



**PATIENT PRESENTING CLINICAL SIGNS**

Little Cat Eckley

Acute hematemesis yesterday evening. Stabilized for shock at ER. Radiographs show suspect area of lung for hemorrhage and an odd area of rib change over the area. No history of trauma though- indoor only with other cats.

**SPECIES**

Feline

Abnormal PE/Chem/CBC/UA Results: PE: 106 mmHg. 3.5 # weight loss in one year. BCS: 2/5. Pale, muddy mm's, 2 sec. crt, skin turgor is good. Cardiac murmur (right parasternal, systolic, II/VI). Loss of pigment on nose tip. Bilateral corneal opacities (bright white linear plaques). Full urinary bladder. Right rib cage with sunken area at costochondral junction at about 4th right rib area- not painful (suspect an old friend). Labs from last night: CBC: Very mild anemia Chem: normal UA: normal

**BREED**

DSH

**SEX**

Neutered Male

**ULTRASONOGRAPHIC EXAMINATION OF THE ABDOMEN**

**Urinary System**

**AGE**

10 Years 9 Months

The urinary bladder is moderately distended with mild primarily suspended echogenic debris present. 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 calculi. Echogenic debris of this type can be associated with small crystals, cellular debris and proteinaceous debris.

**WEIGHT**

14 Pounds

The left kidney has a normal shape and size (3.56 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 (4.23 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.

**IMAGING PERFORMED BY**

Carissa Rhoades

**Adrenal Glands**

The left adrenal gland is normal in size measuring 0.33 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.

**HOSPITAL NAME**

Elizabeth AH

The right adrenal gland is normal in size measuring 0.51 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.

**REFERRING VET**

Dr. Leon Anderson

**Spleen**

The spleen is subjectively normal in size (0.64 cm), 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.

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**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.



**PATIENT** *Gastrointestinal*

Little Cat Eckley  
The stomach contains minimal luminal contents. It measures at a normal thickness of <0.36cm 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.

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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 0.25 cm. Jejunum wall measures 0.20 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**

- Echogenic debris in the urinary bladder – The echogenic debris in the bladder lumen could be consistent with cells, crystals, and/or mucus.

**INTERPRETATION OF THE FINDINGS & FURTHER RECOMMENDATIONS**

There are no significant ultrasonographic changes observed to explain the hematemesis and weight loss reported. With a normal chemistry panel, the primary concern with this history would be that of primary gastrointestinal disease. Unfortunately, ultrasound can be insensitive in picking up some types of gastrointestinal disease. Possible considerations would include:

- Consider a novel protein/hydrolyzed protein diet (exclusively at least 4-6 weeks)
- Consider a GI panel to Texas A&M for evaluation of B12 levels, folate, PLI/TLI etc.. to further evaluate for pancreatic/small intestinal disease.
- Recommend chronic probiotic therapy.

The above recommendations would be for possible chronic mild vomiting, weight loss, etc., but given the acute and severe nature of the recent episode, I would consider upper GI endoscopy to evaluate the gastric wall and to obtain biopsies of the small intestine and stomach. Based on those results, further treatment strategies could be considered. It is unclear if there is the possibility that the hematemesis episode could actually be coughing up blood. If this is the case, I would consider a contrast CT scan of the lungs to further evaluate for a possible lesion. If this was done, the GI tract or at least the cranial abdomen could be included in the scan for evaluation.



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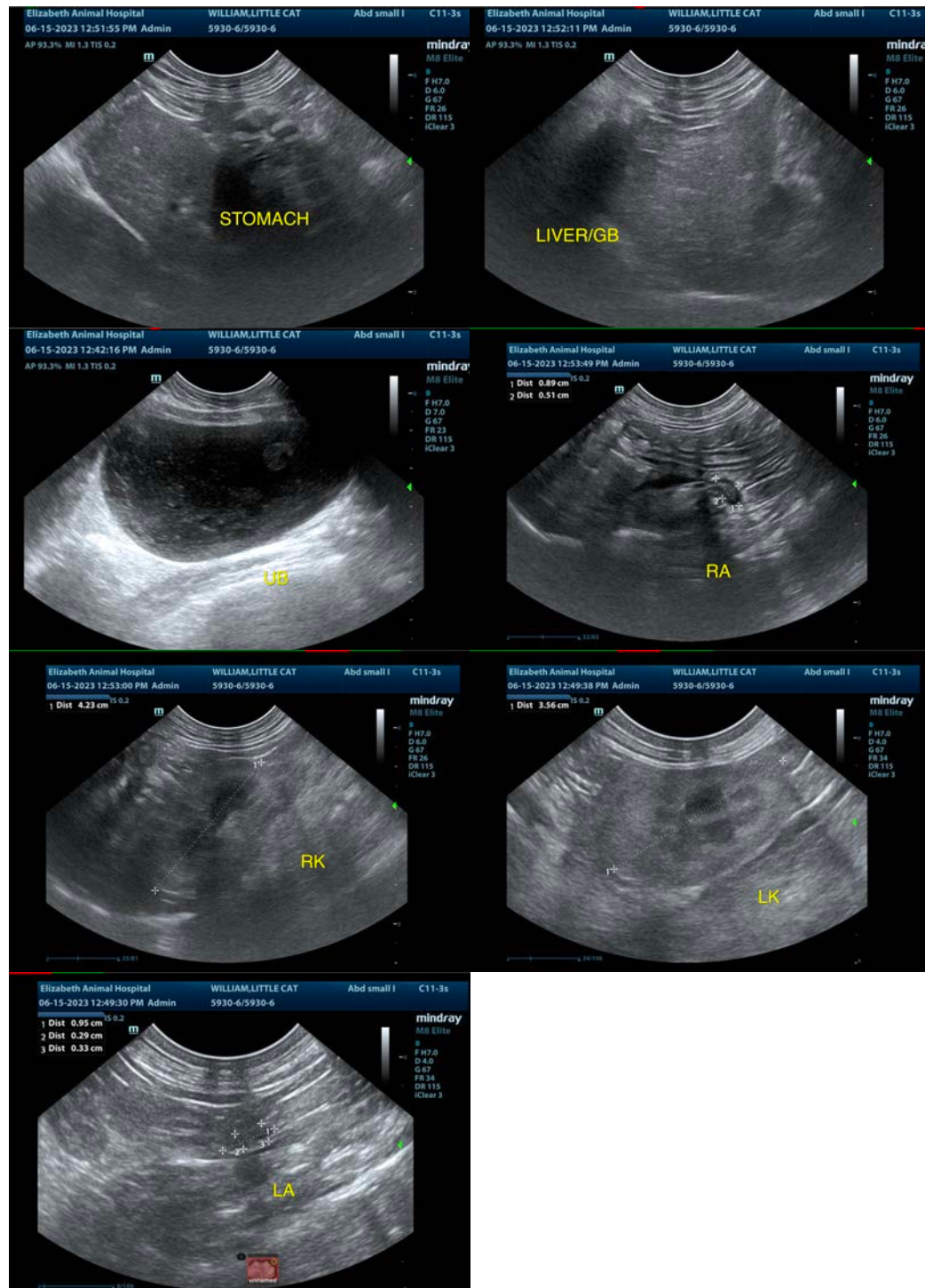
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The information and recommendations provided are based on the images presented by the referring veterinarian/sonographer. No evaluation can be communicated regarding pathology that was not visible in the image/video clips provided.

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.

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