



PATIENT

Sophie Young

SPECIES

Canine

BREED

Mini Dachshund

SEX

Spayed Female

AGE

2 Years

WEIGHT

10 lbs

INTERPRETED BY

Kathleen Sennello DVM,
MS, Diplomate ACVIM
(Small Animal Internal
Medicine)

IMAGING PERFORMED BY

Julia Bakker, DVM

HOSPITAL NAME

Orange Blossom
Veterinary Imaging

REFERRING VET

Adriana Ribas, DVM

INVOICE

72500

DATE

1/27/26

PRESENTING CLINICAL SIGNS

Chronic elevation in ALT that was very mild and first noted 2/2025. Has progressively increased even on Denamarin. No clinical signs.

Abnormal PE/Chem/CBC/UA Results: ALT 283 (10-118) GGT 9 (0-7) Remainder of ALP, BA, TBIL, ALB, BUN, Chol within normal limits.

ULTRASONOGRAPHIC EXAMINATION OF THE ABDOMEN

Urinary System

The urinary bladder is moderately distended with anechoic urine. The Bladder wall appears somewhat prominent measuring 0.30 cm. The 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 (3.83 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.

The right kidney has a normal shape and size (3.73 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 0.42 cm at the cranial pole and 0.41 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 adrenal gland is normal in size measuring 0.54 cm at the cranial pole and 0.46 cm at the caudal pole. It is observed in its normal position between the cranial aspect of the right kidney and the caudal vena cava. It is normal in appearance (uniformly hypoechoic) and shape with no evidence of a mass effect.

Spleen

The spleen is subjectively normal in size (0.84 cm), 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 subjectively normal in size, and echogenicity with smooth peripheral margins. The parenchyma is homogenous echotexture. 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. Luminal contents are mild and likely incidental at this time. The cystic and common bile ducts are normal/not visible.



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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 0.48 cm. Jejunum wall measures 0.24 cm. Visualized peristalsis appears appropriate. There were no focal lesions consistent with obstruction or a mass effect observed.

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 area of the pancreas is normal and isoechoic to surrounding 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.

ULTRASONOGRAPHIC FINDINGS

- Mildly prominent/thickened urinary bladder wall – The bladder mucosal changes could be consistent with cystitis or artifactual due to lack of adequate luminal distension. Bladder neoplasia cannot be ruled out but is considered unlikely in this patient.

INTERPRETATION OF THE FINDINGS & FURTHER RECOMMENDATIONS

No focal lesions are visualized associated with the liver to explain the elevation in ALT reported. Unfortunately, there are many causes for an elevation in ALT that cannot be definitively diagnosed by ultrasound alone. Consider the following:

- Recommend pre- and post-prandial bile acids to assess liver function.
- If clinically appropriate, consider Leptospirosis testing.
- If bile acids are significantly elevated (typically >80), consider a contrast CT scan to look for possible unseen portosystemic shunt.

With a chronic elevation in ALT, a fine needle aspirate is less likely to obtain useful information, although this could be considered to look for any evidence of round cell neoplasia or similar (seems unlikely). Hepatic biopsies with samples for histopathology, culture and copper levels are likely necessary for a more definitive diagnosis. Prior to this, if desired you could consider treatment for acute liver injury with a course of Ursodiol, Denamarin, and antibiotics to see if this improves the ALT levels.



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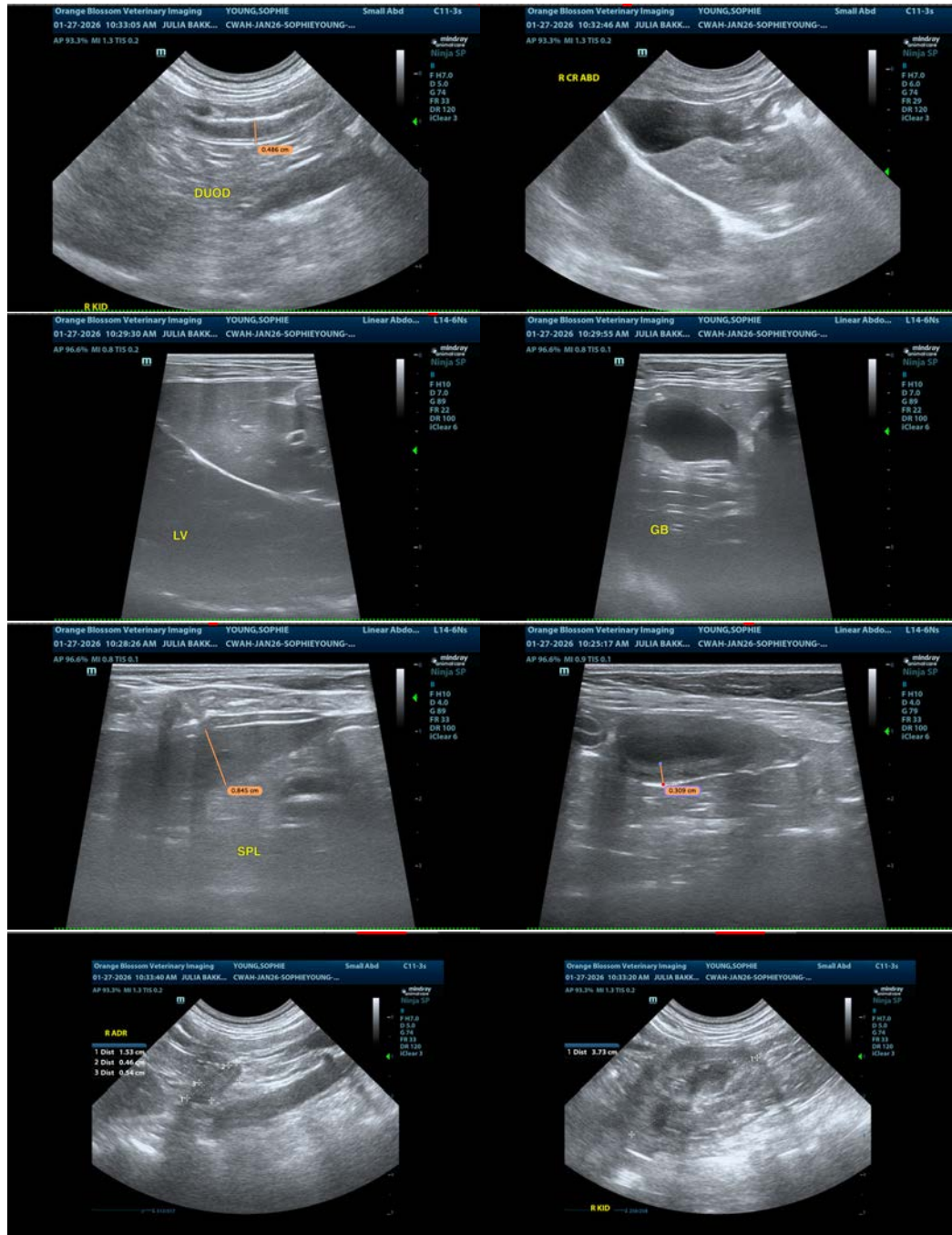
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The information and recommendations provided are based on the images presented by the referring veterinarian/sonographer. No evaluation can be communicated regarding pathology that was not visible in the image/video clips provided.

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.

Kathleen Sennello DVM,MS, Diplomate ACVIM (Small animal Internal Medicine)

info@sonopath.com