

**DATE PRESENTING CLINICAL SIGNS**

1/24/23

Chronic intermittent vs chronic pancreatitis. Over past two years around 2 episodes per year of pancreatitis, PLI is usually checked and is elevated consistent with true pancreatitis. More recently had an episode in Nov and again in Dec so may be increasing in frequency. Episodes characterized by vomiting, diarrhea, poor appetite, and lethargy and will typically improve in a few days with supportive care. Also has chronic, mild ALP elevation, markedly elevated TG on most recent labs (during episode of pancreatitis), and hx of allergies (skin) and food sensitivity (GI upset w/chicken). Also has a SQ mass (vs asymmetric fat pad) caudoventral abdomen.

PATIENT

Midnight Knight-Davis

SPECIES

Canine

BREED

Shih Tzu

SEX

Spayed Female

AGE

9/5/11

WEIGHT

6 kg

INTERPRETED BY

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(Small Animal Internal
Medicine)

HOSPITAL NAME

Nexus Vet Specialists

REFERRING VET

Dr. Steele

INVOICE

44427

ULTRASONOGRAPHIC EXAMINATION OF THE ABDOMEN**Urinary System**

The urinary bladder is moderately distended with anechoic urine. The Bladder wall, trigone, ureteral papillae and visible urethra (to a depth of 2cm) appear normal with no evidence of wall thickening, mucosal irregularities, masses or cystic calculi.

The left kidney has a normal shape and size (4.42 cm). Overall echogenicity is slightly hyperechoic with poor corticomedullary distinction and a typical 1:3 cortex:medulla ratio. There is no evidence of focal perinephric inflammation or effusion. There is no evidence of pyelectasia, nephroliths, infarcts or hydroureter. Renal vasculature is normal.

The right kidney has a normal shape and size (0.56 cm). Overall echogenicity is normal with adequate corticomedullary distinction and a typical 1:3 cortex:medulla ratio. There is no evidence of focal perinephric inflammation or effusion. There is no evidence of pyelectasia, nephroliths, infarcts or hydroureter. Renal vasculature is normal.

Adrenal Glands

The left adrenal gland is normal in size measuring 0.53 cm at the caudal pole. It is observed in its normal position cranial to the left renal artery. It is normal in appearance (uniformly hypoechoic) and shape with no evidence of a mass effect.

The right kidney has a normal shape and size (4.76 cm). Overall echogenicity is slightly hyperechoic with poor corticomedullary distinction and a typical 1:3 cortex:medulla ratio. There is no evidence of focal perinephric inflammation or effusion. There is no evidence of pyelectasia, nephroliths, infarcts or hydroureter. Renal vasculature is normal.

Spleen

The spleen is subjectively normal in size, echotexture is homogenous, and the splenic capsule is smooth with no irregularities. The blood flow through the hilus and splenic parenchyma appears normal. No focal parenchymal abnormalities are visualized.

Liver

The liver is large in size, and normal in echogenicity with smooth peripheral margins. The parenchyma is heterogenous in echotexture with subtle, indistinct focal mottling. The visible portions of the vasculature and biliary tract appear normal. No focal nodules or cystic lesions are observed.

The gall bladder lumen is moderately distended. The wall of the gall bladder is not thickened and has a smooth mucosal surface. There is a moderate amount of non-organized echogenic debris. The cystic and common bile ducts are normal/not visible.

Gastrointestinal

The stomach contains minimal luminal contents. It measures at a normal thickness of <0.7cm with some variability due to the presence of rugal folds. The distinction of the gastric wall layers is adequate and there is no impression of reduced peristaltic activity. No masses or focal lesions were observed.

The visualized areas of duodenum, jejunum and ileum have a relatively uniform diameter with minimal fluid distension. Wall thickness is normal. Bowel loops follow a curvilinear path with distinct wall layering maintaining the typical 1:3 muscularis:mucosa layer ratio. Duodenum wall measures 0.52 cm. Jejunum wall measures 0.31 cm. Visualized peristalsis appears appropriate. There were no focal lesions consistent with obstruction or a mass effect observed.

The ileocecal junction was visualized and exhibited normal intact wall layering and is subjectively of normal thickness. Sections of colon are visualized with formed fecal material and gas shadowing distally. There is no observed focal or generalized colon wall thickening or loss of layering.

