



PATIENT

Spoons Lindsay

SPECIES

Canine

BREED

Great Dane Mix

SEX

MN

AGE

6Y, 10M

WEIGHT

81lbs

INTERPRETED BY

Heike Rudolf, DVM, Dr.
med. Vet., DipECVDF
DVR

IMAGING PERFORMED BY

Katy Borzillo

HOSPITAL NAME

Elizabeth Animal
Hospital

REFERRING VET

Kim Allyn, DVM

INVOICE

74541

DATE

4-9-26

PRESENTING CLINICAL SIGNS

A 6- to 7-year-old Pyrenees mix has been experiencing hind-end discomfort and difficulty rising, worsening since January. The dog is otherwise feeling good, with a normal temperature and no proprioceptive defects, though palpation of the spine is slightly uncomfortable. Screening X-rays from January and March showed a progressive lesion around L7. CBC, chemistry, urinalysis, urine culture, and tests for Brucella and Histoplasma were normal. The dog currently lives in Oklahoma but was previously in Colorado. Seeking a second opinion on the spinal lesion and recommendations for further action.

RADIOGRAPHS OF THE PELVIS

07.01.2026 and 26.03.2026

R lateral and VD, totaling 6 radiographs provided for interpretation.

RADIOGRAPHIC FINDINGS

All bones are well mineralized, have a normal trabecular structure and smooth, continuous surfaces. Cortico-medullary development and differentiation of the long bones are physiological. Sacralization of L7 is present on the right. A thin space is present between S2/3. Colon and rectum are filled with feces.

07.01.2026

The cranial endplate of S1 shows a lucent line. Caudal endplate of L7 and cranial endplate of S1 appear more radiopaque. The L7/S1 disc space is funnel shaped with a narrow ventral end.

Pelvis: the center of the right femoral head is located lateral to the dorsal acetabular edge; the medial joint space appears to be wide.

26.03.2026

The lucent line is now visible in the caudal endplate of L7. The sacrum appears physiological. A small step is present between the dorsal outline of L7 and S1. The muscle mass now appears to be symmetrically developed, and the medial joint space of the left leg appears wider.

RADIOGRAPHIC DIAGNOSIS

07.01.2026

- Transitional vertebra L7 R
- Muscle atrophy R
- Mild HD R
- Possible endplate lucency S1

26.03.2026

- Transitional vertebra L7 R
- Possible endplate lucency L7
- Mild hip space reduction R

INTERPRETATION OF THE FINDINGS & FURTHER RECOMMENDATIONS

The apparent lucency of the endplates, variation in hip joint space widening and alteration in muscle size are likely the result of different positioning due to the transitional vertebra. Accurate positioning of the spine is difficult, even under G.A., and cord compression can only be identified with myelography or in cross-sectional imaging. Thus, CT or MRI is recommended. Difficulties rising can be due to cord



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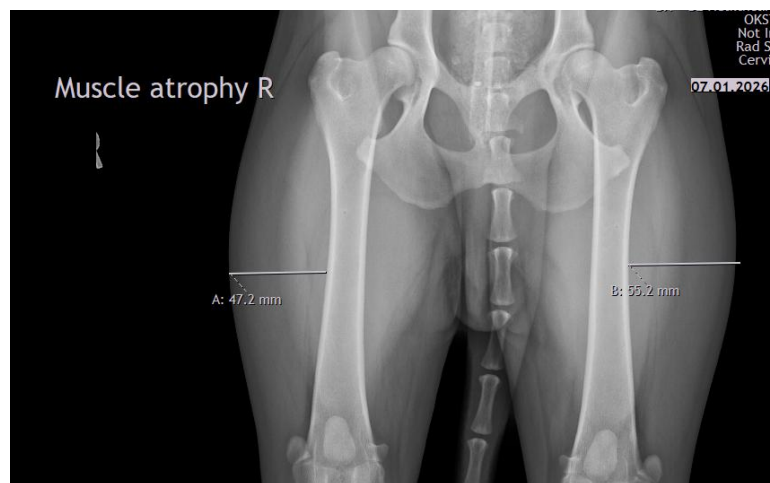
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compression, neuritis and also arthrosis in the tarsi or stifle effusion. However, the surfaces of the stifle joint are smooth in both examinations making cruciate disease unlikely.





