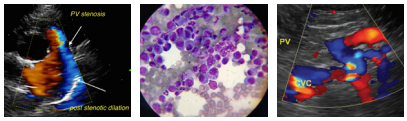
IMAGING PERFORMED BY

IntraPet.com



SonoPath
Clinical Sonography & Telecytology
EDUCATIONAL TELECONSULTATION SERVICES™
1-800-838-4268 info@sonopath.com SonoPath.com

DATE

3/16/22

PATIENT

Juliet Dougherty

SPECIES

Canine

BREED

Maltese

SEX

Spayed Female

AGE

6/6/12

WEIGHT

8.8 Pounds

INTERPRETED BY

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

IMAGING PERFORMED BY

Stephanie Pearce RDCS, RVT

HOSPITAL NAME

Banfield Columbia

REFERRING VET

Dr. Hirsch

INVOICE

36226

PRESENTING CLINICAL SIGNS

Pet presented for routine wellness visit. Has historically had elevated liver values for multiple years, last visit in 11/21 ALT was 315 (previously been in 200s)and ALKP was 271. Now ALT is 881 and ALKP is 665. Pet is asymptomatic , only thing owner has noticed is slight increase in water consumption. She does have a history of bladder stones and is on a urinary diet. She also does have significant dental disease on her mandibular molars and a consult with a boarded dentist was recommended.

Current Medications: Started on Denamarin today.
Date of Previous IntraPet Ultrasound: No previous.
Sedation: Not required to complete full diagnostic ultrasound.
Stat Report: Not requested.

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 (3.19 cm) with non-obstructive nephroliths. Overall echogenicity is slightly hyperechoic with mildly reduced 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 hydroureter. Renal vasculature is normal.

The right kidney has a normal shape and size (3.53 cm) with non-obstructive nephroliths. Overall echogenicity is slightly hyperechoic with mildly reduced 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 hydroureter. Renal vasculature is normal.

Adrenal Glands

The left adrenal gland is normal in size measuring 0.41 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 0.39 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 hypoechoic nodule visualized measuring 1.39 cm x 0.80 cm. Additionally, the left lobe of the liver appears somewhat rounded and slightly hypoechoic. This could represent normal anatomic variation or be a subtle mass effect. This area measures 3.38 cm x 2.07 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. Jejunum wall measured 0.32 cm. 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

- Mildly heterogeneous liver with a hypoechoic nodule and irregular/rounded left liver lobe – 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. Recommend fine needle aspirate of the left liver lobe to help determine the nature of its appearance.

- 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.

- Mildly reduced corticomedullary distinction and non-obstructive nephroliths in both kidneys – The bilateral renal findings are consistent with age-related change. The hyperechoic mineralized foci observed at the corticomedullary junction of the left/right kidney are consistent with small, non-obstructive nephroliths.

INTERPRETATION OF THE FINDINGS & FURTHER RECOMMENDATIONS

The changes observed in the liver are somewhat subtle. There is a small, hypoechoic nodule visualized. This has a somewhat benign appearance, but underlying neoplastic change cannot be ruled out. Additionally, the left liver lobe is rounded and has an indistinct hypoechoic area that could represent normal anatomic feature, or could be consistent with an early mass lesion. Recommend fine needle aspirate of the rounded left liver lobe and the more normal appearing liver. Additionally, consider:

- 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

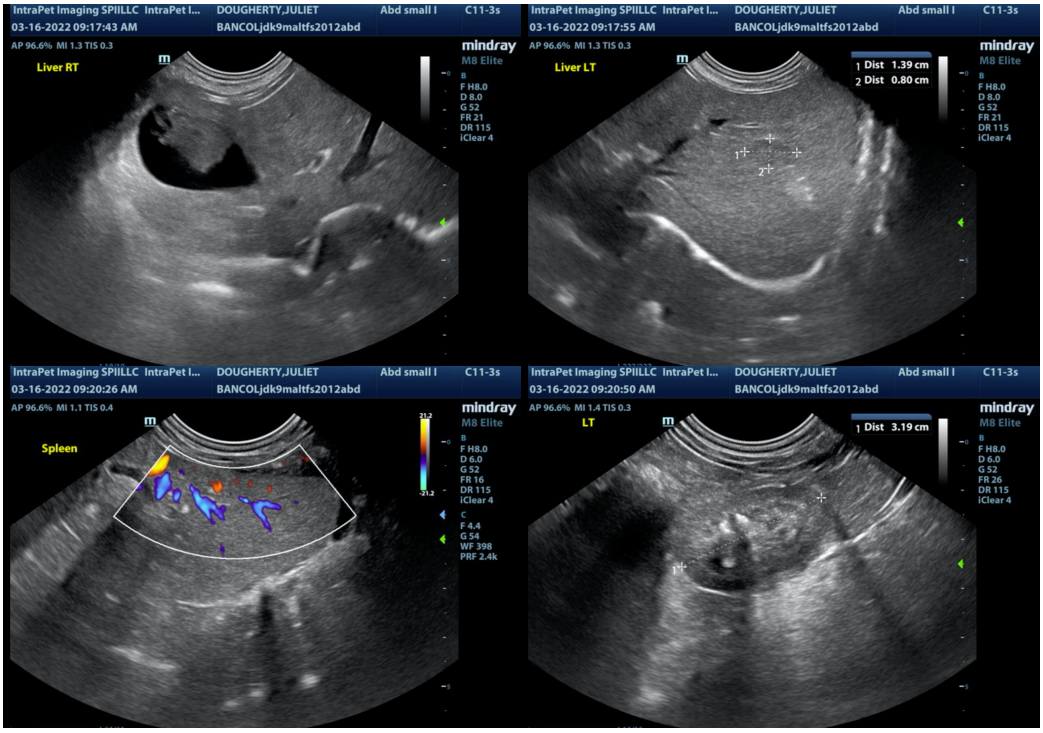
- If the ALP is significantly elevated relative to the ALT and symptoms consistent with cushings are present, consider adrenal function testing (ACTH stim)

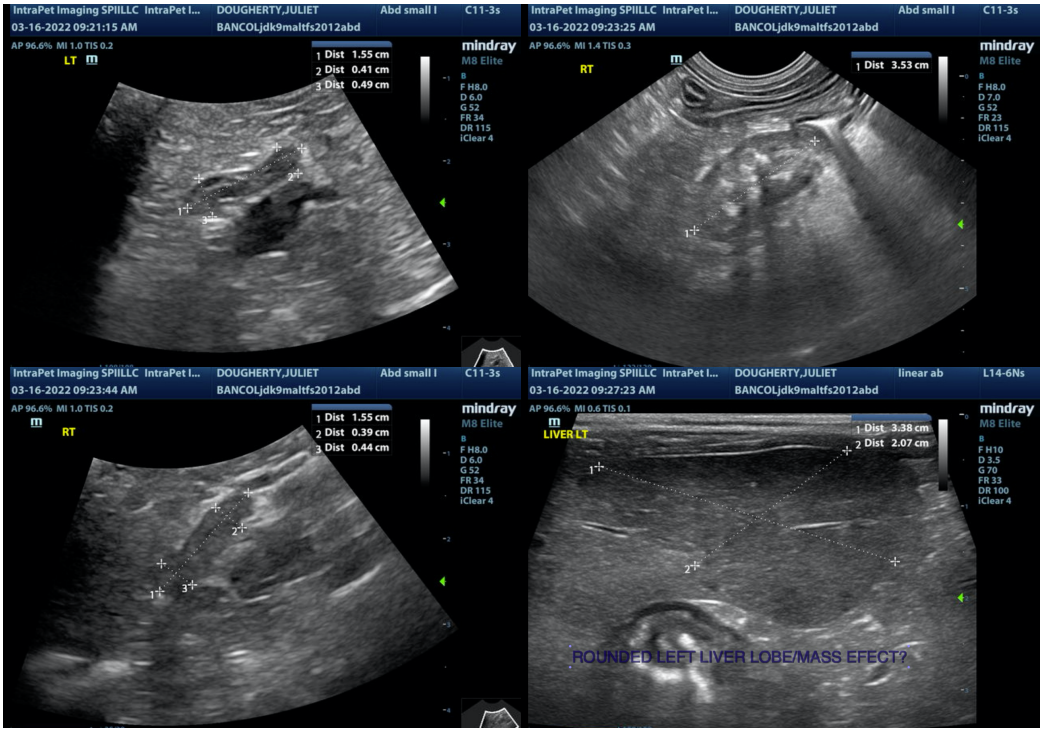
- Consider Fine needle aspirate if round cell neoplasia is on your differential list (25 g needle, normal coags) as recommended above

- If no response to supportive care (denamarin, fluids, antibiotics,+/- ursodiol etc…) Consider liver biopsy with samples obtained for histopathology, culture, and copper levels.

Consider three view thoracic radiographs to rule out concurrent thoracic disease/involvement.

The changes observed in the kidneys are likely age related. Recommend continued monitoring, urinalysis +/- culture, and a blood pressure evaluation.





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)
kathleen.sennello@sonopath.com