



PATIENT

Blue Blakeman

SPECIES

Canine

BREED

Great Dane

SEX

Male

AGE

1 Year

WEIGHT

118.2 Pounds

INTERPRETED BY

Heike Rudorf, DVM, Dr.
med. Vet., DipECVDI
DVR

IMAGING PERFORMED BY

Dr. Nick Thomas

HOSPITAL NAME

Faith AC

REFERRING VET

Dr. Nick Thomas

INVOICE

35525

DATE

11/14/25

PRESENTING CLINICAL SIGNS

History: Patient seen for reevaluation of mild lethargy, reduced appetite, and non-specific vocalizing. Patient does like to chew on sticks. Seen 11/11/25 by urgent care where right submandibular lymph node found enlarged on exam and mild cough.

Abnormal PE/Chem/CBC/UA Results: WBC 17.45 (5.05-16.76) Monocytosis 2.8 (0.16-1.12) Basophilia 0.12 (0.0-0.10) Ultrasound of the retropharyngeal region revealed a prominent lymph node with no free fluid or cavitation noted. An FNA was performed of this. Cytology revealed TNTC RBC, degenerative neutrophils, lymphocytes, monocytes, and few spindle cells. No bacteria present. P received 5.0 mL total of Propofol for a sedated oropharyngeal exam. The left arytenoid cartilage was thickened and erythematous. There were no other lesions appreciated. P proximal trachea was normal. There was limited view of the epiglottis.

RADIOGRAPHIC STUDY OF THE NECK

Number and shape of the vertebrae are physiological; their surfaces are smooth. No evidence of osseous destruction is present along the C-spine.

A homogeneous, retropharyngeal soft tissue swelling displaces the caudal naso- and laryngopharynx as well as the trachea to the level of C4. Fascial plains are no longer visible. On the VD the right side of the neck is of increased opacity. A soft tissue swelling is also noted ventral to the larynx.

The tip of the epiglottis is located on a soft tissue structure which appears to be located between base of the tongue and the soft palate. The caudal aspect of the soft palate appears to be displaced by the soft tissue structure. Layering of soft tissue and linear lucencies is evident overlying the vertical rami of the mandible.

RADIOGRAPHIC DIAGNOSIS

- Retropharyngeal swelling
- Lymphadenomegaly
- Striated soft tissue caudal oropharynx
- Soft tissue mass between base of tongue/epiglottis/soft palate

INTERPRETATION OF THE FINDINGS & FURTHER RECOMMENDATIONS

Elevation of soft palate and epiglottis suggest a mass in the caudal oropharynx. This could explain the difficulty in assessing the epiglottis. Any swelling can be due to abscess, granuloma, cyst and tumor. Age, history and hematology results suggest oral and retropharyngeal abscesses as the most likely cause. The linear lucencies may represent the foreign body surrounded by gas. Further imaging is recommended. Contrast CT will help differentiate the oral structures and identify mass lesions with inflammation. Ultrasound of the retropharyngeal region can be performed standing from ventrally and in lateral recumbency from both sides, carefully following the entire length and width of the swelling in a systematic fashion. The oral changes can only be examined with CT; though placing the ultrasound probe cranial to the enlarged lymph node will help assess the base of the tongue.



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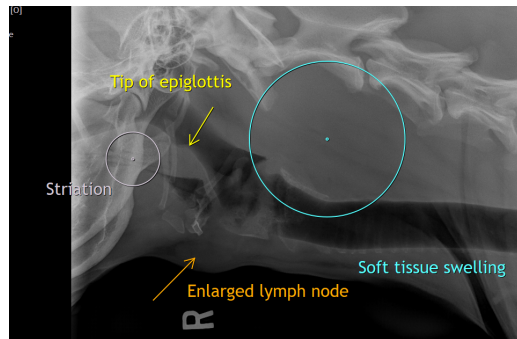
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The information and recommendations provided are based on the images presented by the referring veterinarian/sonographer. No evaluation can be communicated regarding pathology that was not visible in the image/video clips provided.

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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