

**DATE PRESENTING CLINICAL SIGNS**

4/25/23

Monitoring of abdomen; new ALT elevation after starting amlodipine 2 weeks ago. P has: diabetes mellitus and Cushing's disease, hypertension and proteinuria. O reports normal thirst/urination, activity level, and p's weight has been fairly stable within a 0.5 lb. variance over 12 months.

**PATIENT**

Milana Bender

Current Medications: New as of Amlodipine 2.5 mg, 1/2 po SID. Chronic meds: Vetsulin 7.5 units BID, Vetoryl 5 mg po bid, ursodiol 100 mg SID, Opth. Flurbiprofen OU SID

**SPECIES**

Canine

Lab Results: 4/18/23: ALT and ALP elevated, BUN mildly elevated. BP Doppler systolic ~150 mmHg (was 180 before starting amlodipine) Copy of 4/18 labs, UPC from March and Full profile and ACTH from Feb this year will be attached. Most recent curve done 3/24/23; nadir of 97 mg/dL about 3 hours post insulin injection. Upper values in 300's about 7-8 hours post insulin

**BREED**

Dachshund

Date of Previous IntraPet Ultrasound: 1/26/22. See attached.

Sedation: Not required to complete full diagnostic ultrasound.

Stat Report: Not requested.

Imaging Performed By: Andi Parkinson, BS, RDMS.

**SEX**

Spayed Female

**ULTRASONOGRAPHIC EXAMINATION OF THE ABDOMEN****AGE**

9/8/10

**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.

**WEIGHT**

12.8 Pounds

The left kidney has a normal shape and size (4.91 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.

**INTERPRETED BY**

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

The right kidney has a normal shape and size (4.97 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.

**HOSPITAL NAME**

Perry Hall AH

**Adrenal Glands**

The left adrenal gland is large measuring 0.83 cm at the cranial pole, 1.03 cm at the caudal pole, and 2.01 cm in length. 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.

**REFERRING VET**

Dr. Hatzigiannakis

The right adrenal gland is normal in size measuring 1.26 cm at the cranial pole, 0.93 cm at the caudal pole, and 2.24 cm in length. 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.

**INVOICE**

46916

**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 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.

The gall bladder lumen is significantly distended. Some areas of the wall appear mildly thickened with adherent debris. There is a large amount of primarily non-organized echogenic debris. There is no evidence of bile duct dilation.

### ***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. Duodenum wall measures 0.45 cm. Jejunum wall measures 0.36 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 prominent and mottled compared to the surrounding isoechoic 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.

