



**PATIENT**

Jada Barlett

**SPECIES**

Canine

**BREED**

Bernse Mtn Dog

**SEX**

Spayed Female

**AGE**

4 Years

**WEIGHT**

54 kg

**INTERPRETED BY**

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

**IMAGING PERFORMED BY**

Dr. Laura de Cordon

**HOSPITAL NAME**

Mason Dixon Animal  
Emergency Hospital

**REFERRING VET**

Dr. Laura de Cordon

**INVOICE**

44632

**DATE**

2/1/23

**PRESENTING CLINICAL SIGNS**

Chronic/intermittent vomiting and diarrhea for several weeks. History of eating socks (foreign body surgery done a few years ago). Gastropexied. Radiographs of abdomen: stomach empty, aerophagia, possible pyloric distension/thickening, normal stool in colon. R/O FB obstruction (possible pyloric outflow obstruction)

Abnormal PE/Chem/CBC/UA Results: CBC: Unremarkable CHEM12/LYTES: mild hypercholesterolemia, unremarkable

**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 (7.04 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 (7.19 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 in size measuring 0.68 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 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, 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 homogenous echotexture. The visible portions of the vasculature and biliary tract appear normal. No focal nodules or cystic lesions are observed.

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.

**Gastrointestinal**



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There appears to be a large, hard shadowing structure within the gastric lumen. The presence of this material shadows and obscures further visualization of the stomach and dependent structures. The visible gastric wall appears normal with no overt thickening and no mass lesions. Findings are concerning for a gastric foreign body.

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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. 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.

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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.

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***Pancreas***

The area of 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.

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***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.

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**ULTRASONOGRAPHIC FINDINGS**

- Shadowing material visualized within the gastric lumen – findings are concerning for ingested gastric foreign material, provided the patient was adequately fasted.

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**INTERPRETATION OF THE FINDINGS & FURTHER RECOMMENDATIONS**

There is a large shadowing structure in the cranial abdomen that obscures visualization of much of the cranial abdominal contents. This is most consistent with shadowing material within the gastric lumen and given the history I am concerned about the possibility of a gastric foreign body, although the report of an empty stomach on radiographs does not support this. Options would include medical management with repeat imaging (radiographs +/- ultrasound in 4-12 hours). You could also give a small amount of oral barium to see if it outlines a structure. Alternately, if clinical signs are highly supportive of this, you could consider surgical evaluation or endoscopic evaluation with the knowledge that surgery may be needed to remove an object, if present.

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If surgery or endoscopy is pursued, recommend obtaining GI biopsies of ideally the stomach, duodenum, jejunum, and ileum to evaluate for chronic small intestinal disease causing the chronic vomiting and diarrhea reported in the history.

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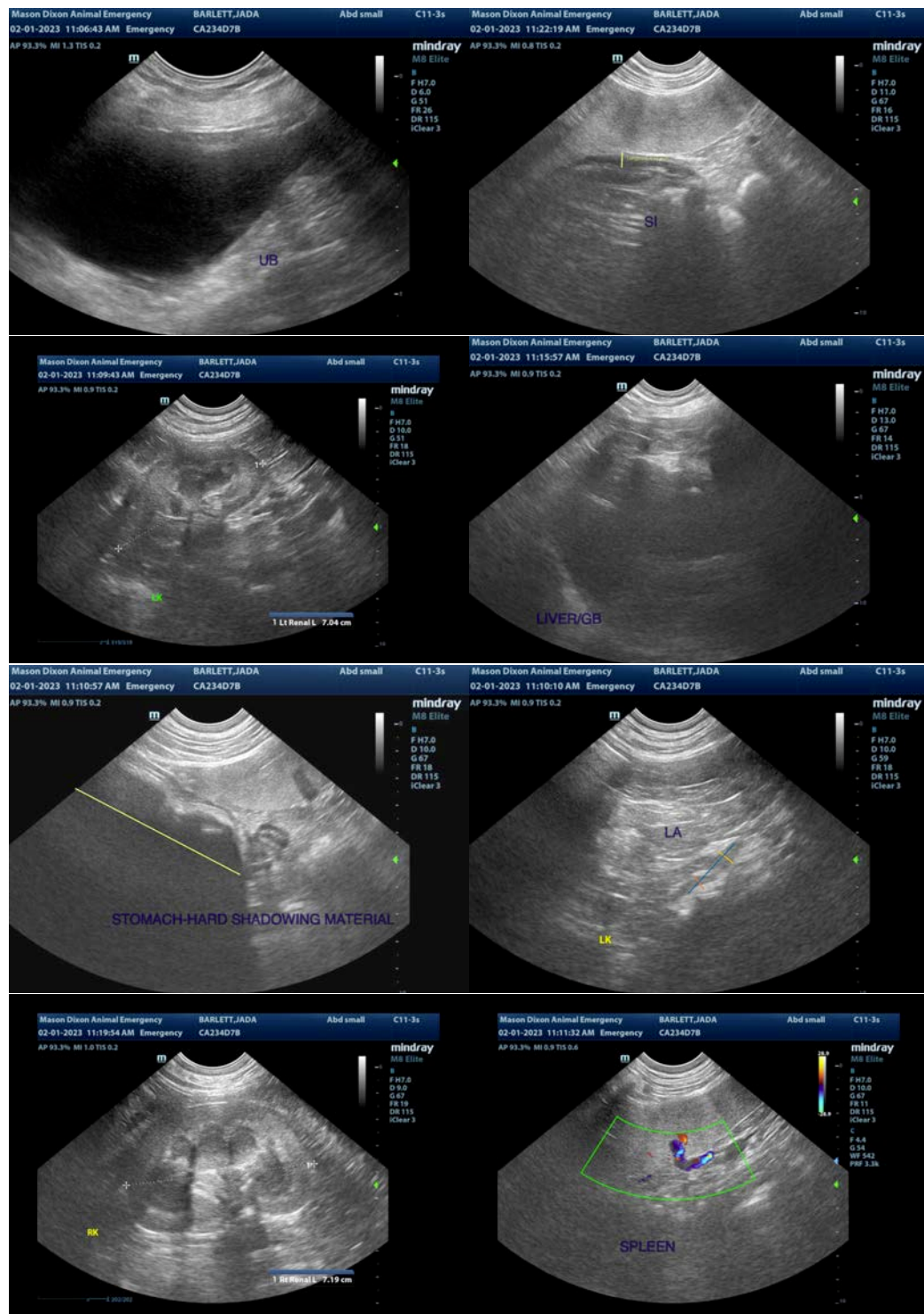
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The information and recommendations provided are based on the images presented by the referring veterinarian/sonographer. No evaluation can be communicated regarding pathology that was not visible in the image/video clips provided.

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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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kathleen.sennello@sonopath.com

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