



**PATIENT PRESENTING CLINICAL SIGNS**

Betsy Good Intermittent vomiting coupled with inappetence over the last month.

**SPECIES** Abnormal PE/Chem/CBC/UA Results: Current Medications pepcid, cerenia

Canine

**ULTRASONOGRAPHIC EXAMINATION OF THE ABDOMEN**

**BREED** *Urinary System*

Mixed 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.

**SEX**

Spayed Female The left kidney has a normal shape and size (5.45 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.

**AGE**

1.5 Years

The right kidney has a normal shape and size (6.85 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**

45 Pounds

**INTERPRETED BY**

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

**Adrenal Glands**

The left adrenal gland is normal in size measuring 0.49 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**

Sara Hansen

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 is visualized.

**Spleen**

The spleen is subjectively normal in size. The spleen echotexture is heterogenous and mottled, 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.

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**Liver**

**REFERRING VET**

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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.

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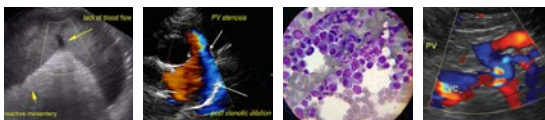
The gallbladder lumen is moderately distended. The wall of the gall bladder is not thickened and has a smooth mucosal surface. Luminal contents are mild and primarily anechoic. The cystic and common bile ducts are normal/not visible.

**DATE**

2/1/23

**Gastrointestinal**

The stomach contains a mild to moderate amount of fluid. 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



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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 mild to moderate 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 0.30 cm. Visualized peristalsis appears appropriate. While no overt foreign material or mass lesions were observed, there is some mild segmental fluid dilation of the bowel.

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. There are prominent mesenteric lymph nodes visualized measuring 0.68 cm and 0.62 cm. The omentum is generally of normal echogenicity.

**ULTRASONOGRAPHIC FINDINGS**

- Mildly mottled spleen – The diffuse splenic changes are non-specific and could be consistent with lymphoid hyperplasia, extramedullary hematopoiesis, infiltrative neoplasia, inflammation, other. Cytology or histopathology would be necessary to get a definitive diagnosis.
- Mild fluid distention of the stomach and proximal small intestine – Possible differentials would include non-fasted patient, ileus/delayed gastric emptying, or a partial obstruction (ingested foreign material, mass effect, etc.).
- Mild mesenteric lymphadenopathy – The prominent abdominal lymph nodes are most consistent with reactive lymphadenitis or lymphoid hyperplasia. Neoplastic infiltration is considered less likely.

**INTERPRETATION OF THE FINDINGS & FURTHER RECOMMENDATIONS**

The stomach and small bowel appear mildly fluid dilated. Wall thickening is appropriate, and there is no loss of layering or focal lesions visualized. The chronicity of this issue makes ingested foreign material less likely, but does not definitively rule it out, and no mass lesion is observed.

Additionally, the spleen appears subjectively mildly mottled. This could represent anatomic variation, infiltrative disease, inflammation, etc. A fine needle aspirate could be considered.

Additionally, the mesenteric lymph nodes are somewhat prominent, but they are not rounded or hypoechoic, and I suspect this is normal for a young dog.

If not already done, recommend full lab work including a baseline cortisol.

If systemic causes are thought unlikely, and primary gastrointestinal disease is strongly suspected, consider such differentials as food allergy/dietary intolerance, ingested chronic foreign material,



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chronic pancreatitis, dysbiosis, less likely IBD or intestinal neoplasia.

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- Consider a novel protein/hydrolyzed protein diet (exclusively at least 4-6 weeks)

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- 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.

**BREED**

Mixed

- Consider chronic probiotic therapy.

**SEX**

Spayed Female

- If symptoms persist, consider obtaining GI biopsies and correlate these findings with abdominal radiographs, looking for any evidence of chronic ingested foreign material.

