

**DATE**

12/2/21

PRESENTING CLINICAL SIGNS

History: patient presented for routine dental cleaning in Sept- ALT noted to be elevated at 400, ALP and all other labs wnl. Rechecked mid-October at 318). dental cleaning was postponed, p placed on Denamarin for 1m, labs rechecked, and ALT improved to 244 (ALP continues to be normal). p is nonclinical for ALT elevation, o does not report vomiting, dec appetite or energy, no pu/pd.

Current Medications: Denamarin.

Lab Results: ALT improving from 400-318-244. Attached separately.

Radiographs: brief AFAST did not show obvious liver pathology.

Date of Previous IntraPet Ultrasound: No previous IntraPet scans.

Sedation: Not required to complete full diagnostic ultrasound.

Stat Report: Not requested.

PATIENT

Olive McGlumphy

SPECIES

Canine

BREEDAustralian Shepherd
Mix**SEX**

Spayed Female

AGE

10/14/15

WEIGHT

43.4 lbs

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 (5.63 cm). Overall echogenicity is normal with adequate corticomedullary distinction and a typical 1:3 cortex:medulla ratio. There is no evidence of 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 (5.19 cm). Overall echogenicity is normal with adequate corticomedullary distinction and a typical 1:3 cortex:medulla ratio. There is no evidence of perinephric inflammation or effusion. There is no evidence of pyelectasia, nephroliths, infarcts or hydroureter. Renal vasculature is normal.

INTERPRETED BYKathleen Sennello
DVM, MS, Diplomate
ACVIM (Small Animal
Internal Medicine)**Adrenal Glands**

The left adrenal gland is normal in size measuring 0.62 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 0.77 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.

IMAGING PERFORMED BY

Rachel Brillhart RDMS

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.

HOSPITAL NAME

Everhart VH

REFERRING VET**Liver**

The liver is subjectively normal in size, and 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. Prominent portal markings were noted. The gallbladder lumen is moderately distended. The wall of the gallbladder 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.

INVOICE

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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. 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

PRIMARY FINDINGS:

Heterogenous liver with prominent portal markings. 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. Given the age of this patient and the slightly prominent portal markings I would strongly consider an inflammatory process.

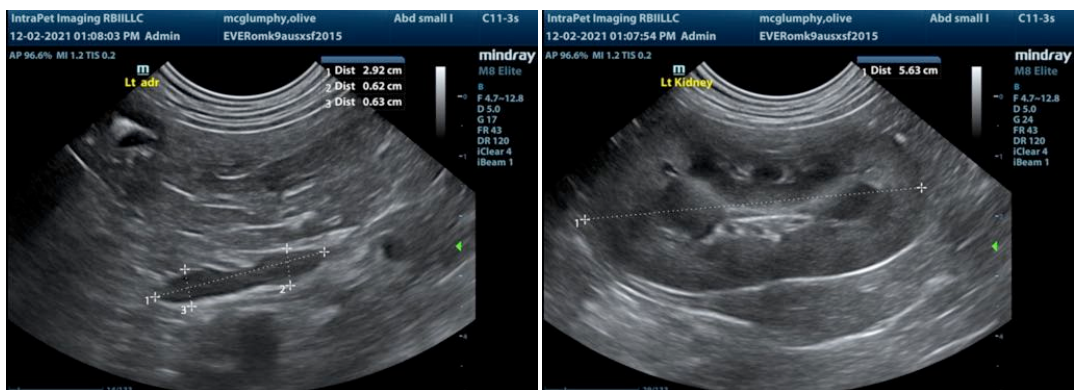
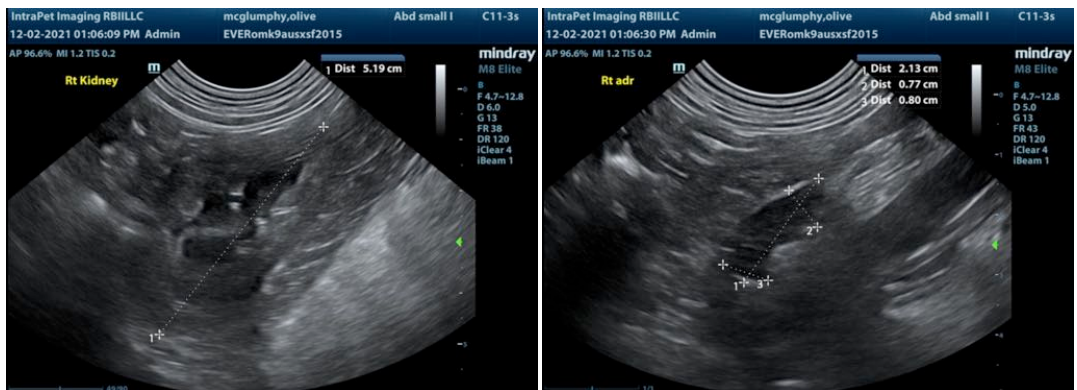
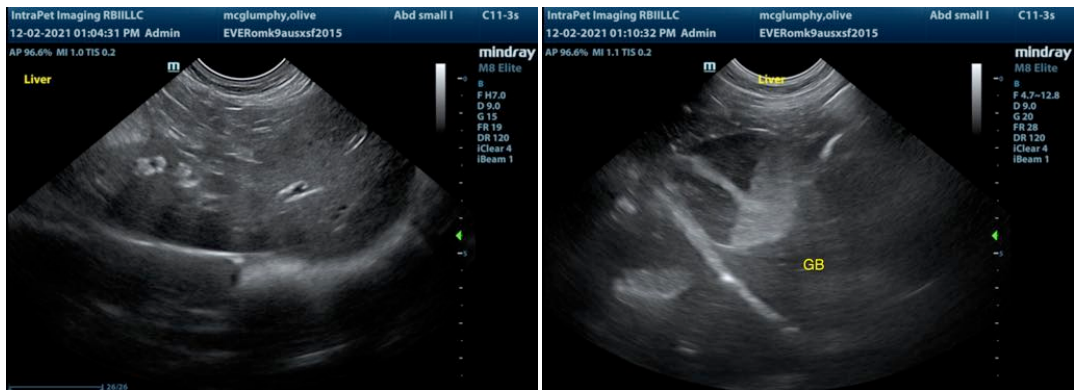
Large gallbladder sludge. The significance of the aggregated gallbladder debris is unclear. This could represent an early mucocele, cholestasis, or may be secondary to fasting. In some areas the gallbladder wall was adherent sludge and there may be early organization present.

