



PATIENT

Ruby Loveridge

SPECIES

Canine

BREED

Shih Tzu

SEX

Spayed Female

AGE

1 Year

WEIGHT

10 lbs

INTERPRETED BY

Greg Kuhlman, DVM,
DACVIM (SAIM)

IMAGING PERFORMED BY

Julia Bakker, DVM

HOSPITAL NAME

Orange Blossom
Veterinary Imaging

REFERRING VET

Michael Humphrey,
DVM

INVOICE

72988

DATE

2/13/26

PRESENTING CLINICAL SIGNS

Patient has significant ALT elevation and bile acids elevations. Screening for shunt, FNA of liver today.

ULTRASONOGRAPHIC EXAMINATION OF THE ABDOMEN

Urinary System

The bladder is moderately distended with anechoic urine. No uroliths are seen. The bladder wall is normal in appearance and thickness. No masses are seen.

The right kidney presents normal size (4.0 cm) with normal shape and architecture. Normal corticomedullary distinction. No pyelectasia, ureteral dilation or nephrolithiasis.

The left kidney presents normal size (3.6 cm) with normal shape and architecture. Normal corticomedullary distinction. No pyelectasia, ureteral dilation or nephrolithiasis.

Adrenal Glands

The right adrenal gland appears small in width, measuring 2.2 mm at the cranial pole and 2.3 mm at the caudal pole.

The left adrenal gland is small and flat in appearance, measuring 2.5 mm at the caudal pole and 3.1 mm at the cranial pole.

Spleen

The spleen is normal in size, shape, margination and echogenicity. No masses are seen.

Liver

The liver presents normal size and shape with smooth lobar margins. The parenchyma has normal echogenicity with normal echotexture. No focal lesions are seen. Intrahepatic bile ducts are normal. Normal vascular pattern. No evidence of a portosystemic shunt obvious on this ultrasound. The vena cava to aorta ratio appears normal.

The gallbladder presents normal size with anechoic contents. Normal gallbladder wall. No evidence of bile duct distention or obstruction.

Gastrointestinal

The stomach and intestines have normal wall layering and thickness. Colon contains normal contents with normal wall thickness.

Pancreas

The visible pancreas is normal in size with normal echogenic parenchyma and surrounded by normal peri-pancreatic mesentery.

Free Abdomen

There are no enlarged abdominal lymph nodes seen on this exam. No free abdominal fluid is seen.



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ULTRASONOGRAPHIC FINDINGS

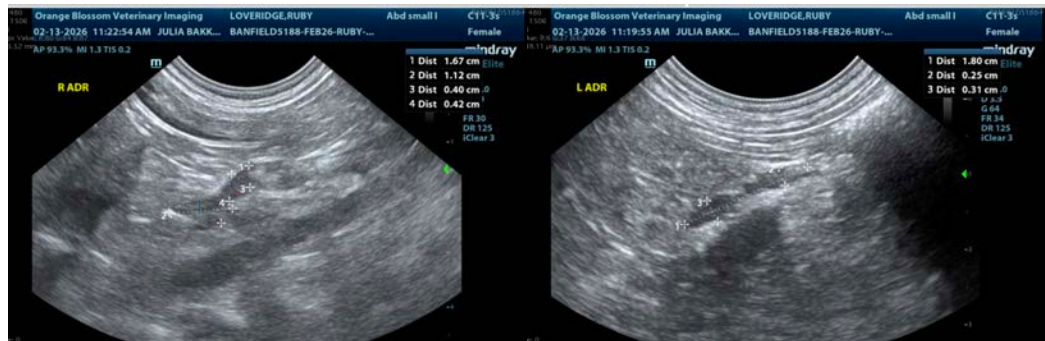
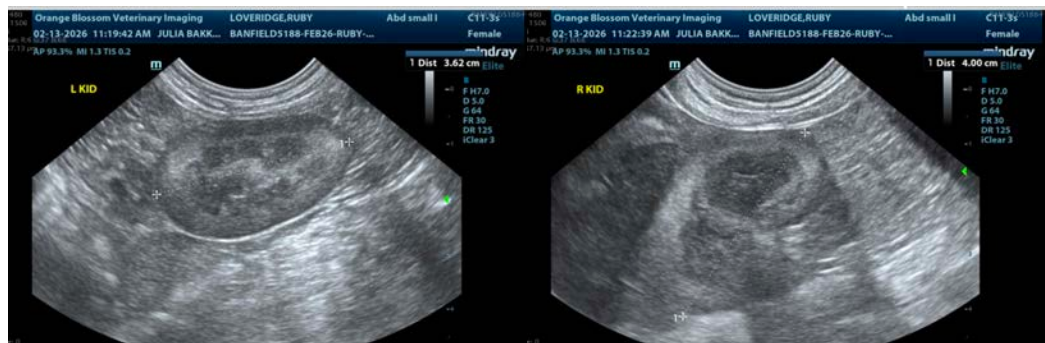
- Bilaterally small adrenal glands.

INTERPRETATION OF THE FINDINGS & FURTHER RECOMMENDATIONS

Given the bilaterally small adrenal glands, screen for Addison's via an ACTH stimulation test. If present, start treating the patient for atypical Addison's unless electrolytes do become abnormal, in which case the patient would be typical Addisonian. There is no report of abnormal electrolytes discussed in the history. Therefore, I would assume if the patient is Addisonian it would be atypical. If Addison's is ruled out by an ACTH stimulation test, and the patient's ALT remains elevated, then at that time I would recommend a liver biopsy.

The patient's bile acid elevations are considered mild to moderate. With this degree of bile acid elevation, I suspect the patient may have portal vein hypoplasia.

If there is continued concern for a portosystemic shunt, then recommend following up with a CT scan of the abdomen to rule out the presence of a shunt. However, given the bile acids and this ultrasound, a portosystemic shunt as the cause of the patient's hepatopathy seems unlikely at this time.





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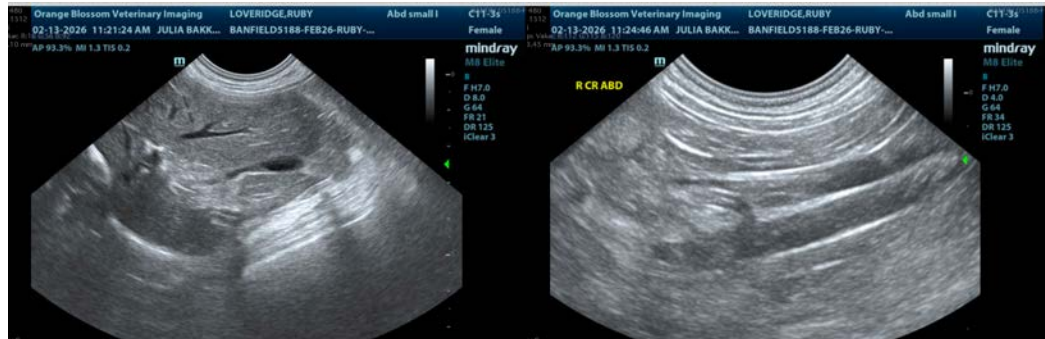
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The information and recommendations provided are based on the images presented by the referring veterinarian/sonographer. No evaluation can be communicated regarding pathology that was not visible in the image/video clips provided.

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.

Greg Kuhlman, DVM, DACVIM (SAIM)

Veterinary Internal Medicine Specialist
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