



**PATIENT**

Juju Kaplan

**PRESENTING CLINICAL SIGNS**

Patient presents for vomiting and diarrhea, elevated kidney function and T. bili.

**SPECIES**

Canine

**ULTRASONOGRAPHIC EXAMINATION OF THE ABDOMEN**

**Urinary System**

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.

**BREED**

Pit Bull Terrier

The left kidney has a normal shape and size (7.63 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.

**SEX**

Spayed Female

The right kidney has a normal shape and size (7.67 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.

**AGE**

7 Years

**Adrenal Glands**

**WEIGHT**

58 Pounds

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.

The right adrenal gland is normal in size measuring 0.88 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.

**INTERPRETED BY**

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

**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.

**IMAGING PERFORMED BY**

Kelly Vazquez

**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.

**HOSPITAL NAME**

New Bridge VP

**REFERRING VET**

Dr. Glennon

The gallbladder lumen is moderately distended. The wall of the gall bladder is mildly thickened (0.45 cm) and has a smooth mucosal surface. Luminal contents are primarily anechoic. The cystic and common bile ducts are normal/not visible. Findings are most consistent with gallbladder edema, less likely cholecystitis.

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**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.

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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



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layering maintaining the typical 1:3 muscularis:mucosa layer ratio. Jejunum wall measured 0.39 cm. Visualized peristalsis appears appropriate. There were no focal lesions consistent with obstruction or a mass effect observed.

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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**

**BREED**

Pit Bull Terrier

The pancreas is prominent and mottled compared to the surrounding isoechoic mesentery. There is no evidence of nodules or cystic lesions. There is no evidence of regional mesenteric inflammation or fluid.

**Free Abdomen**

**SEX**

Spayed Female

A large volume of anechoic free fluid is present. No mesenteric lymphadenopathy. The Medial iliac nodes appear normal and there was no evidence of a caudal aortic thrombus at the bifurcation. The omentum is generally hyperechoic as compared to anechoic fluid.

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7 Years

**Other**

Pleural effusion is visualized in the thoracic cavity.

**PRIMARY FINDINGS**

**WEIGHT**

58 Pounds

- Heterogeneous 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.

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- Mildly thickened gallbladder wall – Differentials include edema secondary to the abdominal fluid or less likely inflammatory change.
- Pleural and peritoneal effusion – Recommend sampling the fluid and considerations such as decreased oncotic pressure (hypoalbuminemia), increased hydrostatic pressure (fluid overload), congestive heart failure, or a neoplastic effusion. Other differentials exist.

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**SECONDARY FINDINGS**

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

- Prominent, mottled pancreas – The pancreatic changes are most consistent with age-related parenchymal remodeling, potentially secondary to a prior inflammatory episode, early fibrosis or chronic pancreatitis.

**REFERRING VET**

Dr. Glennon

**INTERPRETATION OF THE FINDINGS & FURTHER RECOMMENDATIONS**

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There appears to be at least a bicavitary effusion present. Recommend sampling and cytology to obtain more information. If there is concern about inadequate urine production, recommend urine catheterization and quantifying ins and outs. A specific lesion is not identified to explain the vomiting and diarrhea reported, and the kidneys appear relatively normal structurally with no evidence of obstruction, dilation, etc. Recommend testing for Leptospirosis and Addison's disease. The elevation in bilirubin seems unlikely to be post-hepatic. Consider hemolysis or primary liver disease. Additionally, sepsis can cause an elevated bilirubin. Recommend 3-view thoracic radiographs and possible cardiac ultrasound.

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**HOSPITAL NAME**

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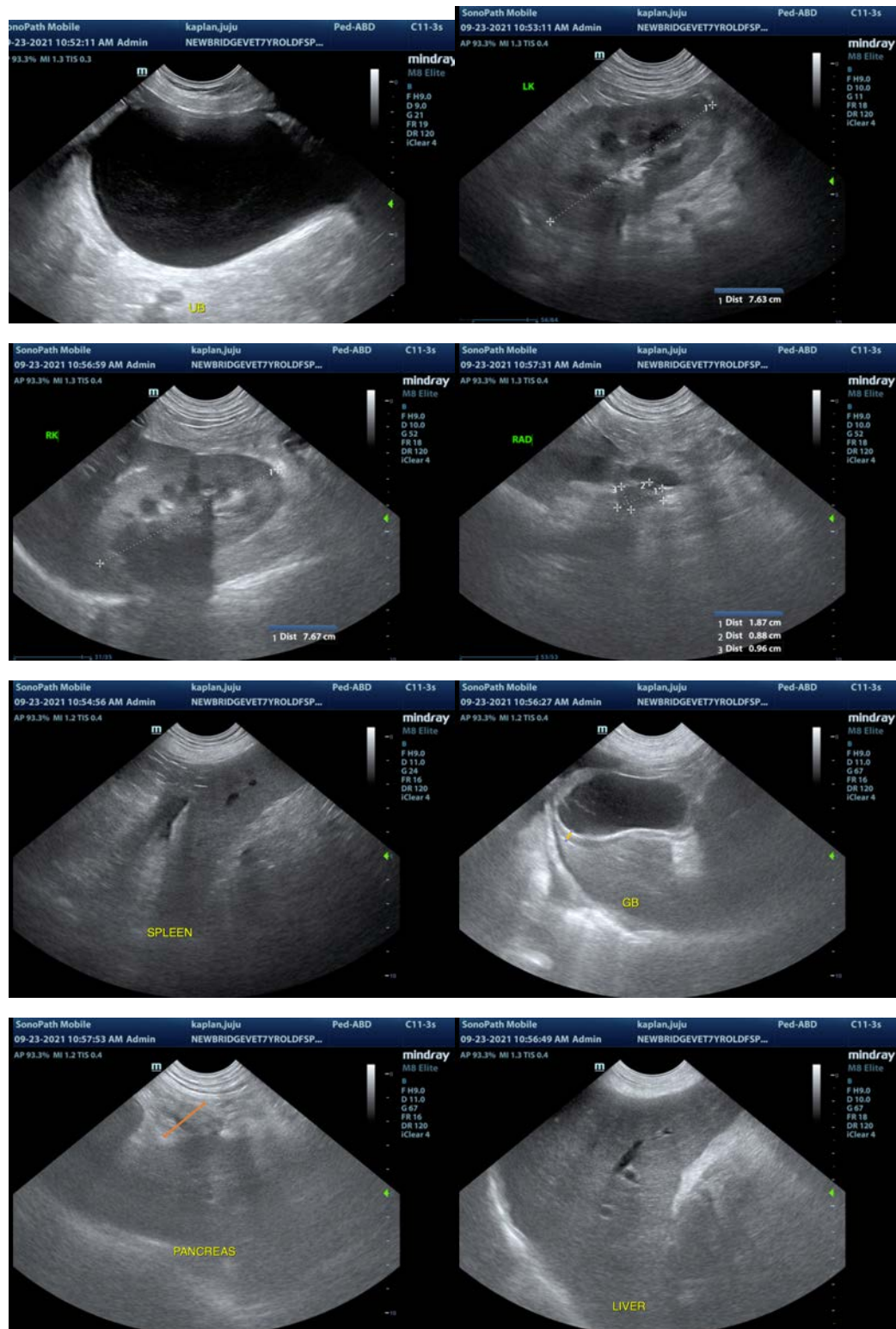
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The information and recommendations provided are based on the images presented by the referring veterinarian. No evaluation can be communicated regarding pathology that was not visible in the image/video clips provided.

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.

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