

IT'S YOUR CASE

Species: Feline

Breed: Oriental Shorthair

Sex: Female Neutered

Age: 13 years

Clinical History:

Severe inspiratory and expiratory effort
Normal cardiovascular exam

Anatomic regions: Thorax

Details of study and technical comments: A radiographic study of the thorax is presented for evaluation. The study consists of one left lateral projection as well as a dorsoventral projection.

Diagnostic interpretation:

A moderate bronchial pattern is present throughout all lung lobes, appearing as ill-defined rings and tramlines (blue oval shape on the image below). In the periphery of the lungs, there are also some ill-defined branching or small nodular soft tissue opacities that could represent some bronchial plugging.

The diaphragm is flattened on lateral view (red arrowhead) and tenting on dorsoventral view. The caudal tip of the lungs reach the level of L2 vertebra.

There are some bilateral chronic fractures of the eleventh and twelfth ribs with mineralised callus formation (yellow arrowheads). The thirteenth ribs are focally mildly thickened with maintenance of the corticomedullary distinction (green arrowheads).



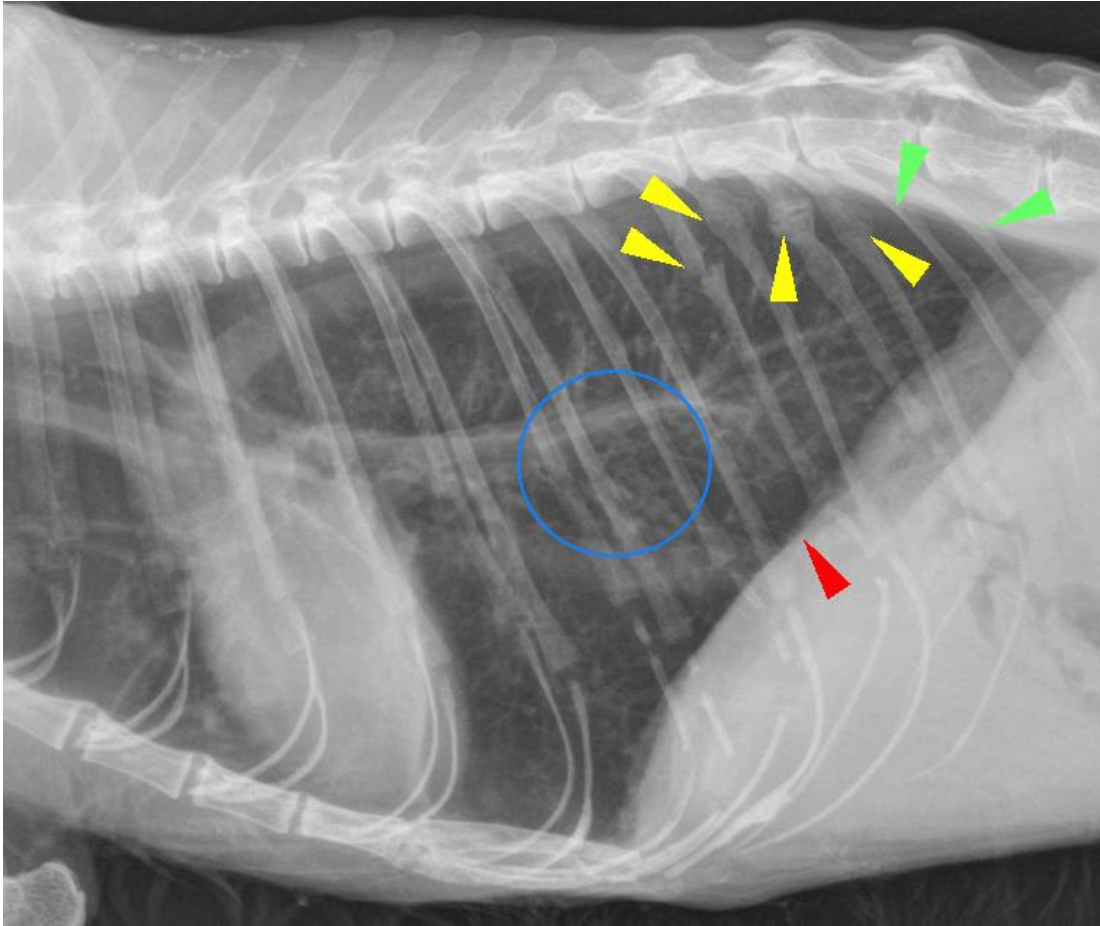
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Conclusions:

1. Diffuse moderate bronchial pattern with suspected mild bronchial plugging.
2. Pulmonary hyperinflation and associated diaphragmatic tenting.
3. Chronic partially or completely healed rib fractures.

Additional comments:

The pulmonary changes are likely due to chronic lower airway disease (most likely feline asthma, less likely infectious bronchitis). The hyperinflation is a common finding with feline asthma and can be due to air trapping. The hyperinflation may mask the pulmonary pattern severity. Rib fractures can sometimes be seen in case of feline asthma due to severe respiratory distress.



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