

Otis 12 year-old MN Catahoula mix



- Presenting for an annual recheck and doing well at home
- TPR within normal limits
- Physical Exam
 - Moderate dental tartar
 - Grade 1 murmur (new)
 - Mild arthritic changes to hips and elbows
- As part of Wellness Exam, you run blood work (minimum database) as well as the Nu.Q® Vet Cancer Screening Test
- CBC:
 - Stress leukogram
 - Slightly low platelets at 192,000
- Chemistry panel:
 - Mild elevation in globulins 4.6
- HW test and Fecal float:
 - Negative

- UA:
 - No significant findings

Result

Nu.Q® Vet Cancer Screening Test:
618.4 ng/mL

Result: **>600 ng/mL**
Cancer Suspicion: **High to Very High**

Interpretation:

Plasma nucleosome concentrations >600 ng/mL are consistent with common canine cancers including lymphoma and hemangiosarcoma. This test is not able to differentiate severe/systemic inflammation from cancer. Additional tests such as a CBC, Chemistry, Urinalysis, Cytology/Biopsy, and/or Imaging may be needed to confirm or deny the suspicion of cancer in your patient.

Note – Dogs that have not been fasted may have artificially elevated nucleosome levels and should be retested after fasting.

Otis – What to do next?

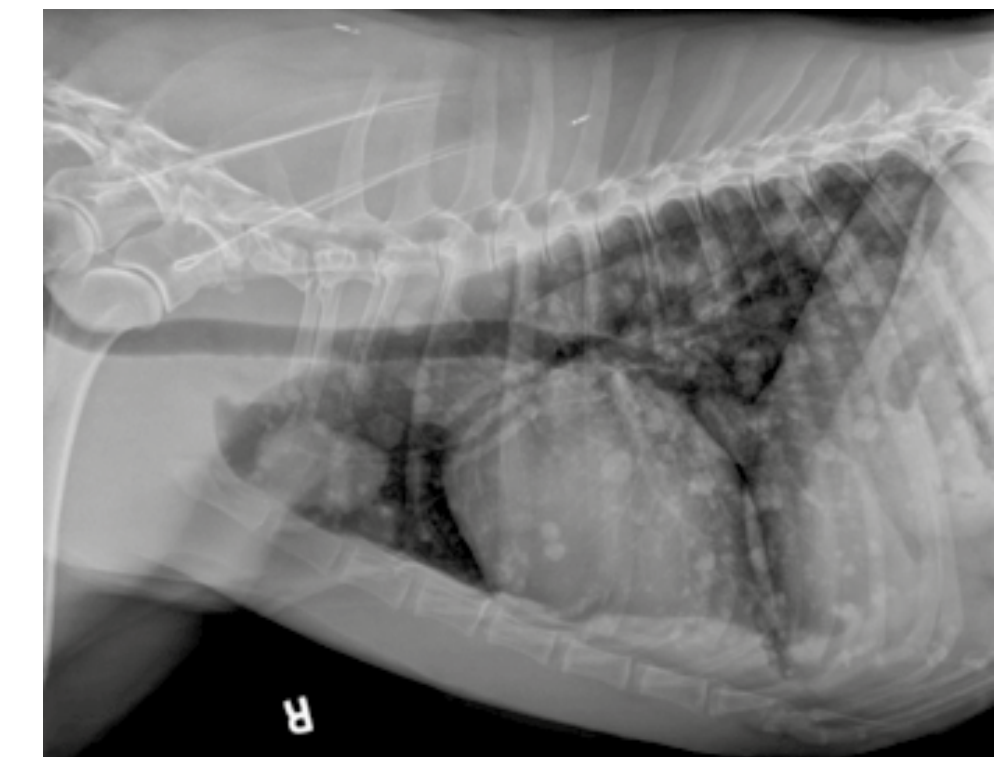
Check – Was Otis fasted?

Yes, he fasted so proceed to a full workup.

Imaging:

- Chest radiograph
- Abdominal ultrasound
- Refer / advanced imaging like full body CT

Result



Unfortunately, there are numerous metastatic lesions on thoracic radiographs. Further investigation also determines a 6cm cavitated splenic mass- hemangiosarcoma is the most likely cause.