



PATIENT PRESENTING CLINICAL SIGNS

PATIENT Keta Barke
Elevated ALT noted repeatedly found on presurgical bw for dental. No clinical signs. Current Meds: Denamarin, Metronidazole, Uniquin

SPECIES Abnormal PE/Chem/CBC/UA Results: ALT 126; 134; 186

Feline

BREED

DSH

SEX

Spayed Female

AGE

13 Years

WEIGHT

12.6 Pounds

INTERPRETED BY

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

IMAGING PERFORMED BY

Shari Reffi, CVT

HOSPITAL NAME

VCA Blirstown AH

REFERRING VET

Dr. Clegg

INVOICE

43813

DATE

7/13/23

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 (3.81 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 (3.99 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 left adrenal gland is normal in size measuring 0.30 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 0.33 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 (0.77 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.

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*

Keta Barke
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 uniform diameter with minimal fluid distension. Wall thickness is normal to slightly increased. Bowel loops follow a typical curvilinear path with distinct wall layering, but some areas display a prominent muscularis layer which does not display the typical 1:3 muscularis:mucosa layer ratio. Duodenum wall measures 0.27 cm. Jejunum wall measures 0.26 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. There is an occasional prominent mesenteric lymph node. One such lymph node is visualized at 0.48 cm. The omentum is of normal echogenicity.

ULTRASONOGRAPHIC FINDINGS

- Prominent muscularis layer of the small intestine – The small intestinal wall changes could be consistent with an underlying inflammatory process. These types of changes can sometimes be seen in normal older cats. Correlate with clinical signs.
- Occasional prominent mesenteric lymph node – The prominent abdominal lymph nodes are most consistent with reactive lymphadenitis or lymphoid hyperplasia. Neoplastic infiltration is considered less likely.

INTERPRETATION OF THE FINDINGS & FURTHER RECOMMENDATIONS

No focal lesions are visualized associated with the liver or gallbladder to explain the chronic elevation in ALT reported. Unfortunately, there are many causes for a primary hepatopathy that cannot be diagnosed by ultrasound alone. Consider the following:

- Consider close evaluation of history for possible toxic changes examine medications, diet, dietary indiscretion etc.
- Recommend thyroid evaluation (if not already done)
- Consider screening for toxoplasmosis
- If not already done, consider pre and post prandial bile acids to evaluate liver function



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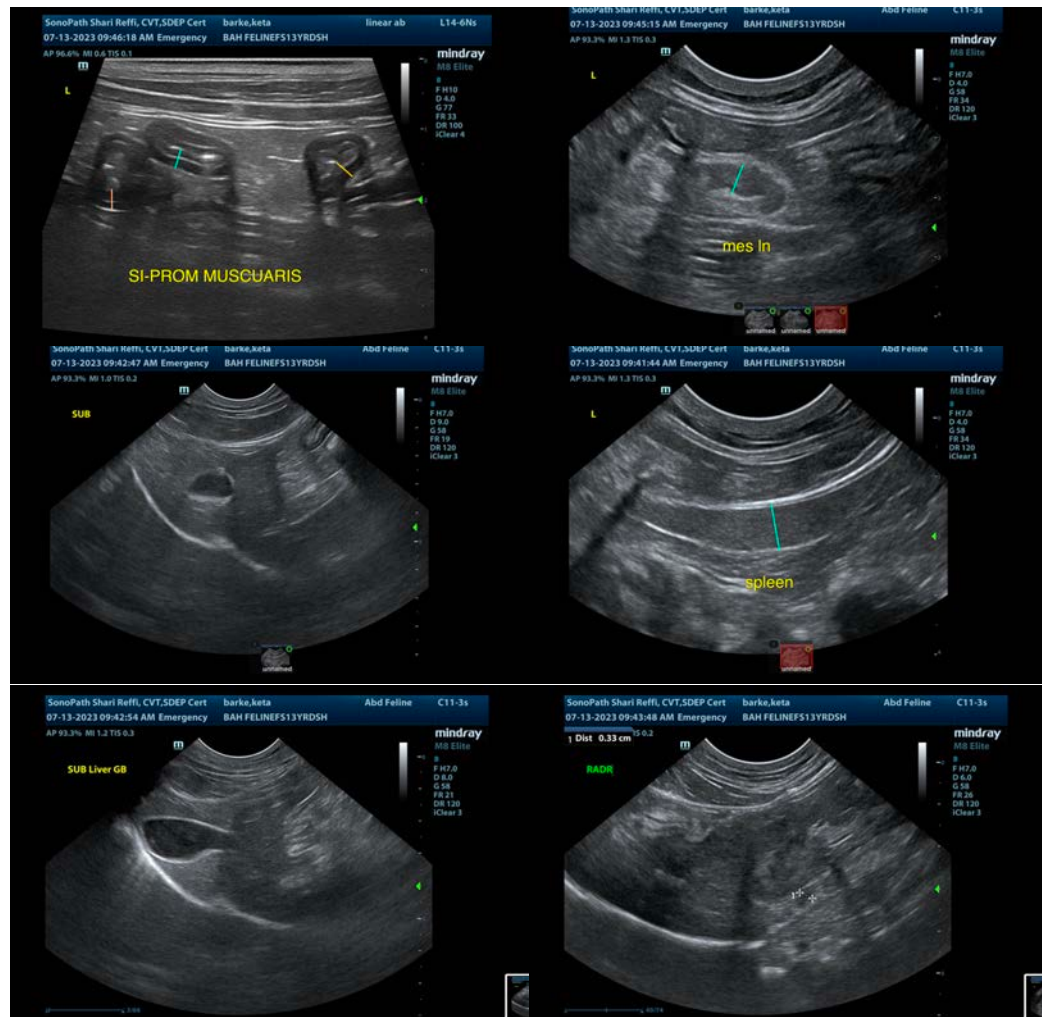
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- Consider Fine needle aspirate if round cell neoplasia is on your differential list (25 g needle, normal coags)
- Consider liver biopsy with samples obtained for histopathology and culture
- If triaditis is suspected consider therapy for cholangiohepatitis, testing for pancreatitis and evaluation for IBD (GI panel to Texas A&M GI lab)
- Consider a feeding tube if patient is not eating for a prolonged period of time.