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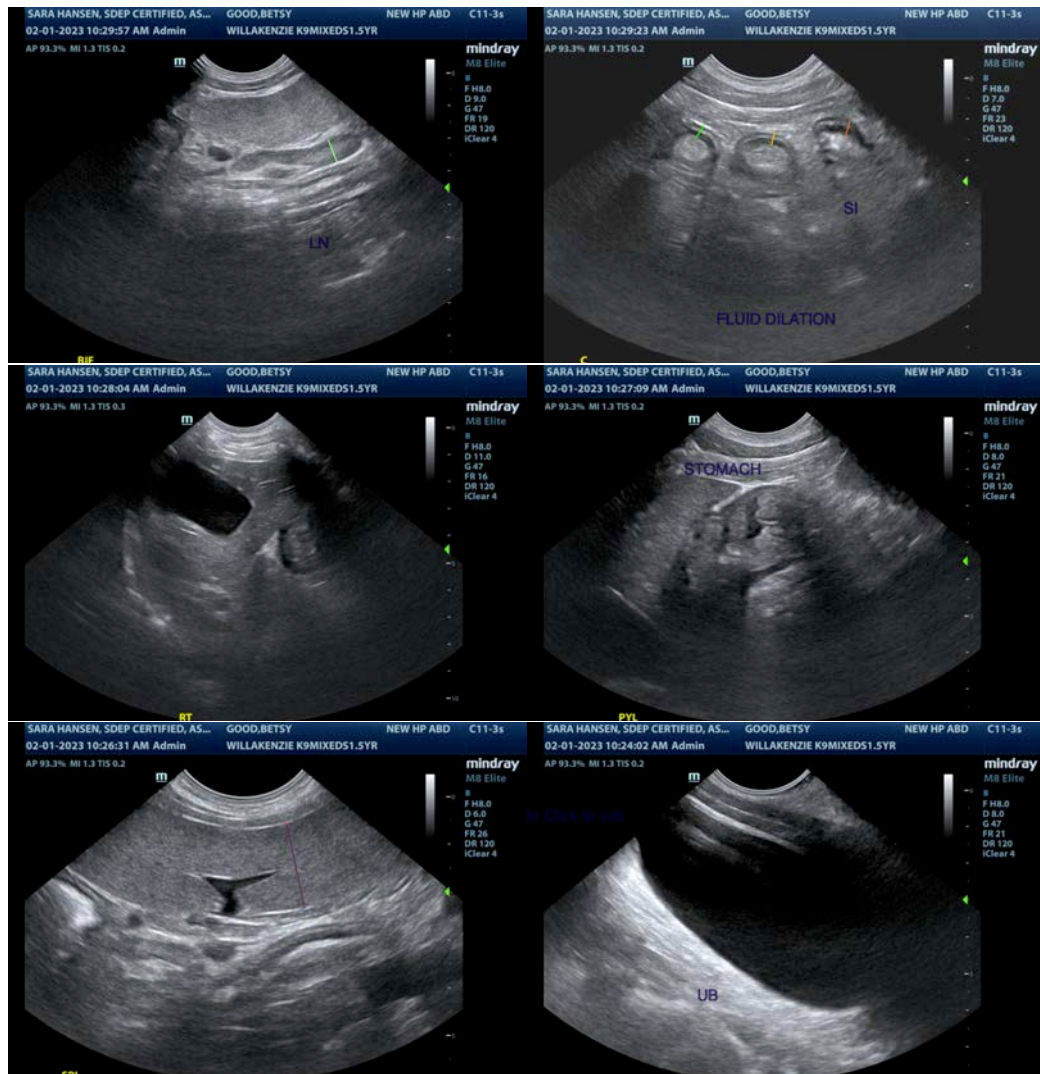
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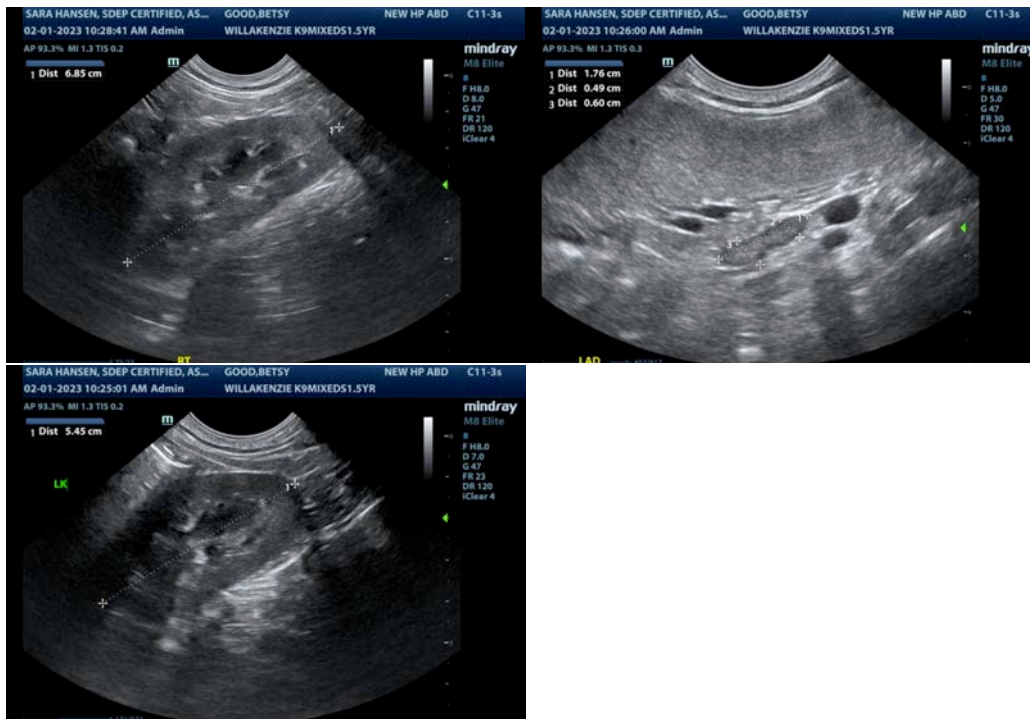
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The information and recommendations provided are based on the images presented by the referring veterinarian/sonographer. No evaluation can be communicated regarding pathology that was not visible in the image/video clips provided.

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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