

**PATIENT**

Louie Meresca

**PRESENTING CLINICAL SIGNS**

Louie presented for pain on the spine first noted summer 2021

**SPECIES**

Canine

**COMPUTED TOMOGRAPHIC STUDY OF THE SPINE**

CT myelogram/epidurography provided for review.

**BREED**

French Bulldog

**COMPUTED TOMOGRAPHIC FINDINGS**

Presented bony structures of the spine show significant and multiple malformations with multiple hemivertebrae (for example Th1, thoracic spine and L4) consecutive scoliosis and synostosis of the spinal processes of the thoracic spine, and mild kyphosis of the thoraco-lumbar transition and the caudal lumbar spine. There are 6 lumbar vertebral bodies identified. L7 presents as a transitional vertebral body fused with the sacrum. L6/7 reveals a moderate, medial and broad-based disc protrusion with dorsal elevation of the cauda fibers. The latter are still recognizable with residual surrounding fat tissue.

**SEX**

MN

**AGE**

4 Years

Vertebral bodies are of regular density without signs of a lytic or sclerotic process. Vertebral discs present calcification of the nuclei at multiple levels.

**INTERPRETED BY**

Sebastian Jawinski,  
German Board  
Certified Vet  
Specialist in  
Diagnostic Imaging

Paravertebral soft tissues are bilaterally symmetrical, especially the course of the femoral and sciatic nerves is inconspicuous.

**COMPUTED TOMOGRAPHIC DIAGNOSIS**

- Severe but breed-expected malformations of the spine (s. above)
- Multiple degenerative changes of the spine with multiple calcified nuclei
- Moderate disc protrusion L6/7 without compelling signs of compression

**HOSPITAL NAME**

Animal Surgical  
Center

**INTERPRETATION OF THE FINDINGS & FURTHER RECOMMENDATIONS**

CT findings show significant malformations of the entire spine with moderate degenerative changes (s. calcified nuclei). A local spinal cord compression or compressive lesion are not obvious. The scoliosis/kyphosis and abnormal lumbo-sacral transition may explain chronic improper load of the spine with consecutive pain symptoms. Protrusions at the lumbo-sacral transition are often incidental findings and must be correlated with the clinical presentation. Grade of compression as seen with CT is not compellingly the most relevant clinical finding. Regarding the multiple findings, I would favor a conservative approach.

**REFERRING VET**

Paumonok A.H.

**INVOICE**

49303

**DATE**

12-29-21



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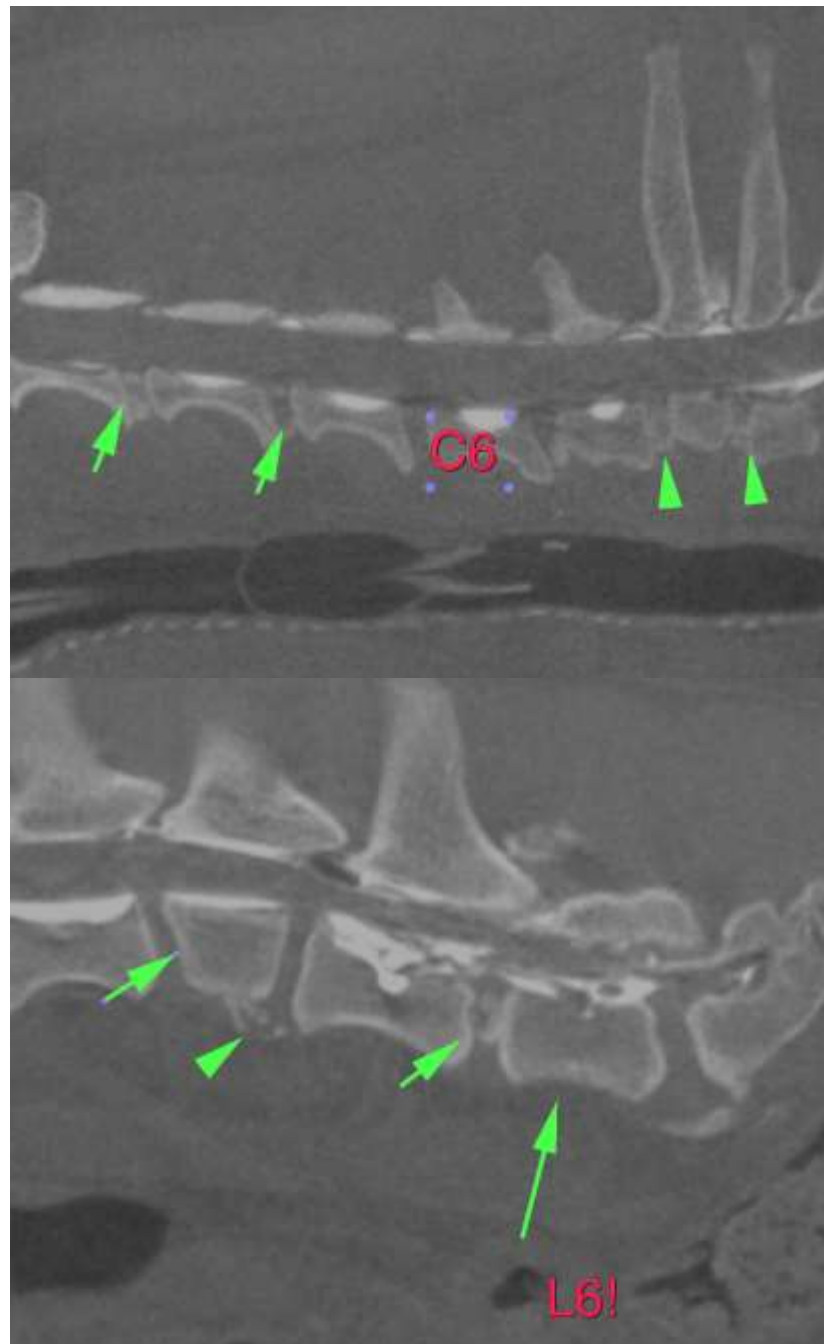
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The information and recommendations provided are based on the images presented by the referring veterinarian. No evaluation can be communicated regarding pathology that was not visible in the image/video clips provided.

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.

**Sebastian Jawinski, German Board Certified Vet Specialist in Diagnostic Imaging**  
Sebastian.Jawinski@sonopath.com

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