

What to expect when you have referred a patient to us for ultrasound? – Referring Vet

- A full ultrasound report including description and interpretation of findings and recommendations for further work up or treatment.
- A link to access the ultrasound images through VetRocket (you do not require a subscription to view these)
- Case discussion with our vet team is easily accessible and highly encouraged.

Example Ultrasound Report:

Name:

Referring clinic:

Clinical Signs:

- Lethargy and shaking at initial presentation for annual health check

Laboratory results:

- Consistently mild elevation in ALP, ALT and AST since first noted in July
- Elevated cortisol: creatinine ratio
- Normal postprandial bile acids

Organ	Normal	Abnormal	Not Seen	Comment
L MILN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Left Kidney	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Left adrenal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Caudal pole measures 5.3mm
Spleen	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Clearly margined hypoechoic nodule at the hilus of the spleen, not affecting the splenic margin. The nodule measures 11.1mm x 7.6mm. Rest of spleen has a smooth echotexture and normal echogenicity.
Liver	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	The liver appears enlarged with rounded and irregular margins. Across all lobes the liver has a coarse, heterogenous echotexture with a mixture of hyperechoic and hypoechoic nodular change throughout.
Stomach	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Pancreas	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	The pancreas appears enlarged
Gall bladder	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Right Kidney	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Right adrenal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Caudal pole measures 4.3mm
I/C Valve	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Mes L/N	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Jej L/N	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Duodenum	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Jejunum	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Ilium	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Colon	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Bladder	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Right MILN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Uterus/Prostate	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Right Ovary/Uterus	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Left Ovary /Uterus	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Free fluid	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

Findings:

- Hepatomegaly with irregular hepatic margins and heterogeneous, coarse echotexture - These changes can be seen with conditions such as; vacuolar hepatopathy, infiltrative disease including neoplasia (lymphoma), or a storage disease process, cirrhosis, chronic hepatitis, toxic hepatopathy. Extramedullary haematopoiesis may cause similar changes in echotexture but less likely to distort the liver margins, similarly nodular hyperplasia is considered less likely due to the irregular liver margins.
- Single hypoechoic splenic nodule - Possible causes of a singular hypoechoic splenic nodule include; benign lymphoid hyperplasia, extramedullary haematopoiesis, haematoma, neoplasia, splenitis, splenic abscess.
- Enlarged pancreas - the pancreas appears enlarged, the peri-pancreatic tissue does not appear overly inflamed. This may indicate a low level chronic pancreatitis

Recommendations:

- Recommend liver sampling to attempt to further differentiate between the differential diagnoses listed above. This could be via ultrasound guided FNA or liver biopsy. Recommend biopsy to give better chance of diagnosis particularly in cases of diffuse hepatic change on ultrasound.
- Liver biopsy can be performed via ultrasound guidance or could be performed laparoscopically