



**PATIENT PRESENTING CLINICAL SIGNS**

Fritz Engel

Fritz presented for a dental cleaning. Pre surgical blood work showed elevated ALT and T-bili. Bile Acids test came back elevated. Ultrasound to look for cause of decreased liver function. Fritz is currently taking, Denamarin, Metronidazole, and amoxicillin.

**SPECIES**

Canine

Abnormal PE/Chem/CBC/UA Results: ALT-194 (10-120) T-Bil 1.7 (0-0.9) Bile Acids Post 447 (0-29.9)

**BREED**

Dachshund

**ULTRASONOGRAPHIC EXAMINATION OF THE ABDOMEN**

**Urinary System**

**SEX**

Neutered Male

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.

**AGE**

10 Years

The prostate is normal in size (1.1 cm) and shape for this neutered male dog. The parenchyma is homogenous and the external margins are smooth. The prostatic urethra appears normal with no evidence of irregularity, invasion, mass effect or calculi.

**WEIGHT**

13.8 Pounds

The left kidney has a normal shape and size (4.46 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 (5.09 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**

**IMAGING PERFORMED BY**

A Murphy, CVT

The left adrenal gland is normal in size measuring 0.56 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 0.57 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.

**HOSPITAL NAME**

Wauwatosa Vet Clinic

**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. Jamie Oakes

**Liver**

The liver is normal/borderline small in size with normal echogenicity and 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.

**INVOICE**

42137

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 mild amount of non-organized echogenic debris. The cystic and common bile ducts are normal/not visible.

**DATE**

10/18/22



**PATIENT**

***Gastrointestinal***

Fritz Engel

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.

**SPECIES**

Canine

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. Jejunum wall measures 0.27 cm.

**BREED**

Dachshund

Visualized peristalsis appears appropriate. There were no focal lesions consistent with obstruction or a mass effect observed.

**SEX**

Neutered Male

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***

**AGE**

10 Years

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***

**WEIGHT**

13.8 Pounds

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**

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Kathleen Sennello DVM,  
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(Small Animal Internal  
Medicine)

- Borderline small liver – This could be normal as the caudate lobe appears prominent and extends to the right kidney. Differentials for a small liver could include chronic liver disease, portal hypoplasia, cirrhosis, portosystemic shunt, or normal variation.
- Mild 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.

**IMAGING PERFORMED BY**

A Murphy, CVT

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**INTERPRETATION OF THE FINDINGS & FURTHER RECOMMENDATIONS**

Today's scan appears relatively normal, the liver parenchyma appears adequate on ultrasound but the stomach axis is deviated somewhat on rads.. The extremely elevated bile acids is concerning for significant liver dysfunction. No clear shunting vessel is visualized on today's scan, but this cannot be definitively ruled out based on today's images. No focal lesions are visualized associated with the liver. The mild gallbladder changes are likely incidental.

**REFERRING VET**

Dr. Jamie Oakes

Consider screening for leptospirosis and obtaining a biopsy of the liver looking for primary live3r disease (inflammatory, infectious, etc..)-provided coagulation parameters are normal.

Additionally you could consider advanced imaging (a contrast CT scan) to better evaluate the vasculature for a small shunt, portal hypoplasia etc..

