



**PATIENT PRESENTING CLINICAL SIGNS**

**Hero MacDonald** periodontal disease requiring extractions, suspect keratin cyst on back of neck, lameness reported by owner but not noted on examination. Elevated liver enzymes on bloodwork. Not on any medications currently.

**SPECIES** Abnormal PE/Chem/CBC/UA Results: Increased liver values (ALP, ALT)

Canine

**ULTRASONOGRAPHIC EXAMINATION OF THE ABDOMEN**

**BREED**

**Urinary System**

Cockapoo

The urinary bladder is moderately distended with anechoic urine. The Bladder wall is diffusely thickened and irregular, measuring 0.3 cm. In the apical region, there is a hyperechoic shadowing structure, most consistent with a bladder stone. There is irregular tissue surrounding the stone.

**SEX**

Additionally, there is a pedunculated mass along the ventral portion of the urinary bladder measuring 1.08 cm x 1.6 cm.

Neutered Male

The prostate is normal in size (0.73 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.

**AGE**

12 Years

The left kidney has a normal shape and size (3.8 cm) with non-obstructive nephroliths. 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, infarcts or hydronephrosis. Renal vasculature is normal.

**WEIGHT**

9.3 kg

The right kidney has a normal shape and size (4.64 cm) with non-obstructive nephroliths. 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, infarcts or hydronephrosis. Renal vasculature is normal.

**INTERPRETED BY**

R. McKenzie Daniel,  
DVM, DABVP  
(Canine and Feline)

**Adrenal Glands**

The left adrenal gland is normal in size measuring 0.53 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**

Crystal Hill

The right adrenal gland is normal in size measuring 0.61 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**

BPH Ancaster

**Spleen**

**REFERRING VET**

Dr. Wittenrich

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**

**INVOICE**

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The liver large in size, and normal in 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.

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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.



**PATIENT**

***Gastrointestinal***

Hero MacDonald

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

**BREED**

Cockapoo

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**

12 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**

9.3 kg

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.

**PRIMARY FINDINGS**

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DVM, DABVP  
(Canine and Feline)

- Solitary shadowing stone in the urinary bladder with irregular thickened tissue and a pedunculated mass effect – Most consistent with cystitis, a polyp, and bladder stone, but an underlying neoplastic etiology cannot be ruled out.
- Large, heterogeneous liver – 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.

**IMAGING PERFORMED BY**

Crystal Hill

**SECONDARY FINDINGS**

**HOSPITAL NAME**

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- Non-obstructive nephroliths in both kidneys – The hyperechoic mineralized foci observed at the corticomedullary junction of the left/right kidney are consistent with small, non-obstructive nephroliths.
- Moderate gallbladder debris – The significance of the aggregated gallbladder sludge is unclear. This could represent an early mucocele, cholestasis, or may be secondary to fasting.

**REFERRING VET**

Dr. Wittenrich

**INTERPRETATION OF THE FINDINGS & FURTHER RECOMMENDATIONS**

**INVOICE**

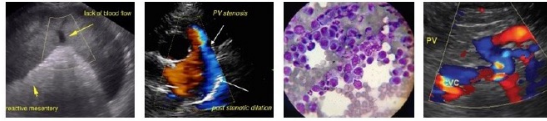
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No focal lesions are observed in the liver to explain the liver enzyme elevations reported. Depending on the severity of these elevations and the ALP to ALT ratio, the concern and recommendations would potentially change. In general, I usually consider:

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- Consider close evaluation of history for possible toxic changes examine medications, diet, dietary indiscretion etc...



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**SPECIES**

Canine

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**SEX**

Neutered Male

- 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
- If the ALP is significantly elevated relative to the ALT and symptoms consistent with cushings are present, consider adrenal function testing (ACTH stim)
- Consider Fine needle aspirate if round cell neoplasia is on your differential list (25 g needle, normal coags)
- If no response to medical care (denamarin, antibiotics,+/- ursodiol etc...) Consider liver biopsy with samples obtained for histopathology, culture, and copper levels.

A shadowing stone is visualized in the urinary bladder, and there is irregular thickened tissue in addition to a focal pedunculated mass effect. Recommend urinalysis and culture and radiographs to confirm the size and number of stone present. If an infection is present, then you may be able to consider treatment and hope for stone dissolution and resolution of the abnormal tissue (monitor closely with ultrasound), and continue antibiotics until all lesions are resolved. If an infection is not present, then consider further evaluation for a possible mass effect, need for stone removal, etc.

