

**DATE PRESENTING CLINICAL SIGNS**

10/27/22 Hx of recurrent UTIs- 3 within 6 months.

**PATIENT** Current Medications: None listed.

Joy Langley Date of Previous IntraPet Ultrasound: No previous.  
Sedation: Not required to complete full diagnostic ultrasound.  
Stat Report: Not requested.

**SPECIES ULTRASONOGRAPHIC EXAMINATION OF THE ABDOMEN**

Canine

**BREED**

Shetland Sheepdog

**SEX**

Spayed Female

**AGE**

4/10/12

**WEIGHT**

27 Pounds

**INTERPRETED BY**

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

**IMAGING PERFORMED BY**

Rachel Brilhart RDMS

**HOSPITAL NAME**

Bayside AMC

**REFERRING VET**

Dr. DeLozier

**INVOICE**

42424

**Urinary System**

The urinary bladder is moderately distended with anechoic urine. The Bladder wall is diffusely mildly thickened (0.29 cm), and the mucosa is mildly irregular. The trigone, ureteral papillae, and visible urethra (to a depth of 2cm) appear normal with no evidence of severe mucosal irregularities, masses or cystic calculi. Findings are most consistent with bacterial cystitis or lack of urine distension. Recommend urinalysis and culture.

The left kidney has a normal shape and size (4.73 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.

The right kidney has a normal shape and size (4.77 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/borderline "plump" measuring 0.71 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/borderline "plump" measuring 0.74 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, 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 mildly heterogenous in echotexture with subtle, indistinct focal mottling. The visible portions of the vasculature and biliary tract appear normal. There is a small well defined hyperechoic lesion in the parenchyma measuring 0.69 cm.

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. The duodenum measured as normal (between 0.3-0.5cm in wall thickness) and the jejunum measured as normal (between 0.2-0.47cm.) 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**

- Subjective mild urinary bladder wall thickening – 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.
- Borderline “plump” adrenal glands – This could be incidental and normal for this individual, but if symptoms are persistent, Cushing’s could be considered.
- Mildly heterogeneous liver with a small focal hyperechoic lesion – 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. If liver values are normal, this is likely incidental. The small hyperechoic lesion has the characteristics of a benign lesion, but continued monitoring is warranted.
- 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.

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

There is no evidence of a structural abnormality of the urinary tract to explain the recurrent urinary tract infections. This makes the likelihood of an ectopic ureter, diverticulum, or other congenital abnormality less likely. But unfortunately does not definitively rule them out.

-Consider systemic causes such as diabetes, chronic renal failure, immunosuppression, cushings (steroid use) etc..

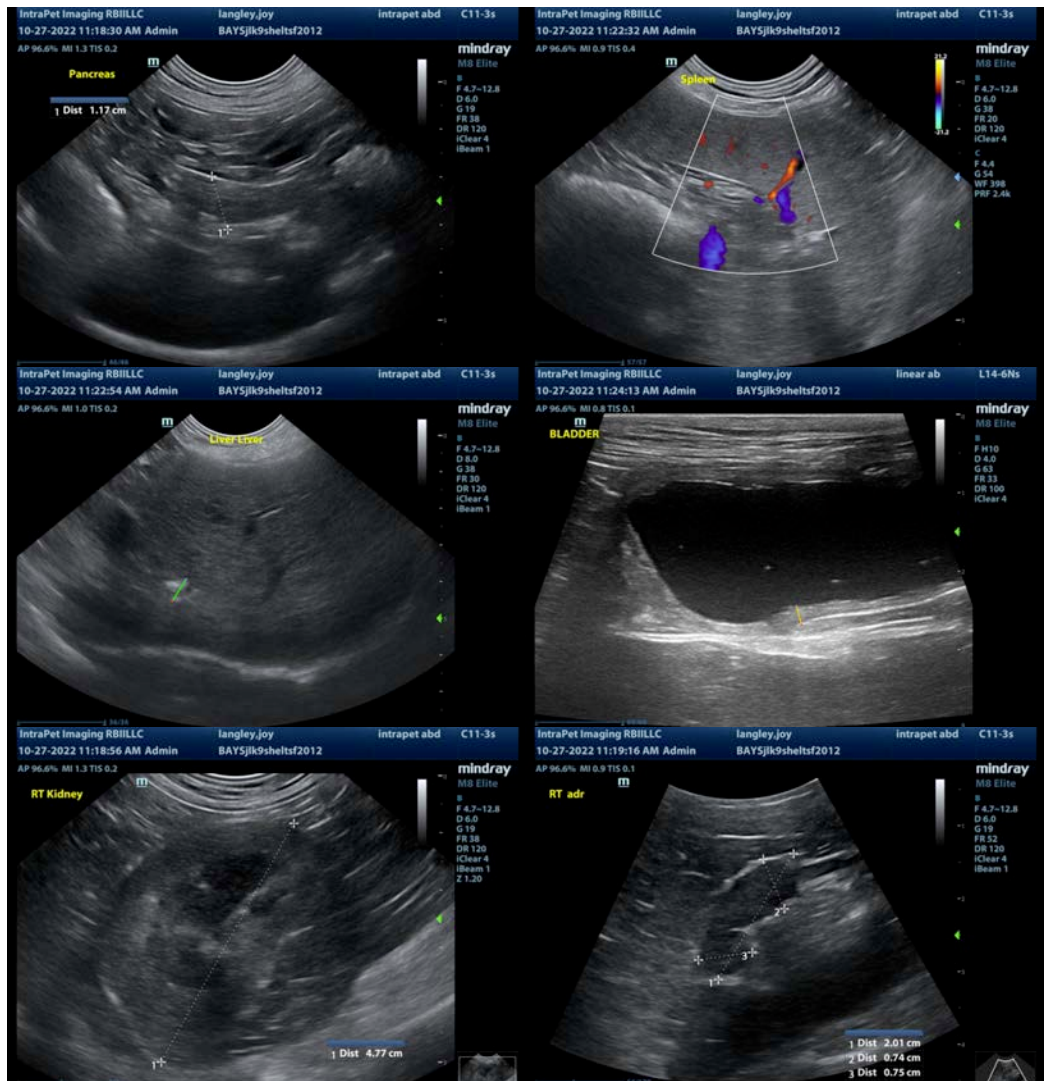
-Consider external conformational issues such as recessed/hooded vulva, chronic neurologic disease interfering with urine emptying etc..

