



**PATIENT**

Abi Pelton **PRESENTING CLINICAL SIGNS**

**SPECIES**

Canine

**BREED**

Blue Tickhound

Pt diagnosed with likely lyme arthritis in ~2015 with compatible clinical signs, significant lyme positive on quant C6 to Idexx at that time. PT was tx with a course of doxycycline and improved. Pt has had only one other bout of possibly related limping issue that responded to doxycycline. Pt was evaluated for limping in May and rx carprofen, omega 3 fa and dasuquin. Blood panel revealed negative accuplex and Hct 62%, platelet count 135k (decreased estimate), UA USG 1.017, pro 2+, OPG negative, accuplex neg x 4, TP 7.5, ALP 704, TG 800 UPC 0.7 no treatment was elected at that time. Pt presented 7/26 for recheck and CBC was sent to the lab- HCT 63%, NRBC 4/100 HPF, Platelet 86k decreased estimate. Giant platelets may indicate thrombopoiesis or congenital macrothrombocytopenia. Recommended abdominal ultrasound in case of internal bleeding/splenic mass etc. . . Considering course of doxycycline vs additional tick titers

**SEX**

Spayed Female

**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.

**AGE**

9 Years

The left kidney has a normal shape and size (7.5 cm). Overall echogenicity is normal with adequate 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, nephroliths, infarcts or hydroureter. Renal vasculature is normal.

**WEIGHT**

83 Pounds

The right kidney has a normal shape and size (8.08 cm). Overall echogenicity is normal with adequate 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, nephroliths, infarcts or hydroureter. Renal vasculature is normal.

**INTERPRETED BY**

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

**Adrenal Glands**

The left adrenal gland is normal in size measuring 0.88 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.

**IMAGING BY**

Loetitia Saint-Jacques,  
LVT

The right adrenal gland is normal in size measuring 0.60 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.

**HOSPITAL NAME**

Brighton Greens VH

**Spleen**

The spleen is subjectively large in size. The spleen echotexture is heterogenous and mildly mottled, 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.

**REFERRING VET**

Dr. Robin Janeway

**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. There are numerous ill-defined

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39920

**DATE**

7/27/22



## PATIENT

Abi Pelton nodules visualized throughout the parenchyma, which do not deviate the margins of the liver. These vary in size between 0.5-1.0 cm.

## SPECIES

Canine

The gallbladder lumen is moderately distended. The wall of the gall bladder is not thickened and has a smooth mucosal surface. Luminal contents are primarily anechoic. The cystic and common bile ducts are normal/not visible.

## BREED

Blue Tickhound

### **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.

## SEX

Spayed Female

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. The duodenum measured as normal (between 0.3-0.5cm in wall thickness) and the jejunum measured as normal (between 0.2-0.47cm.) Visualized peristalsis appears appropriate. There were no focal lesions consistent with obstruction or a mass effect observed.

## AGE

9 Years

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.

## WEIGHT

83 Pounds

### **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.

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### **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.

## IMAGING BY

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LVT

- Subjectively large, mottled spleen – The diffuse splenic changes are non-specific and could be consistent with lymphoid hyperplasia, extramedullary hematopoiesis, infiltrative neoplasia, inflammation, other. Cytology or histopathology would be necessary to get a definitive diagnosis.

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- Heterogeneous liver with ill-defined nodules – 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.

## REFERRING VET

Dr. Robin Janeway

## INTERPRETATION OF THE FINDINGS & FURTHER RECOMMENDATIONS

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The lesions observed on today's scan are relatively subjective. The spleen appears generous and mildly mottled. Consider a fine needle aspirate. Additionally, the liver is heterogeneous with ill-

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Abi Pelton defined nodules. The appearance of these nodules trends towards a more benign etiology, but underlying neoplasia cannot be ruled out. These are my recommendations for an ALP elevation:

**SPECIES**

Canine

- Induction phenomena are the most common cause for an elevation in ALP. These are systemic illnesses that 'turn on' the liver enzyme. Causes of this include Cushing's disease, dental disease, arthritis, and numerous others. In many cases the exact cause is unclear but as long as ultrasound and bile acids tests are normal most patients do not have progressive changes in their liver. While liver biopsy is not routinely performed, vacuolar hepatopathy, is noted on most biopsies. This is often non-progressive but in rare cases can be more severe and lead to liver failure.

**BREED**

Blue Tickhound

- If signs of cushings disease are present recommend endocrine function testing to evaluate for cushings disease.

**SEX**

Spayed Female

- Consider fine needle aspirate to rule out round cell neoplasia -if this is a concern.
- If a cause for the ALP elevation is not identified: I recommend recheck general blood work every 6 months, ultrasound once per year, and bile acids test every 1-2 years based on other results. If the ALP continues to climb a biopsy could be considered.

**AGE**

9 Years

- Consider long term use of denamarin, and monitoring for the signs of cushings developing.

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- A primary vacuolar hepatopathy can be breed related and is seen in Scottish Terriers, Schnauzers, Cocker spaniels etc.

Consider a pathologist review to further evaluate the changes observed on the CBC.

