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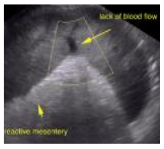
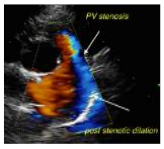
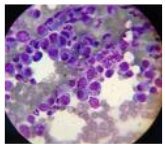
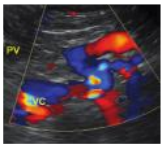

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1-800-838-4268 info@sonopath.com

PATIENT

Athena Castro

SPECIES

Feline

BREED

DSH

SEX

Spayed Female

AGE

11 Years

WEIGHT

10.8 Pounds

INTERPRETED BY

R. McKenzie Daniel, DVM, DABVP (Canine and Feline)

IMAGING PERFORMED BY

Kim Leidberg

HOSPITAL NAME

SVS Imaging WI

REFERRING VET

Dr. Amin, AH of Loves Park

INVOICE

14600

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4/4/22

PRESENTING CLINICAL SIGNS

History: Started to urinate outside of the litter box. Hematuria and chronic kidney issues. Athena recently had pyometra surgery.
Abnormal PE/Chem/CBC/UA Results: Na/K 45 RBC High

ULTRASONOGRAPHIC EXAMINATION OF THE ABDOMEN

Urinary System

The urinary bladder, trigone, cystourethral junction, and visible pelvic urethra to a depth of 2.0 cm exhibited normal thickness and tone. Primarily anechoic urine was present in the lumen. Mild nondependent particulate sediment was present without evidence of calculus formation. The ureteral papillae were normal. The ureters were not visible which is normal. No evidence of inflammatory or neoplastic mural changes were noted. No evidence of pathology in the area of the aortic trifurcation.

Normal size and asymmetrical margination were present in the kidneys. Suspect mild cortical infarcts were present. A normal 1:3 cortex / medulla ratio was maintained. The medulla and cortices were uniform in texture with some increased echogenicity and moderate loss of corticomedullary symmetry and definition expected for the age of the patient. No evidence of pelvic dilation was present. Nonobstructive minor medullary mineral was present in both kidneys. The left kidney measured 3.2 cm in length. The right kidney measured 4.3 cm in length.

Adrenal Glands

The left adrenal gland was uniform in size and contour with a uniformly hypoechoic parenchyma. The left adrenal gland measured 0.38 cm width.

The right adrenal gland was uniform in size and contour with a uniformly hypoechoic parenchyma. The right adrenal gland measured 0.40 cm width.

Spleen

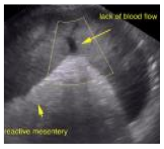
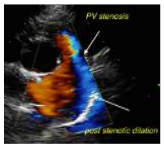
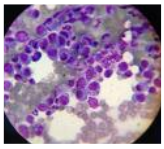
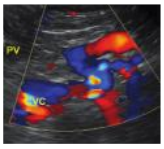
The spleen exhibited a finely textured and homogenous parenchyma which was hyperechoic to the liver and renal cortical parenchyma. The capsule was smooth and regular without apparent expansion. The splenic vasculature at the hilus was normal in volume with no evidence of congestion or thrombosis. Acute to chronic inflammatory, neoplastic, or benign parenchyma changes were not noted.

Liver

The liver was subjectively normal in size, structure, and contour. The liver parenchyma was mildly nonuniform and hypoechoic to the spleen with a moderate coarse echotexture and subjective mild to benign parenchymal remodeling. The hepatic and portal vasculature were normal in appearance without signs of congestion. Intermittent nondisruptive mildly nonhomogeneous to microcystic intraparenchymal nodules were present, an example of liver nodule measured 1.4 cm in diameter. No evidence of posthepatic obstruction.

The gallbladder was non-distended in size, containing primarily anechoic content. Nonobstructive mineral was noted in the caudal gallbladder lumen as well as the gallbladder neck. Concurrent mineral was present in the likely cystic biliary duct and proximal common bile duct.

Gastrointestinal

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The stomach presented intact wall layering with a normal wall layer ratio. The lumen of the stomach was empty with no signs of ileus, obstruction or foreign material.