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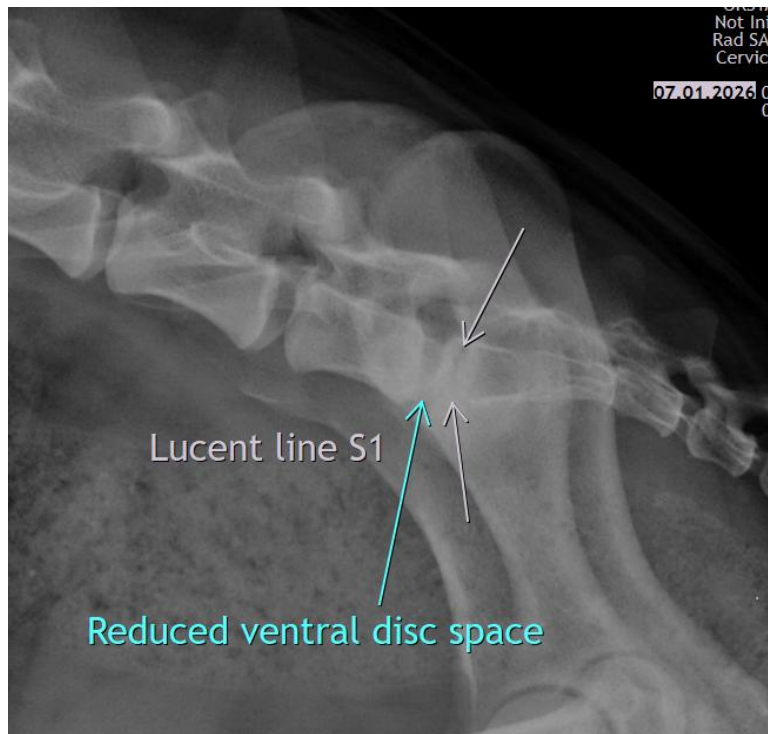
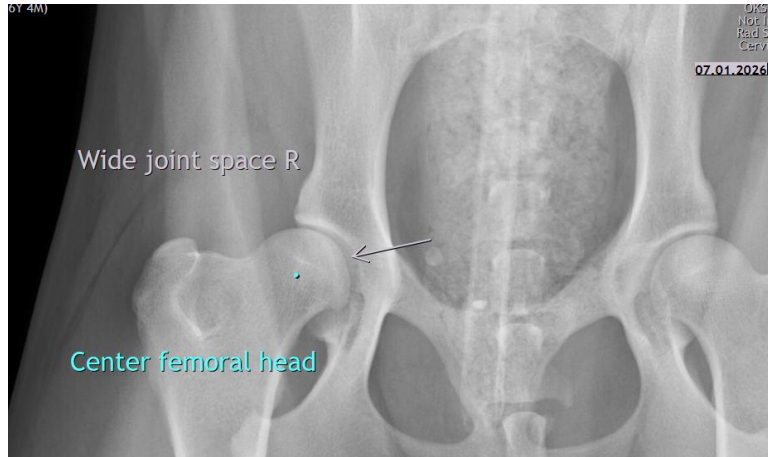
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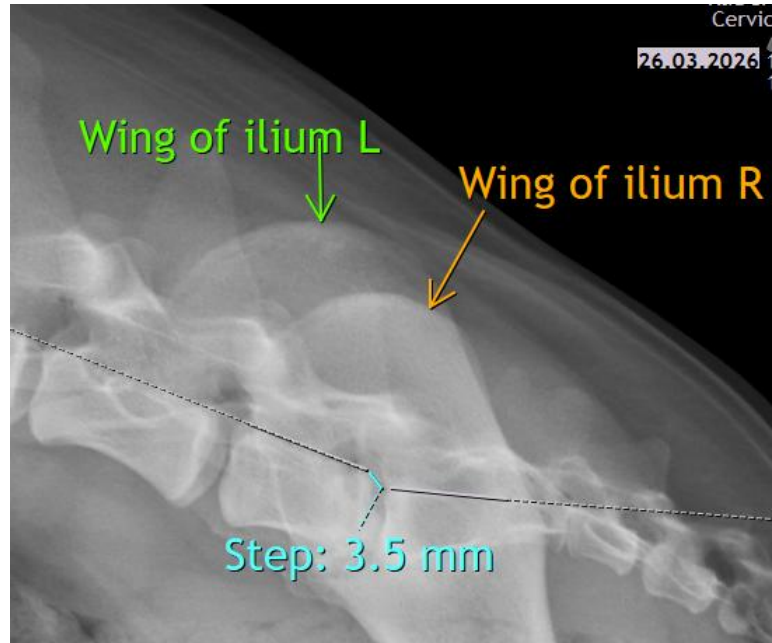
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The information and recommendations provided are based on the images presented by the referring veterinarian/sonographer. No evaluation can be communicated regarding pathology that was not visible in the image/video clips provided.

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.

Heike Rudolf, DVM, Dr. med. vet., DipECVDI, DVR
info@sonopath.com