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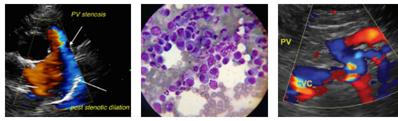

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DATE
8/12/21

PATIENT
Fletcher Wolinski

SPECIES
Canine

BREED
Chihuahua

SEX
Intact male

AGE
2011

WEIGHT
9.8 lbs

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

HOSPITAL NAME
Essex Middle River VC

REFERRING VET
Dr. Hicks

INVOICE
91182

PRESENTING CLINICAL SIGNS

Initially presented 6/25/21 for vomiting and anorexia, by time of appt s/s had resolved, no weight loss, etc; bloodwork was done as part of senior exam.
Current Medications: Zonisamide 25mg capsules BID. Sentinel.
Bravecto.
Lab Results: Alk phos- 1536. ALT- 287. GGT- 43. T4- 0.7 (low).
Radiographs: No radiographs taken
Date of Previous IntraPet Ultrasound: No previous
Sedation: IM sedation utilized for AUS
Stat Report: not requested

ULTRASONOGRAPHIC EXAMINATION OF THE ABDOMEN

Urinary System

The urinary bladder is minimally 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 prostate is large in size (2.64 x 2.66 cm) but has a regular shape with smooth external margins. The parenchyma is heterogenous but no discrete focal lesions are present. The prostatic urethra appears normal with no evidence of irregularity, invasion, mass effect or calculi.

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 perinephric inflammation or effusion. Mild pyelectasia is noted and measures 0.21 cm. There is no evidence of nephroliths, infarcts or hydroureter. Renal vasculature is normal.

The right kidney has a normal shape and size (4.12 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.

Adrenal Glands

The left adrenal gland is normal in size measuring 0.55 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 0.48 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, 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 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.

Gastrointestinal

The stomach is moderately dilated with fluid and irregular shadowing material most consistent with normal ingesta and gas. 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 layering 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. The duodenum measured as normal (0.39 cm in wall thickness) and the jejunum measured as normal (0.23 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, 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.

Free Abdomen

The left and right testicle were visualized and appeared normal.

ULTRASONOGRAPHIC FINDINGS

PRIMARY FINDINGS:

- Large prominent prostate, which is hyperechoic with no focal lesions. Prostatic changes are most consistent with benign prostatic hyperplasia. Other differentials include bacterial prostatitis and prostatic neoplasia. However, given the lack of lower urinary tract symptoms, these differentials are considered less likely in this patient.

- Heterogenous 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.

SECONDARY FINDINGS:

- Very mild pyelectasia of the left kidney. Pyelectasia of the left kidney could be consistent with pyelonephritis, chronic renal disease, secondary to PU/PD or fluid therapy (if applicable), other.

- Fluid dilation of the stomach. Correlate with feeding history. Findings could represent lack of fasting, mild ileus, much less likely partial gastric obstruction.

INTERPRETATION OF THE FINDINGS & FURTHER RECOMMENDATIONS

An obvious cause for the recent vomiting and inappetence is not observed. Hopefully this was transient gastroenteritis, etc. There are no focal lesions involving the liver or gallbladder to explain the dramatic ALP elevation. In these cases I recommend/consider:

- Induction phenomena are the most common. 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.

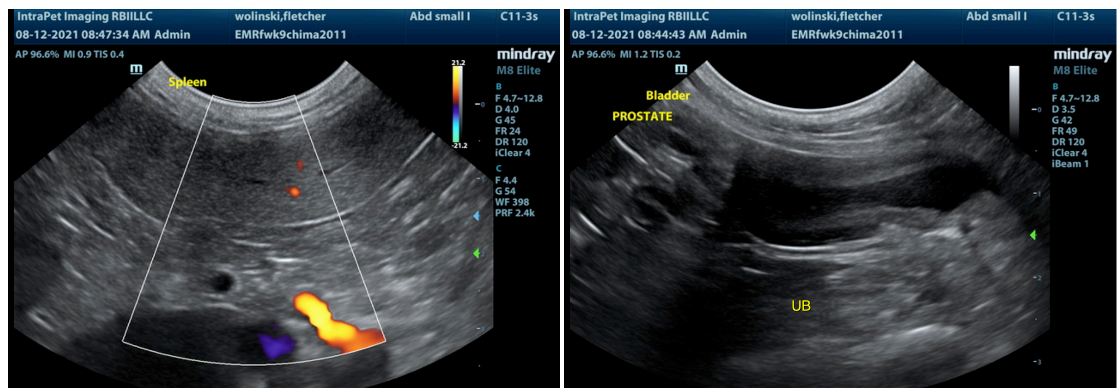
- If signs of Cushing’s disease are present recommend endocrine function testing to evaluate for cushings disease.

