

IMAGING PERFORMED BY

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**SonoPath**

Clinical Sonography & Telecytology

EDUCATIONAL TELECONSULTATION SERVICES™

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**DATE PRESENTING CLINICAL SIGNS**

10/14/22

Weight loss over 2 years even after treatment for hyperthyroidism, decreased appetite and drinking several days, V/VI murmur found years ago; loss of muscle mass over all; abdomen large considering wt. loss

**PATIENT**

Andrew Fulcher

Current Medications: Methimazole 5mg tablets, 1 tab AM, 1/2 tab PM  
Gabapentin prior to exams.

**SPECIES**

Feline

Radiographs: irregular opacity next to liver, liver silhouette not sharp, distended loop of bowel with air, possible

cardiac silhouette - only partial chest on radiograph could not another shot, pet fractious

Date of Previous IntraPet Ultrasound: No previous.

Sedation: Not required to complete full diagnostic ultrasound.

Stat Report: Not requested.

**BREED**

DSH

**ULTRASONOGRAPHIC EXAMINATION OF THE ABDOMEN**

**SEX**

Neutered Male

**Urinary System**

The urinary bladder is moderately distended with mild primarily suspended echogenic debris present. 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 calculi. Echogenic debris of this type can be associated with small crystals, cellular debris and proteinaceous debris.

**AGE**

8/1/07

The left kidney has a normal shape and size (4.5 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.

**WEIGHT**

8.7 Pounds

The right kidney has a normal shape and size (4.48 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.

**INTERPRETED BY**

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

**Adrenal Glands**

The left adrenal gland is normal in size measuring 0.50 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.

**IMAGING PERFORMED BY**

Andi Parkinson RDMS

The region of the right adrenal (between right cranial kidney and vena cava) is unremarkable, but the adrenal is not distinctly visualized. No evidence of a mass effect.

**HOSPITAL NAME**

Edgewood Vet Hospital

**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.

**REFERRING VET**

Dr. Mullenex

**Liver**

The liver is subjectively normal in size with smooth peripheral margins. The parenchyma is hyperechoic and homogenous in echotexture. The visible portions of the vasculature and biliary tract appear normal. There are two ill-defined hyperechoic lesions visualized measuring 1.03 cm and 1.05 cm in diameter. Additionally, there is a larger right cystic structure visualized on the right side measuring 1.8 cm in diameter.

**INVOICE**

42097

The gallbladder lumen is moderately distended. The wall of the gall bladder is not thickened and has a smooth mucosal surface. Luminal contents are mild and primarily anechoic. The bile duct appears slightly tortuous and prominent, measuring 0.29 cm.

### ***Gastrointestinal***

The stomach contains minimal luminal contents. It measures at a normal thickness of <0.36cm 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 uniform diameter with minimal fluid distension. Wall thickness is normal to slightly increased. Bowel loops follow a typical curvilinear path with distinct wall layering, but some areas display a prominent muscularis layer which does not display the typical 1:3 muscularis:mucosa layer ratio. Jejunum wall measures 0.34 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 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**

- Echogenic debris in the urinary bladder – The echogenic debris in the bladder lumen could be consistent with cells, crystals, and/or mucus.
- Hyperechoic liver with ill-defined hyperechoic nodules and a right-sided cyst – Hepatic changes are non-specific and could be consistent with hepatic lipidosis, inflammatory/infectious disease, infiltrative neoplasia, or other hepatopathy. The hyperechoic lesions are subtle and poorly defined. The appearance trends towards a more benign lesion but continued monitoring is warranted, as an underlying neoplastic process cannot be ruled out. The cystic structure on the right side is most consistent with a benign hepatic cyst.
- Mildly tortuous and dilated bile duct – Dilation of the common bile duct could be consistent with a functional obstruction (i.e. primary hepatic disease resulting in hepatocellular swelling) or with an extrahepatic bile duct obstruction (ie. choledocholith, bile duct tumor, pancreatic disease, other).
- Prominent muscularis layer to the small intestine – The small intestinal wall changes could be consistent with an underlying inflammatory process. These types of changes can sometimes be seen in normal older cats. Correlate with clinical signs.

## **INTERPRETATION OF THE FINDINGS & FURTHER RECOMMENDATIONS**

The changes observed on today's scan are relatively mild, although the small intestine does appear significantly "ropey" with a very prominent muscularis layer. If bloodwork is normal (particularly liver enzymes, etc.), then I would consider primary GI disease as a possible differential with possible issues such as