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

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PERFORMED BY**

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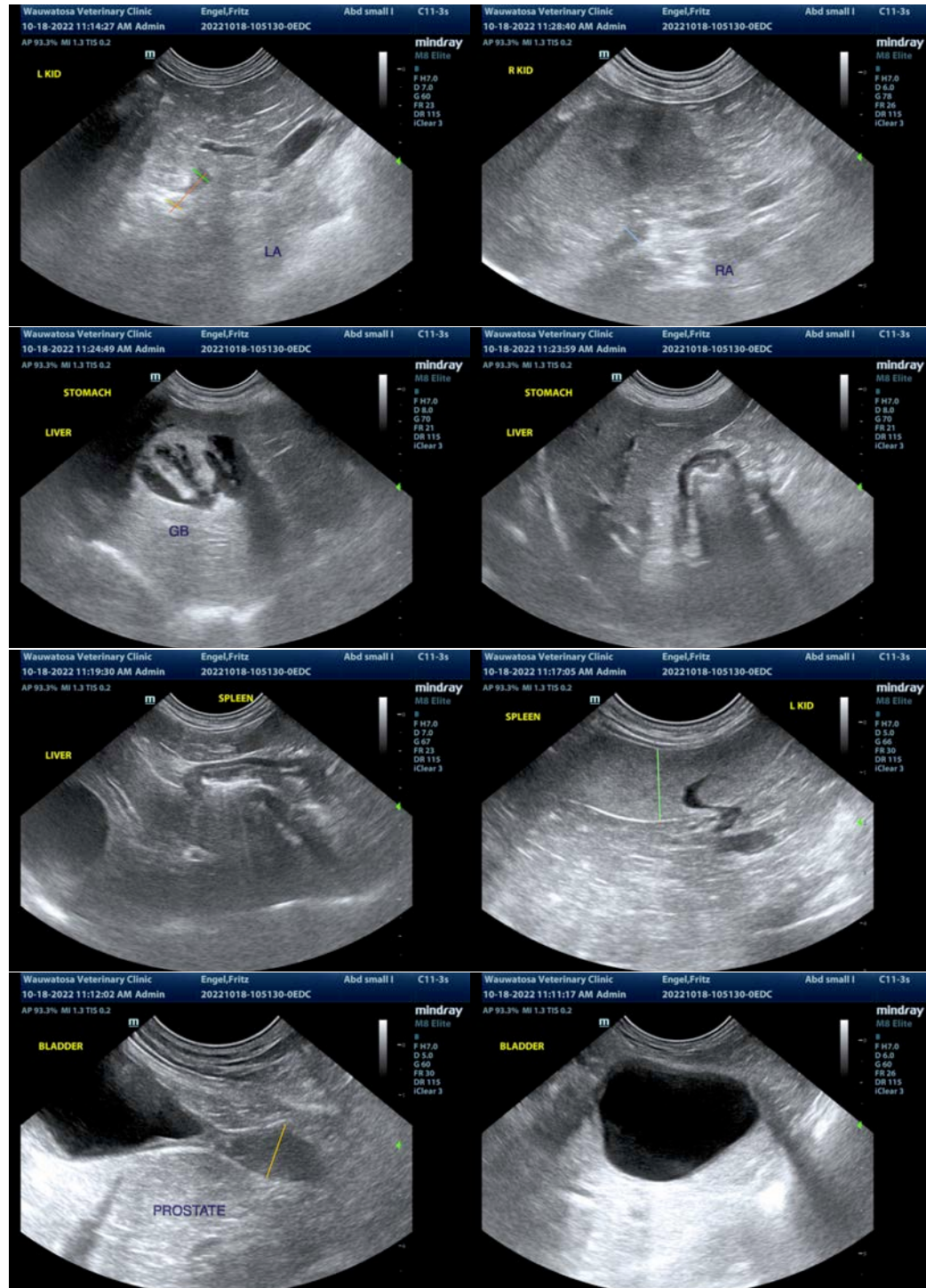
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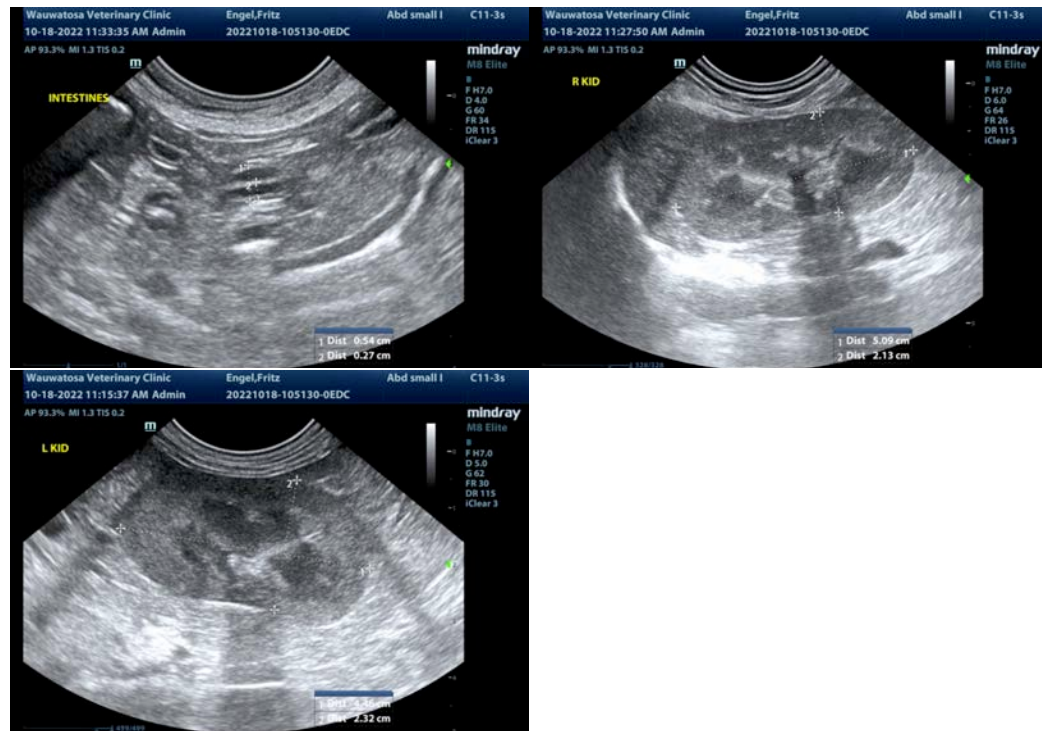
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The information and recommendations provided are based on the images presented by the referring veterinarian/sonographer. No evaluation can be communicated regarding pathology that was not visible in the image/video clips provided.

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.

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

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