Pancreas

The pancreas is prominent and hypoechoic as compared to the surrounding isoechoic mesentery. There is no evidence of nodules or cystic lesions. There is no evidence of regional mesenteric inflammation or fluid.

Free Abdomen

Evaluation of the peritoneal cavity did not reveal any evidence of effusion, or subjective lymphadenomegaly. The Medial iliac nodes appear normal and there was no evidence of a caudal aortic thrombus at the bifurcation. The omentum is of normal uniform echogenicity.

Other

There is a homogeneous, slightly hyperechoic, subcutaneous mass effect visualized measuring 4.69 cm x 3.05 cm, most consistent with a subcutaneous lipoma.

PRIMARY FINDINGS

- Prominent, hypoechoic pancreas with minimal to mild surrounding inflammation – The pancreatic changes are most consistent with mild pancreatitis or a recent episode of pancreatic inflammation.
- Large heterogeneous hyperechoic liver – The diffuse hepatic changes are non-specific and could be consistent with vacuolar hepatopathy, nodular hyperplasia, inflammatory/immune-mediated disease, fibrosis, extramedullary hematopoiesis, toxic hepatopathy (e.g., copper), infiltrative neoplasia (less likely) or other hepatopathy.
- Moderate gallbladder debris – The significance of the aggregated gallbladder debris is unclear. This could represent an early mucocele, cholestasis, or may be secondary to fasting but seems unlikely to be causing a current issue. Recommend continued monitoring.

SECONDARY FINDINGS

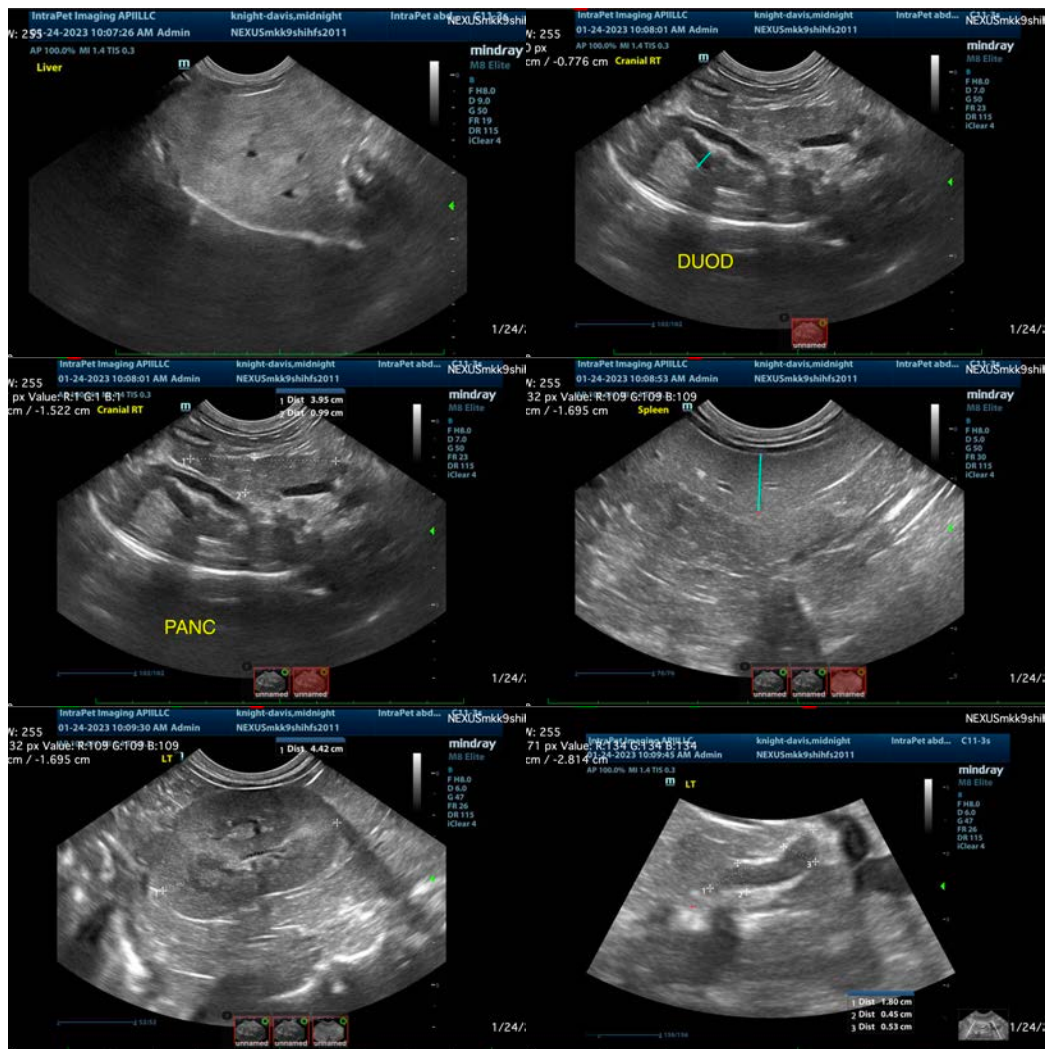
- Decreased corticomedullary distinction in both kidneys – The bilateral renal findings are consistent with age-related change.