The small intestine presented intact wall layering with 1:3 muscularis/mucosa ratio. The lumen of the small intestine was empty with no signs of ileus, obstruction or foreign material.

Normal visible colon wall layers were present with apparent formed feces in lumen.

Pancreas

The parenchyma of the left limb, body and right limb of the pancreas presented isoechoic to the adjacent omental fat. A normal curvilinear capsule contour of the pancreas was present. The visible pancreatic duct was normal. No signs of active inflammation or neoplastic disease was evident.

Free Abdomen

No overt lymphadenopathy or peritoneal effusion was present.

Other

No evidence of pathology in the area of the uterine remnant. No obvious secondary caudal abdominal or periurinary bladder abnormalities owing to previous pyometra surgery.

ULTRASONOGRAPHIC FINDINGS

- Overtly normal urinary bladder and visible proximal urethra with mild urinary bladder sediment.
- Moderate chronic renal changes with mild medullary mineral and cortical infarcts
- Nonspecific yet subjectively benign hepatic intraparenchymal nodules- cystic biliary adenomas, nodular hyperplasia, lipogranulomas suspected with neoplastic criteria considered unlikely
- Nonobstructive gallbladder and proximal common bile duct mineral- likely incidental

INTERPRETATION OF THE FINDINGS & FURTHER RECOMMENDATIONS

The urinary bladder sediment may suggest cellular / crystalline debris or mucus. Cystocentesis for UA +/- C/S if evidence of inflammatory cells is recommended.

No overt evidence of lower urinary tract pathology (i.e., cystitis or neoplastic criteria) as an obvious cause of the inappropriate urination. Consideration for possible feline idiopathic cystitis may be indicated. Urine culture and sensitivity on sterile urine sample are recommended to rule out underlying infection +/- baseline renal staging to include UPC.

The gallbladder and proximal common bile duct mineral is likely an incidental finding, assuming no evidence of previous or current hepatic enzyme elevations or evidence of cholestasis. This is often incidental but may be associated with previous hepatobiliary inflammation, if clinically indicated. Monitoring for evidence of cholestasis or hepatobiliary inflammation with potential ursodiol therapy would be reasonable.

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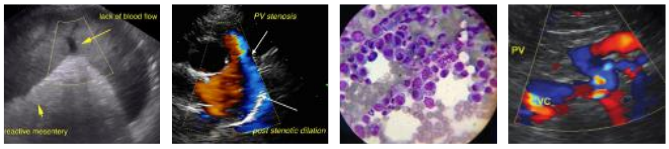

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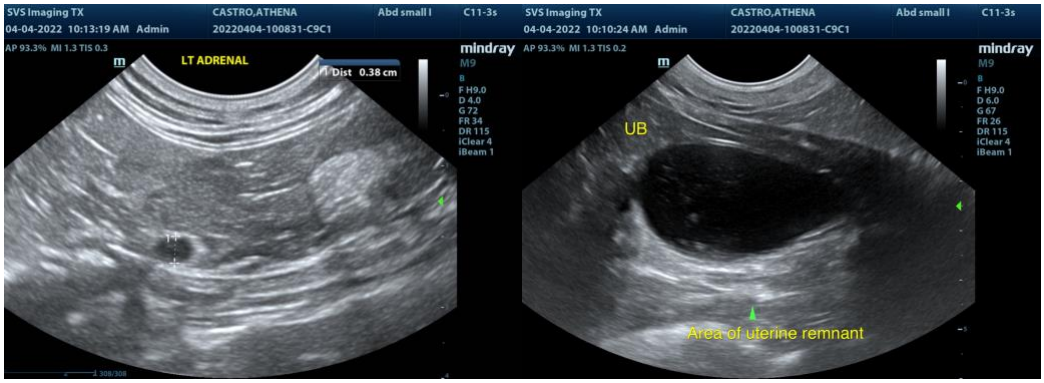