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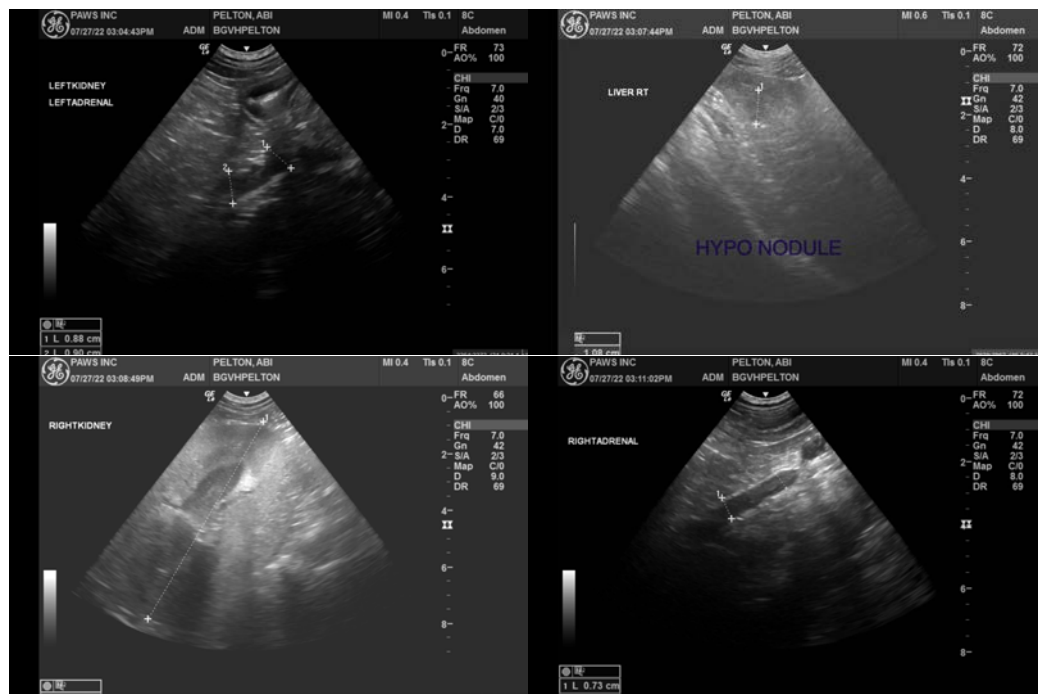
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**AGE**

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**WEIGHT**

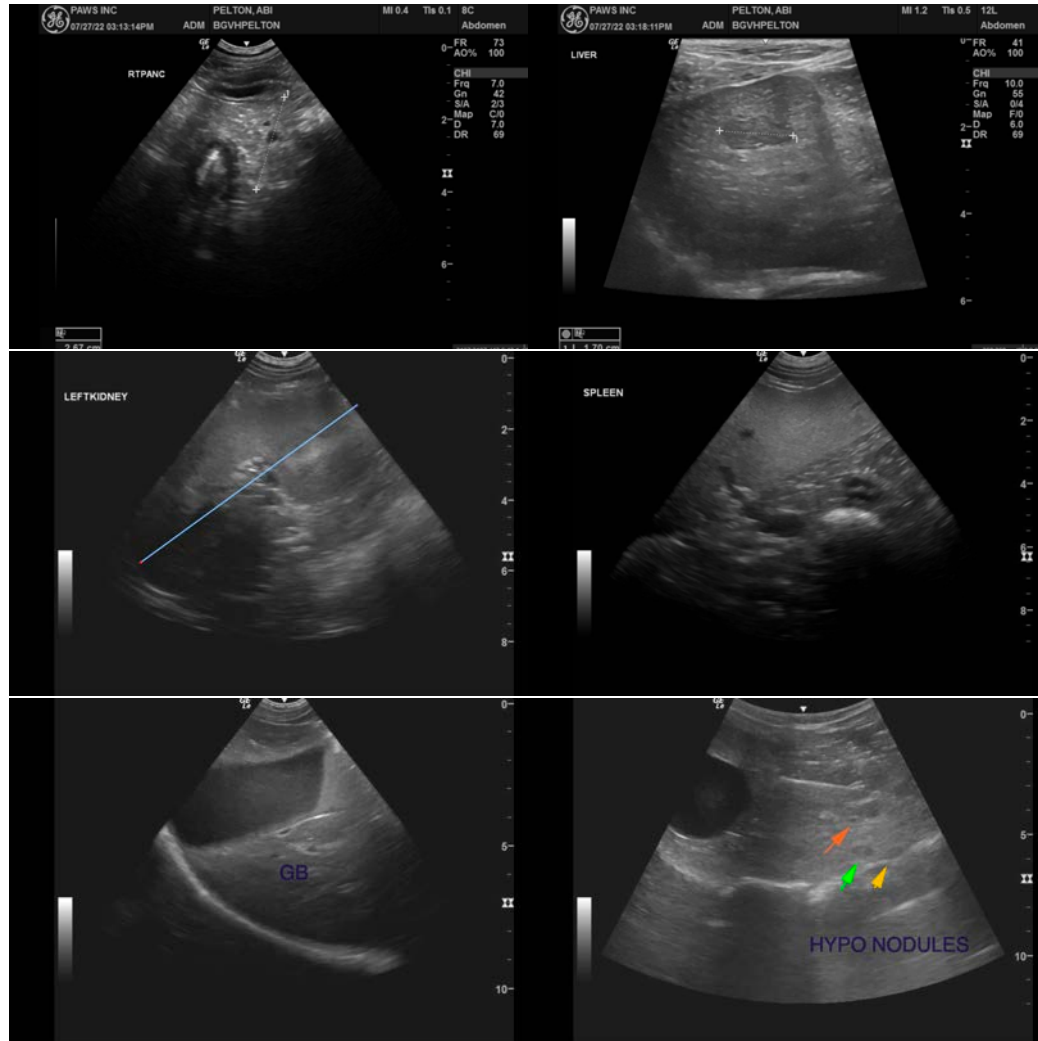
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The information and recommendations provided are based on the images presented by the referring veterinarian/sonographer. No evaluation can be communicated regarding pathology that was not visible in the image/video clips provided.

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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