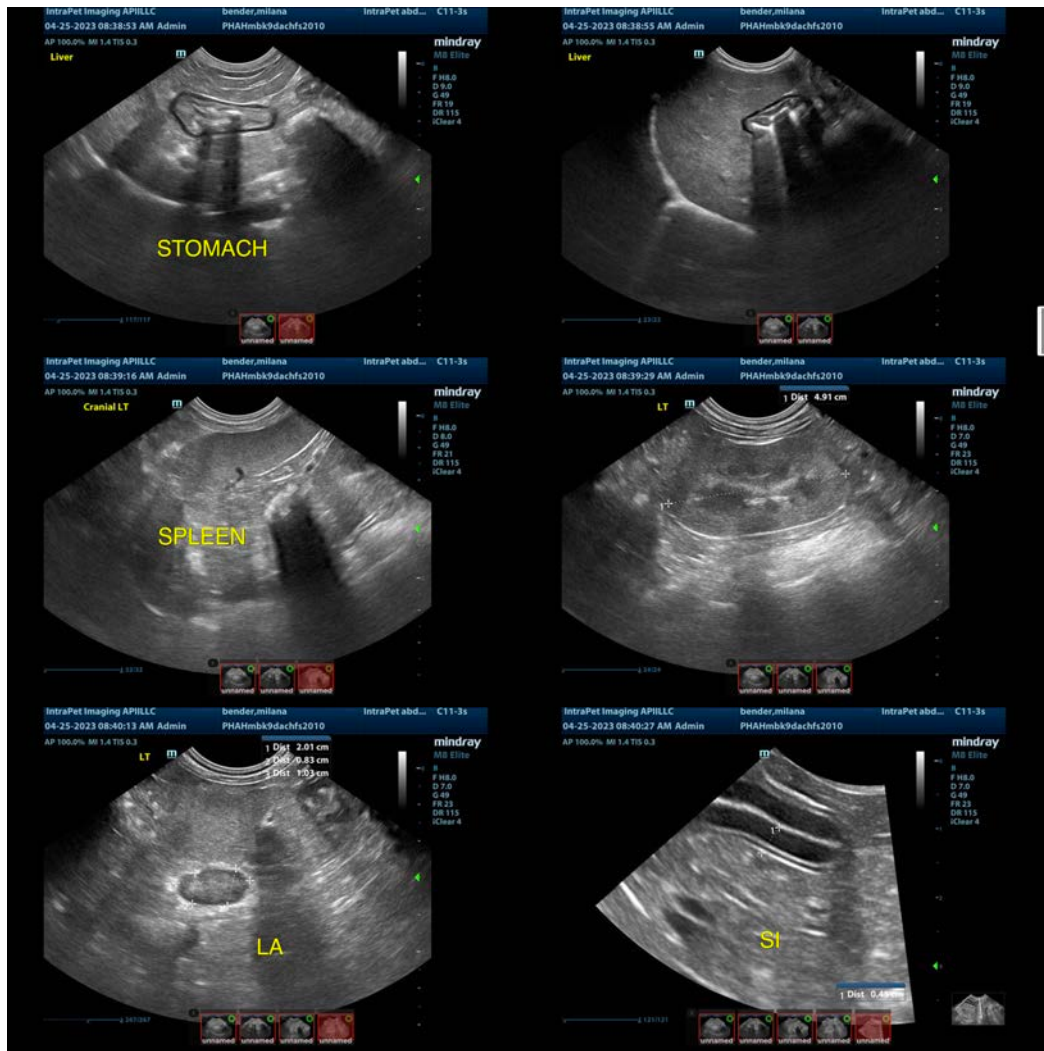
## **ULTRASONOGRAPHIC FINDINGS**

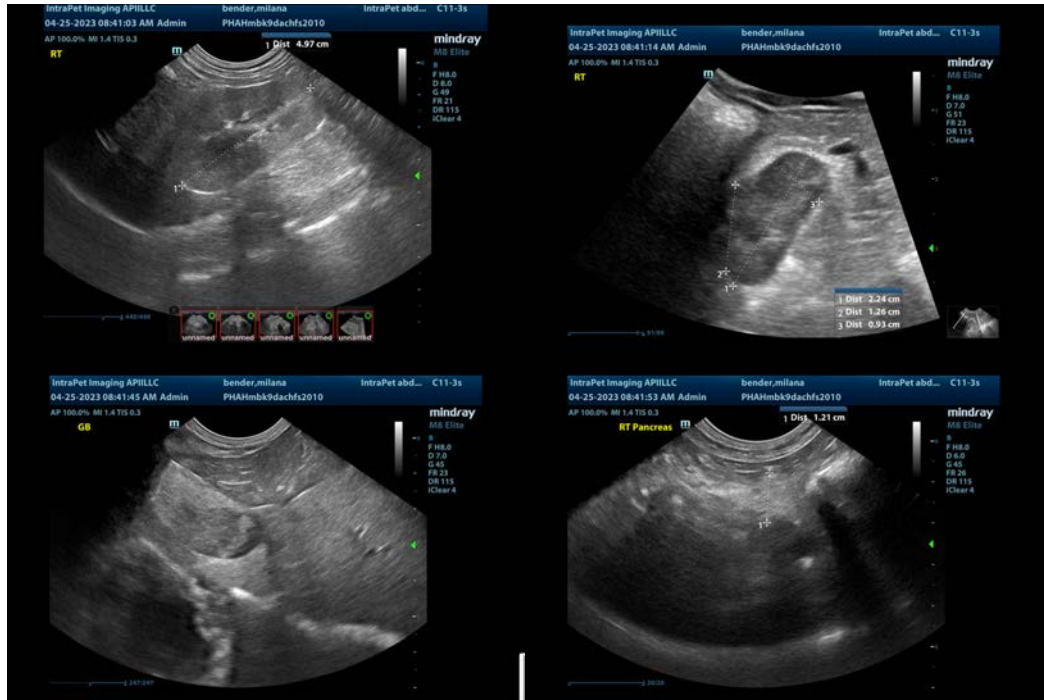
- Bilateral adrenomegaly – The bilateral adrenomegaly could be consistent with bilateral hyperplasia (e.g., secondary to pituitary-dependent hyperadrenocorticism), bilateral infiltrative neoplasia, inflammatory adrenal disease, other. Correlation with clinical findings is recommended.
- Prominent, mottled pancreas – The pancreatic changes are most consistent with age-related parenchymal remodeling, potentially secondary to a prior inflammatory episode, early fibrosis or chronic pancreatitis.
- 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.
- Large gallbladder debris – A large amount of debris is evident in the gall bladder with no evidence of a mucocele or associated inflammation at this time. This could represent an early mucocele or cholestasis, with minimal evidence of associated inflammation at this time. Continued monitoring of labwork and ultrasound are warranted for progression of this lesion. Ursodiol therapy could be considered.

## INTERPRETATION OF THE FINDINGS & FURTHER RECOMMENDATIONS

No focal hepatic lesions are visualized to explain the elevation in ALT reported. There is a large amount of debris visualized within the gallbladder, but this does not appear inflamed, and the gallbladder wall appears relatively normal, so the significance of this is uncertain. Continued use of Ursodiol is recommended.

If the patient is clinically doing well, consider continued monitoring. If the ALT elevation persists, you could consider screening for Leptospirosis, a fine needle aspirate of the liver (provided coagulation parameters are normal), a liver function test, and even medical treatment for cholecystitis. Evaluation of a quantitative cPLI level could be considered if mild pancreatic inflammation is suspected. Minimal active inflammation is noted on today's exam, but this is not always evident.





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.

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