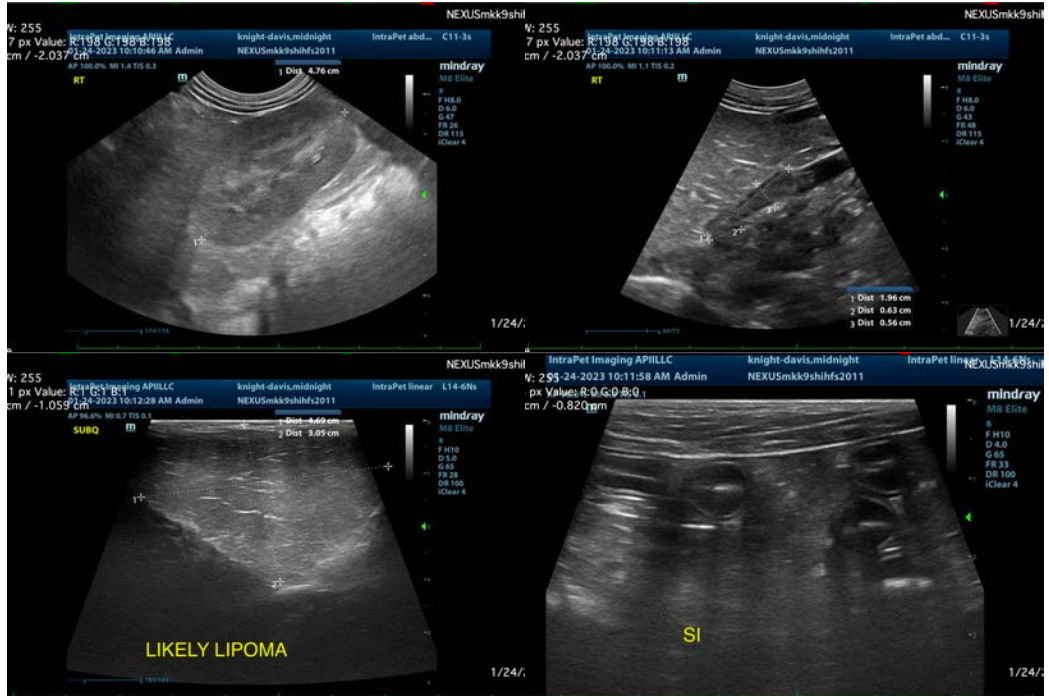
- Hyperechoic, homogeneous subcutaneous mass effect – most consistent with a subcutaneous lipoma. Recommend a fine needle aspirate.

INTERPRETATION OF THE FINDINGS & FURTHER RECOMMENDATIONS

The ultrasonographic lesions visualized on today's exam include a hypoechoic prominent pancreas with minimal to mild surrounding inflammation, a large hyperechoic, heterogeneous liver with moderate gallbladder debris, and mild age related changes associated with the kidneys. Additionally, there is a homogeneous hyperechoic subcutaneous mass effect visualized.

Further diagnostic and therapeutic recommendations regarding this exam to be made by Dr. Cara Steele.





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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