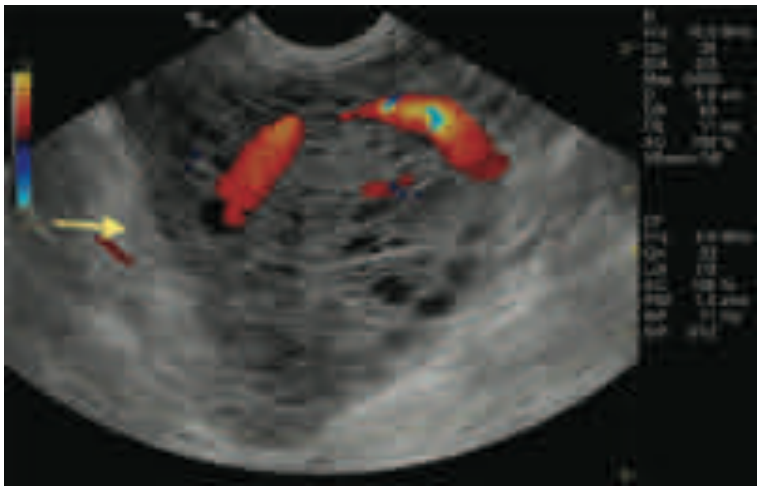


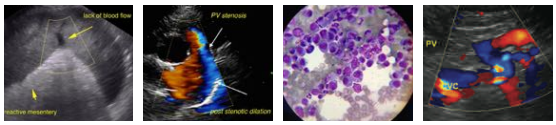
Subxiphoidal long axis of the left liver in a cat with a biliary cystadenoma. Note the typical heterogenous multicystic appearance of the mass lesion displacing the regular echotexture. Acoustic enhancement is seen deep to the cystic components of the lesion. These typically benign tumors can also cause local displacement of organs such as the stomach (arrow), undergo lobar torsion, or malignant transformation that necessitate removal when this criteria is met or suspected.



Subxiphoidal long axis of the liver in a dog with a hepatocellular carcinoma. A large irregular shaped mass lesion expanding the liver capsule is seen with echogenic fat indicative of inflammation (arrow). The lesion is highly vascularized and heterogenous. A mix of multifocal hyperechoic patches and hypoechoic nodules is seen. Anechoic areas indicate multifocal tumoral necrosis.

References:

Biller BJ. Teaching T cells to target tumors: towards the design of more effective cancer vaccines. Proceedings from the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine Forum, Denver, CO, June 15-18, 2011.



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Elmslie RE, Glawe P, Dow SW. Metronomic therapy with cyclophosphamide and piroxicam effectively delays tumor recurrence in dogs with incompletely resected soft tissue sarcomas. *J Vet Intern Med* 2008;22(6):1373-79.

Lana S, U'Ren L, Plaza S, et al. Continuous low-dose oral chemotherapy for adjuvant therapy of splenic hemangiosarcoma in dogs. *J Vet Intern Med* 2007;21(4):764-69.

Milner RJ. Do NSAIDs make a difference in cancer? Proceedings from the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine Forum, Denver, CO, June 15-18, 2011.