



**PATIENT**

Cooper Baxter

**SPECIES**

Canine

**BREED**

Pug

**SEX**

Neutered Male

**AGE**

6 Years

**WEIGHT**

18.8 Pounds

**INTERPRETED BY**

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

**IMAGING PERFORMED BY**

Dr. Amanda Olsen

**HOSPITAL NAME**

Limestone VH

**REFERRING VET**

Dr. Amanda Olsen

**INVOICE**

47043

**DATE**

5/2/23

**PRESENTING CLINICAL SIGNS**

Elevated ALT. He has a history of seizures, currently well controlled on Keppra and Kbr. Patient presented for a dental on 3/23/23 and pre-anesthetic bloodwork showed ALP 253 and ALT 299. Dental went well at that time. Rechecked ALT on 4/28/23 and it had increased to 371. Patient non-symptomatic and doing great at home. R/o neoplasia, hepatitis, other hepatopathy.

**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 visualized areas of prostate and surrounding tissue appear normal. Unfortunately, the prostate is not fully visualized likely due to its intrapelvic location. Correlate with rectal exam findings.

The left kidney has a normal shape and size (3.87 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 (3.24 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 region of left adrenal (Cranial to left renal artery) is unremarkable but the adrenal is not distinctly visualized. No evidence of a mass effect is visualized.

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.



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**Gastrointestinal**

The stomach contains a large amount of fluid/ingesta. 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. The large amount of fluid/ingesta within the gastric lumen prevents full evaluation of the stomach.

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 0.36 cm. Jejunum wall measures 0.31 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 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.

**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**

- Large fluid/ingesta visualized within the gastric lumen – Findings are most consistent with a non-fasted patient.

**INTERPRETATION OF THE FINDINGS & FURTHER RECOMMENDATIONS**

Today's scan appears relatively normal. There is a large amount of fluid, ingesta, and gas visualized within the gastric lumen. This impairs visualization of some of the cranial abdominal structures, but no significant abnormalities are noted, and no focal lesions are visualized associated with the liver or the gallbladder. Unfortunately, there are many causes for an ALT elevation that cannot be definitively diagnosed by ultrasound alone. Consider the following:

- 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
- Consider Fine needle aspirate if round cell neoplasia is on your differentia list (25 g needle, normal coags)
- If no response to supportive care (Denamarin, fluids, antibiotics, +/- ursodiol etc.) Consider liver biopsy with samples obtained for histopathology, culture, and copper levels.



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While the liver appears relatively normal in size and has adequate vasculature, a portosystemic shunt cannot be definitively ruled out with this scan. If there is a significant bile acid elevation (>90), consider a contrast CT scan.

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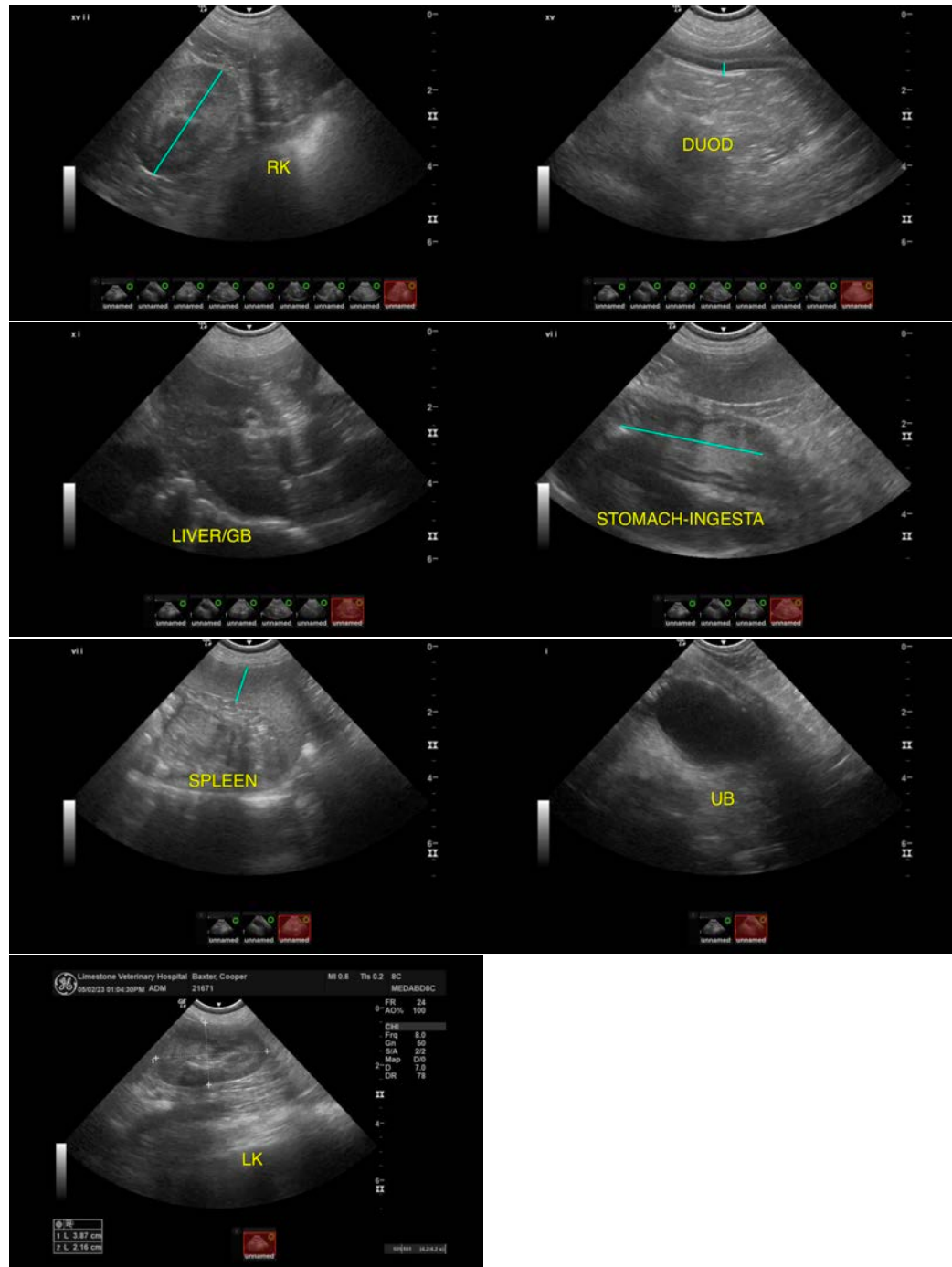
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The information and recommendations provided are based on the images presented by the referring veterinarian/sonographer. No evaluation can be communicated regarding pathology that was not visible in the image/video clips provided.

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Canine

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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