

Imaging the Feline Patient: A Case Review of Common Diagnostic Imaging Findings in the Feline Patient

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The purpose of this session is to practice concepts that were discussed and reviewed in prior sessions. Specifically, this session will include case discussions highlighting radiographic and/or ultrasonographic features of disease specific to the gastrointestinal tract, including the liver and pancreas.

Objectives

1. Practice a systematic review process of abdominal radiographs
2. Review radiographic principles associated with evaluation of the liver and the gastrointestinal tract.
3. Recognize the utility of combined abdominal radiography and ultrasonography
4. Practice using imaging findings to generate a succinct, prioritized differential diagnosis list

Key points

1. Because so many imaging findings are nonspecific, synthesis of information, including all imaging findings as well as clinicopathologic data is necessary for formulating accurate conclusions

Conclusions

Synthesis and pattern recognition are important features of veterinary medicine in general. With regard to imaging, pattern recognition is far more visual, however objective assessment is possible and necessary for accurate image interpretation. As with all things, consistent practice using imaging tools alongside your vast knowledge base will improve your diagnostic capabilities.

And, it's just fun!