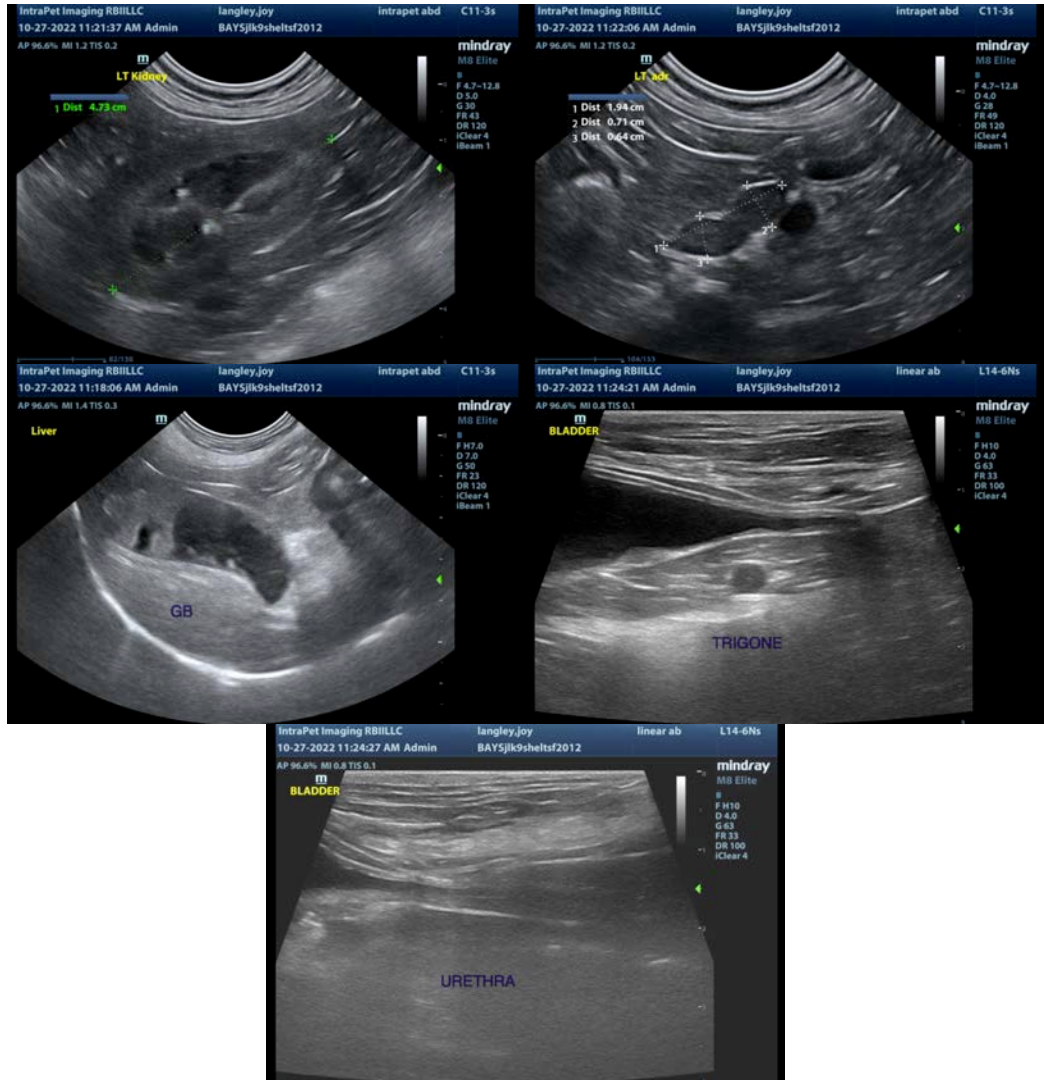
-Further evaluation with cystoscopy or CT could be considered as not all lesions are evident on ultrasound.

-Recommend starting a probiotic, frequent walks, using wipes, cranberry supplement (if E.Coli infections) and frequent urine culture/urinalysis monitoring to target antibiotic therapy and the need for treatment. (asymptomatic bacteriuria Vs. bacterial cystitis)

The adrenals appear somewhat “plump”. If signs of Cushing’s are present, you could consider adrenal function testing to further evaluate.

Additionally, the liver is very mildly heterogeneous. Again, this could be within normal limits. If liver enzyme elevations are present, consider a liver function test and possible fine needle aspirate.





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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