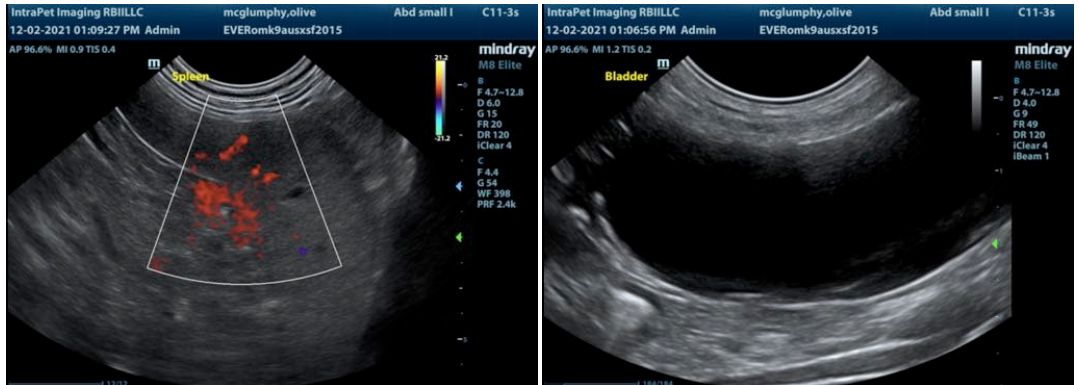
INTERPRETATION OF THE FINDINGS & FURTHER RECOMMENDATIONS

No focal lesions were observed in the liver, but there was an overall heterogenous echotexture and prominent portal markings. This is non specific, but I would strongly consider an inflammatory change. Additionally there is a large amount of sludge within the gallbladder. This may be an incidental finding as typically gallbladder disease is going to cause an elevation in ALP, but I would consider starting Ursodiol and monitoring the gallbladder with ultrasound as this could progress to a more significant issue.

- Consider close evaluation of history for possible toxic changes examine medications, diet, dietary indiscretion etc...
- Consider PCR on urine/serum for leptospirosis (if not on antibiotics)/serology if recent antibiotic history
- If not already done, consider pre and post prandial bile acids to evaluate liver function
- Consider Fine needle aspirate if round cell neoplasia is on your differentia list (25 g needle, normal coags)

- If liver enzymes fail to normalize with modest medical care (Denamarin, course of antibiotics, Ursodiol, etc) then consider a liver biopsy with samples obtained for histopathology, culture, and copper levels. If this biopsy is obtained via surgery then the gallbladder should be evaluated at the same time. Continued monitoring of this patient is warranted as some individuals with chronic, mild ALT elevations can have a smoldering hepatitis that can progress to significant liver dysfunction in the future if not addressed.





The information and recommendations provided are based on the images presented by the referring veterinarian. 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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