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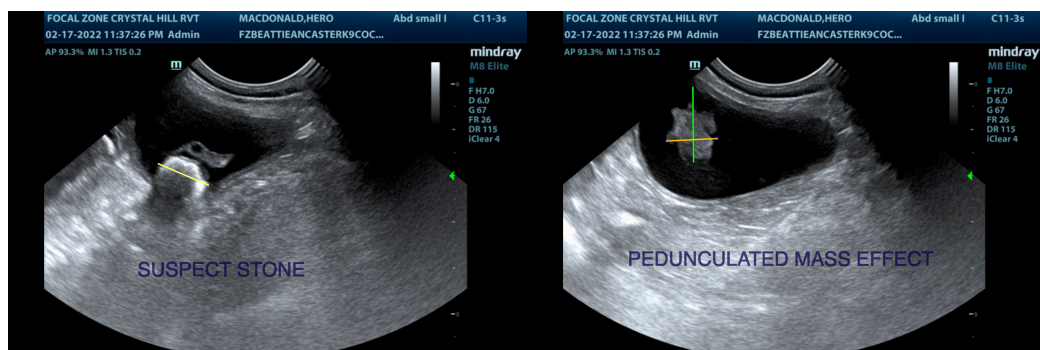
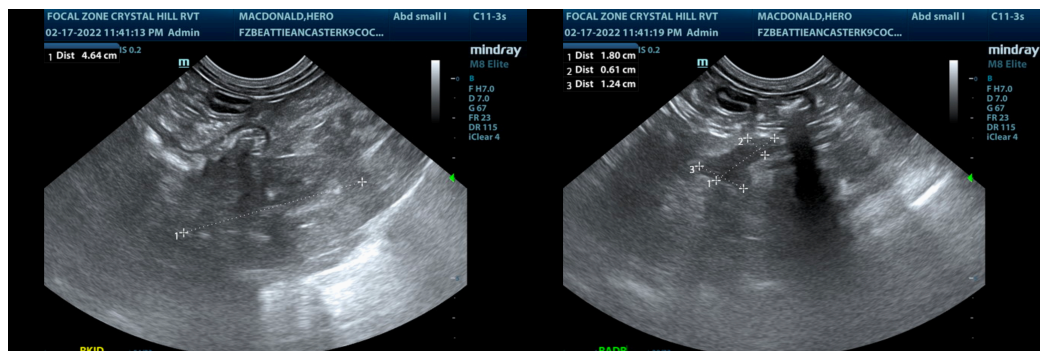
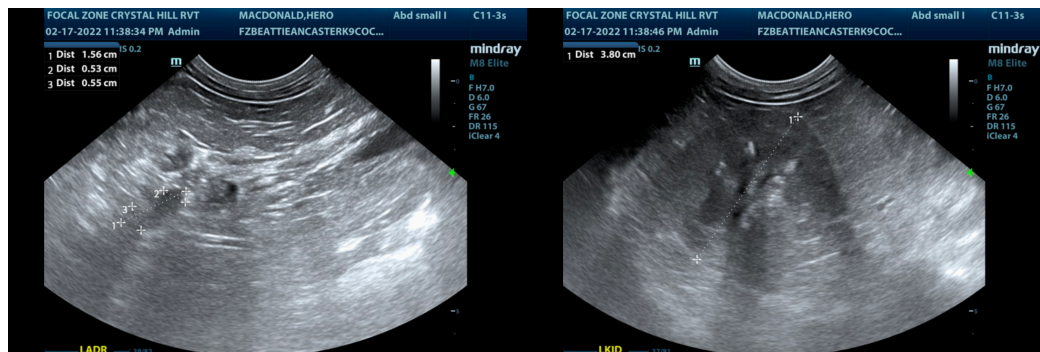
Dr. Wittenrich

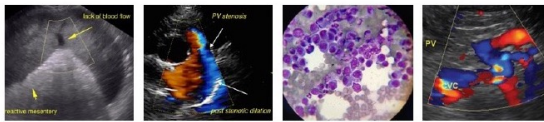
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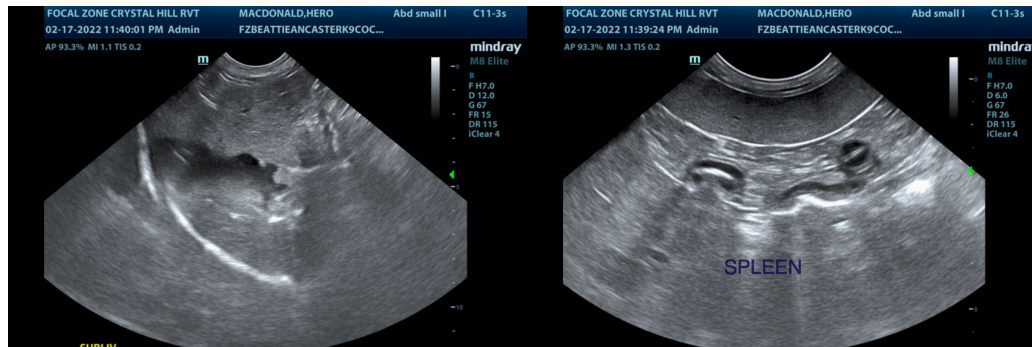
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The information and recommendations provided are based on the images presented by the referring veterinarian/sonographer. No evaluation can be communicated regarding pathology that was not visible in the image/video clips provided.

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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