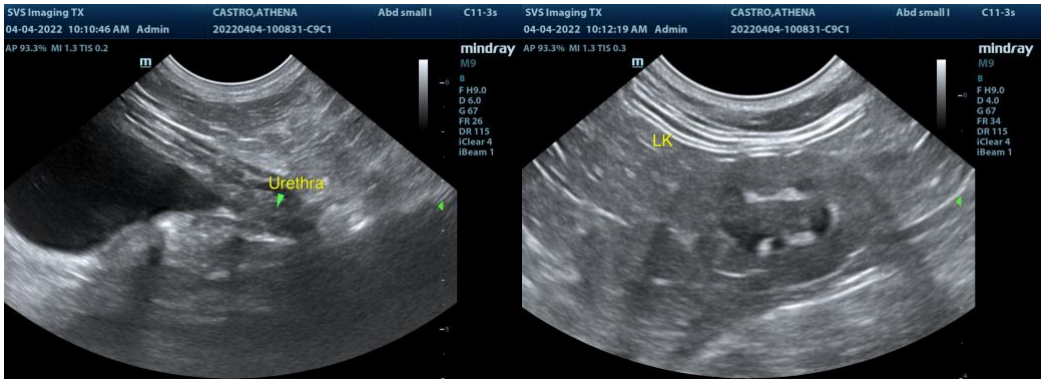

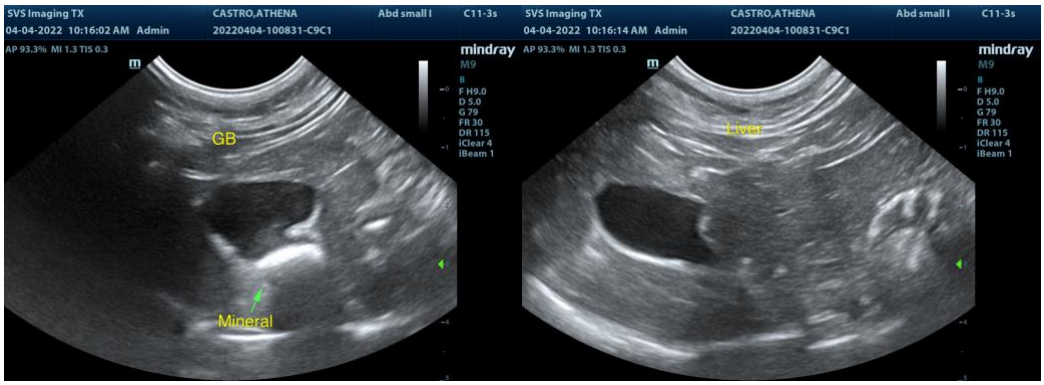

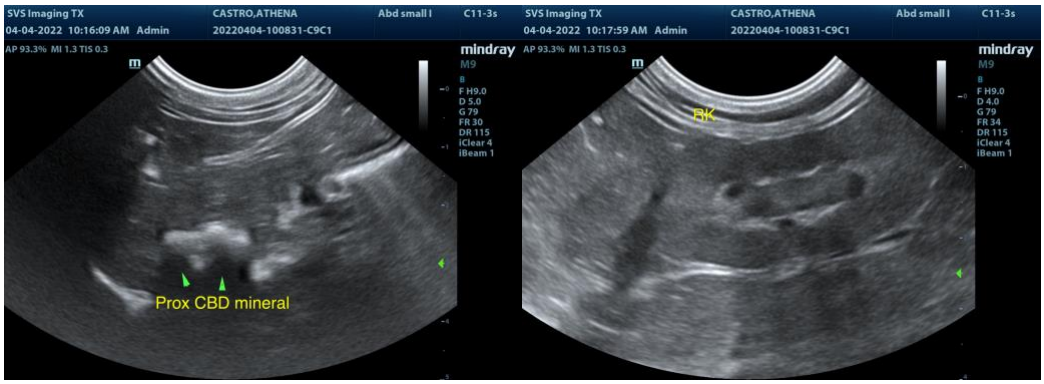

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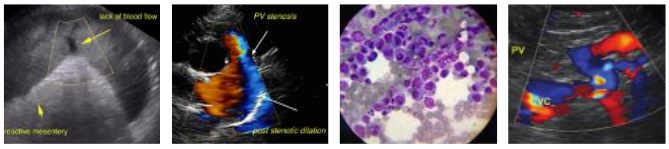