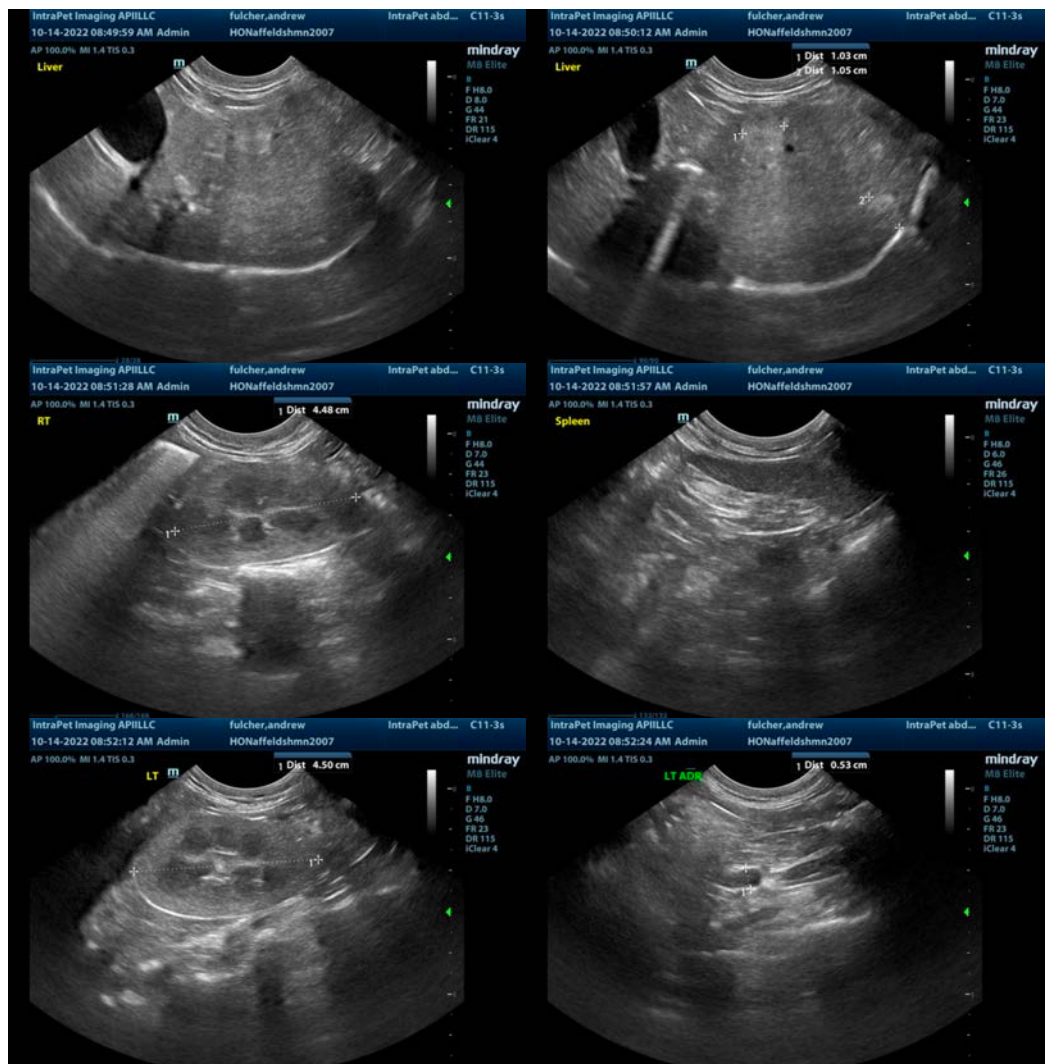
dietary intolerance/food allergy, IBD, and intestinal neoplasia on the list.

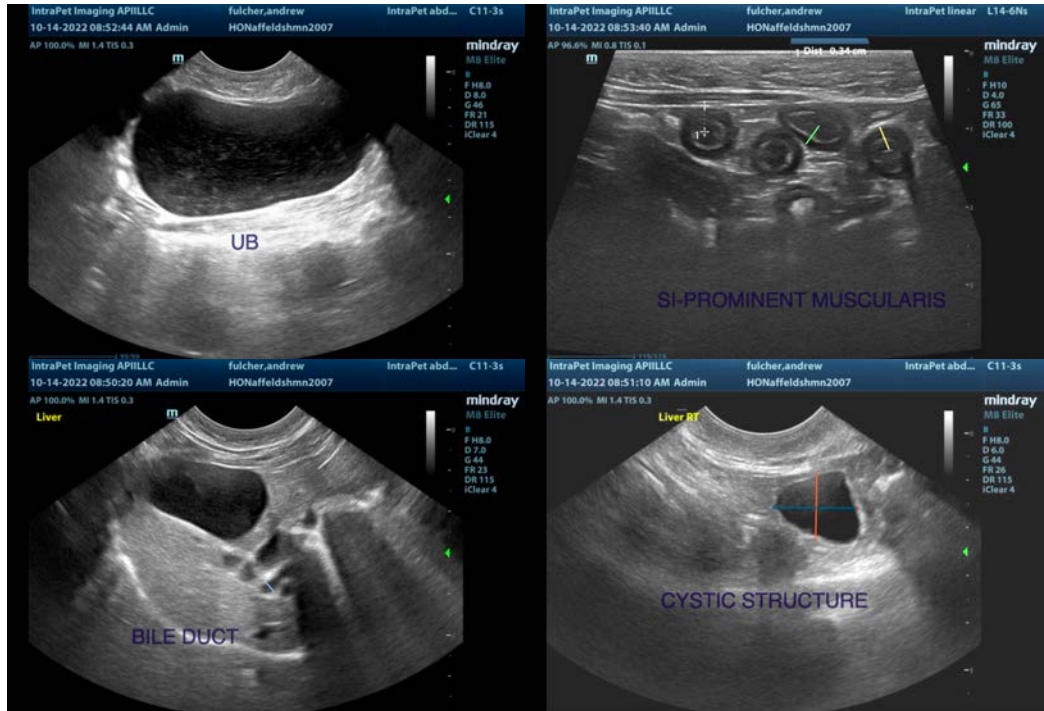
- Recommend a novel protein/hydrolyzed protein prescription diet.
- Recommend chronic probiotic therapy.
- Consider a GI panel to Texas A&M for evaluation of B12 levels, folate, PLI/TLI etc.. to further evaluate for pancreatic/small intestinal disease.
- If symptoms persist, recommend GI biopsies to further evaluate.

The liver appears somewhat hyperechoic. If there are no liver enzyme changes, the significance of this is unclear. There are some ill-defined lesions within the liver. Recommend continued monitoring with ultrasound.

There is a small amount of echogenic debris in the urinary bladder. Recommend a urinalysis and culture.

Recommend three view thoracic radiographs to evaluate for possible concurrent thoracic disease/involvement.





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)  
kathleen.sennello@sonopath.com