The muscularis layer of the small intestine is prominent. The significance of this is uncertain, as this can be a normal finding in some older cats. If underlying GI signs are present, then consider additional workup for primary gastrointestinal disease, as this could represent a reactive hepatopathy.





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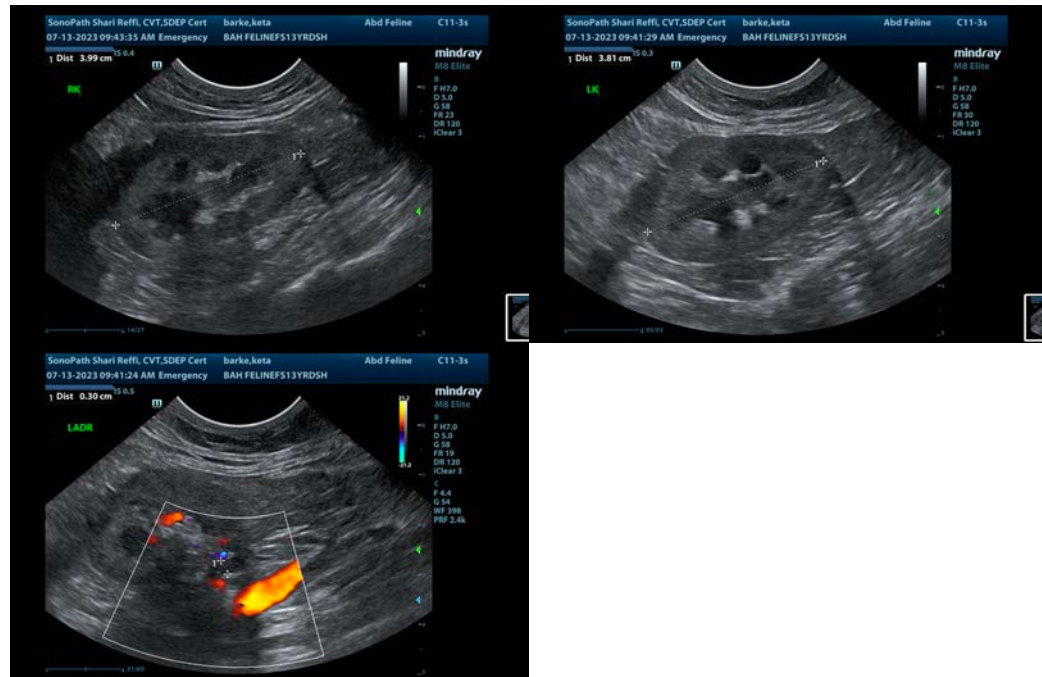
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The information and recommendations provided are based on the images presented by the referring veterinarian/sonographer. No evaluation can be communicated regarding pathology that was not visible in the image/video clips provided.

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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