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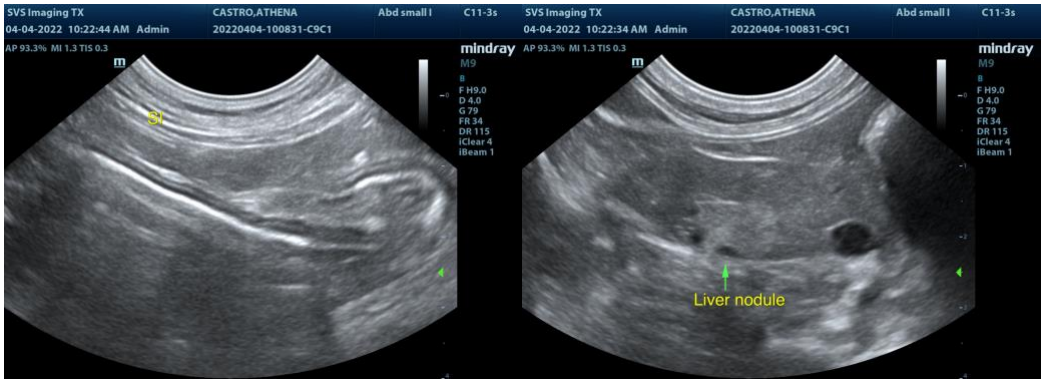


The information and recommendations provided are based on the images presented by the referring veterinarian. No evaluation can be communicated regarding pathology that was not visible in the image/video clips provided.

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.

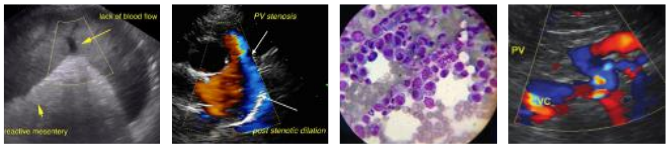
R. McKenzie Daniel, DVM, DABVP (Canine / Feline Practice)
info@SonoPath.com

Feline Idiopathic Cystitis

http://www.sonopath.com/FelineCystitis

Description: Feline idiopathic cystitis (FIC) is defined as recurrent stranguria and hematuria in cats in the absence of an underlying cause. It is considered to be an exclusionary diagnosis once radiographs, ultrasound, coagulation profile, and aerobic urine culture by cystocentesis have eliminated the possibilities of urinary tract infection, urolithiasis, coagulopathies, and neoplasia. Clinical signs may resolve spontaneously within 3-7 days, with 30-50% recurrence within a year. Cats most frequently acquire the disease between the ages of 2 and 6, and although any breed is susceptible, Persian cats are overrepresented among those affected. Overweight spayed females and neutered males in a multi-cat household are at higher risk than their lean, solitary, or intact counterparts. Indoor, sedentary, dry-food eaters are at higher risk than outdoor cats that eat *ad libitum*. Psychosomatic influences—change of residence, new household members, pet additions, change of household objects—on the urinary bladder have been shown to play an important role in the pathophysiology of the disease. Neurogenic inflammation, decreased glycosaminoglycan concentration, and increased bladder permeability are tissue alterations found on histopathological review of affected bladders. Neurotransmitter P is increased in affected tissue and may be specifically targeted in eventual courses of treatment.

Clinical Signs: In the absence of an underlying urinary tract infection or evidence of neoplasia, FIC may present in an acute or chronic form with the following intermittent lower urinary tract symptoms: inappropriate urination (> 6 times/week in 70% of cases); stranguria (70%); hematuria (50%); and pollakiuria (80%).



