



**PATIENT**

Ellie Engebretson

**PRESENTING CLINICAL SIGNS**

Presented for limping on the left front limb for about a month to pDVM on 9/21/21. Was on strict kennel rest since 9/11 after she seemed to over due it. PDVM completed x-rays - NSF. Started on carprofen on 9/15/21 - no great improvement. Suspected soft tissue injury. Noted swelling on the lateral aspect of the left elbow developing. Referred for US.

**SPECIES**

Canine

Abnormal PE/Chem/CBC/UA Results: PE: BAR, MM pink, CRT <2s. HR and lungs wnl. BCS 6.5-7/9, noted soft tissue moveable swelling on the lateral aspect of the left elbow, grade 1/4 lameness. Right elbow wnl. Grade 2/4 periodontal disease noted. Temp 101.7F.

**BREED**

Aussiedor

**ULTRASONOGRAPHIC STUDY OF THE LEFT ELBOW**

Multiple loops from the presumed lateral and medial aspect using curvilinear and linear probes available for review.

**SEX**

Female Spayed

**ULTRASONOGRAPHIC FINDINGS**

Severe thickening of the synovial layer of the joint capsule is seen in the lateral and medial aspects of the elbow joint. The outer fibrotic layer of the joint capsule appears to be relatively thin whereas the synovial component presents severe thickening with a layered and relatively regular appearance.

**AGE**

3 Years

Small pockets of anechoic fluid are seen in the far field and appear to be continuous with the joint cavity and elbow joint space.

**INTERPRETED BY**

Nele Eley, DVM  
Dr. med. Vet. DipECVDI

Visible bone surfaces, which are assumed to represent lateral and medial humeral epicondyles as well as the medial and lateral surface of the ulnar and radius, appear intact and smooth.

No echoarchitectural disruption of the visible extensor and flexor tendons is seen.

Color Doppler indicates moderate vascularity within the thickened synovium.

**HOSPITAL NAME**

Paws & Prairie Animal  
Clinic

**ULTRASONOGRAPHIC DIAGNOSIS**

- Severe synovial thickening and increased effusion of the left elbow joint.

**REFERRING VET**

Amanda Bergin, DVM

**INTERPRETATION OF THE FINDINGS & FURTHER RECOMMENDATIONS**

Severe and relatively regular thickening of the synovial layer of the joint capsule of the left elbow is seen. The pattern of thickening is not necessarily specific for an underlying etiology; however, it is definitively too severe for degenerative joint disease/uncomplicated osteoarthritis.

Hemarthrosis with extensive articular hemorrhage is a potential as well as severe synovialitis. Infiltrative pathology such as early articular neoplasia cannot be ruled out entirely but appears less likely based on the ultrasonographic findings. Aspiration and analysis of synovia as well as fine needle aspiration or biopsy of the synovium are strongly recommended. There is no mention of a radiographic examination in the clinical history of the patient. It should be noted that ultrasound can only be used as a complimentary technique to radiographs or other bone imaging in the elbow.

**INVOICE**

47758

**DATE**

10-11-21



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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.

**SPECIES**

Canine

**Nele Eley**, DVM, Dr. med. vet., DipECVDI  
European Specialist in Veterinary Diagnostic Imaging, Cert. Radiology,  
Senior lecturer University of Giessen, Germany, Veterinary Faculty, Department of Radiology  
Nele.Eley@sonopath.com

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