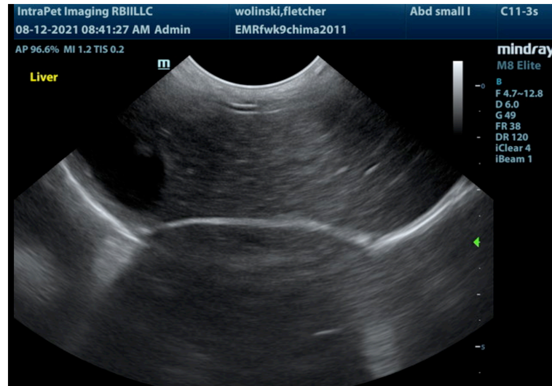
- Consider fine needle aspirate to rule out round cell neoplasia -if this is a concern.

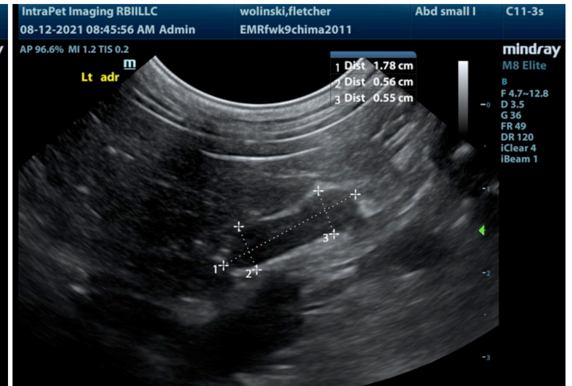
- If a cause for the ALP elevation is not identified: I recommend recheck general blood work every 6 months, ultrasound once per year, and bile acids test every 1-2 years based on other results. If the ALP continues to climb a biopsy could be considered.

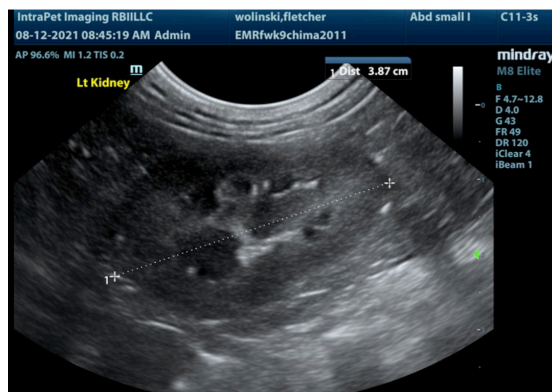
- Consider long term use of Denamarin, and monitoring for the signs of Cushing’s developing.

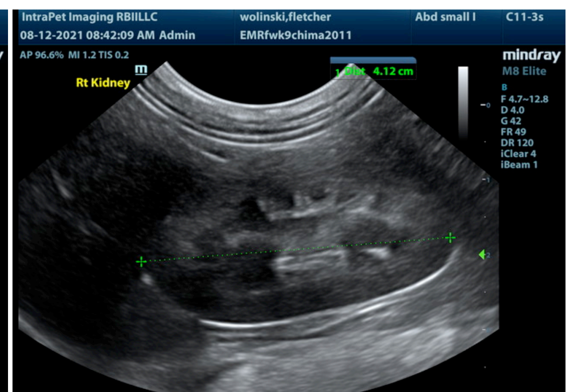
- A primary vacuolar hepatopathy can be breed related and is seen in Scottish Terriers, Schnauzers, Cocker spaniels etc.

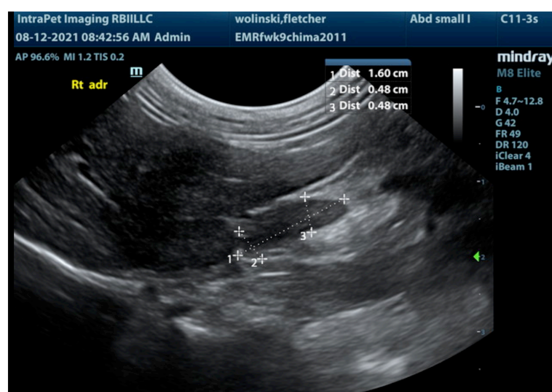


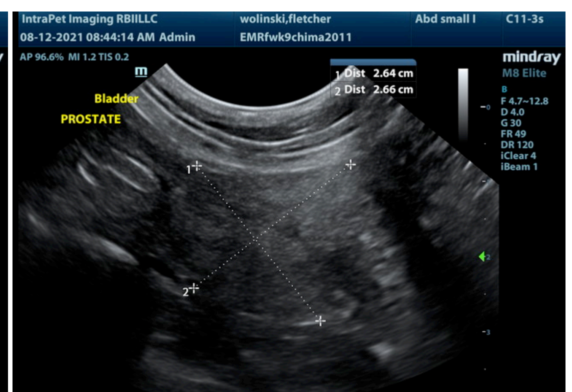












The information and recommendations provided are based on the images presented by the referring veterinarian. No evaluation can be communicated regarding pathology that was not visible in the image/video clips provided.

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)
kathleen.sennello@sonopath.com