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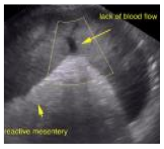
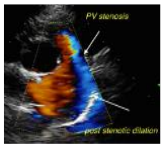
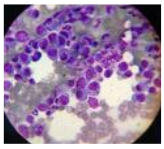
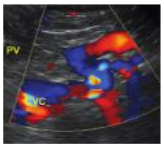
Diagnostics: Since FIC is a diagnosis of exclusion, abdominal radiographs, abdominal ultrasound, blood pressure, coagulation profile, and urine culture are all required to rule out other differentials. Biopsy of the bladder wall can be useful to evaluate for lymphocytic plasmacytic inflammation, which can occur in some cases. Taking a history and having a thorough conversation about the cat's environmental stressors are imperative.

Treatment: Given that no specific cause has been cited and that FIC is considered a multifactorial disease, multimodal therapy is recommended. To date, no specific therapeutic has been effective in treating FIC. Palliation with pain management can be achieved with buprenorphine (0.02 mg/kg PO, IM, or IV BID-TID for 3-4 days). Practitioners have attempted the following with varying results: the introduction of a strict canned food diet; a change of feeding location in multi-cat households; and stimulating increased water intake using tuna or clam juice additives or circulating water fountains. To date, the most scientifically valid evidence points to the need for reducing urine concentration, which is achieved with canned food diets. In multiple studies, the simple act of switching to a canned therapeutic diet has been shown to reduce the risk of recurrence significantly. One study showed that only 11% of cats on a canned diet exhibited recurrent signs after a year, while those on a dry food diet displayed a 40% recurrence rate. Urine concentration can be reduced further by adding additional water into servings of canned food. Reduction of stress may be achieved by increasing litter box hygiene, placing the litter box in a quieter environment, and providing separate food, water, and litter areas for the affected patient in a multi-cat household. It has been suggested that Feliway, the feline facial pheromone, can be used as a calming agent for cats when they are in unfamiliar surroundings. Feliway mimics the natural facial hormone released when a cat marks his or her territory by face rubbing. For unresponsive or severe cases, amitriptyline (10 mg PO Q24hr at bedtime) has been shown to have visceral analgesic, anticholinergic, mucosal mast cell inhibition, and anti-noradrenergic properties. Amitriptyline is considered standard therapy, but is only pursued once the preceding husbandry and feeding practices have proven to be ineffective. Amitriptyline should be used with caution in patients with cardiac disease or arrhythmias, and if instituted, should be used long-term. Studies indicate that short-term use of amitriptyline can result in faster recurrences. Note: Urine retention may occur while therapy is being administered. Biochemical panels should be monitored while a patient is undergoing amitriptyline therapy as liver enzyme elevation can occur. Glycosaminoglycan supplementation (pentosan polysulphate 2-10 mg/kg PO BID) has shown modest success (10-20%) in human trials for idiopathic cystitis. If used, a powder form is recommended to avoid the stress of pill administration (feline Cosequin capsules contain a powder that can be sprinkled onto food). Antiviral agents have not been shown to be effective, and even though researchers have suggested that the concurrent presence of *Calicivirus* may play a role and virus-like particles have been identified in urethral plugs and urine, no adequate evidence of a viral etiology has yet been demonstrated. A double-blind placebo trial suggested that glucocorticoids had no clinical benefits in 12 cases. All cases were self-limiting, in spite of whether the subjects were medicated with corticosteroids or not.

If hematuria seems persistent despite therapy and does not follow a typical FIC pattern (i.e., resolving within one week but recurring within a few weeks), cystoscopy or surgical evaluation may be indicated. Biopsies can be obtained, which allows for histopathology and bladder wall culture.

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Environmental enrichment is also important to reduce stress. Providing vertical climbing surfaces, such as cat trees, increasing the number of litter boxes on different floors of the house (the rule of thumb is the number of litter boxes per house should equal the number of cats plus one), and increasing owner attention time, scheduled playtime, as well as supervised outdoor activity can decrease stress for cats.

Conclusion: Effective treatment of FIC involves a multi-modal approach with a strong emphasis on husbandry. Pet owners should focus on the fastidious upkeep of litter boxes and feed their cats canned food to both increase dietary water intake and maintain their cat's lean body weight. Stress management is also key and can be facilitated with environmental enrichment as well as an understanding of feline behavior.

References:

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