

IT'S YOUR CASE

Species: Canine

Breed: Labrador Retriever

Sex: Female Neutered

Age: 10

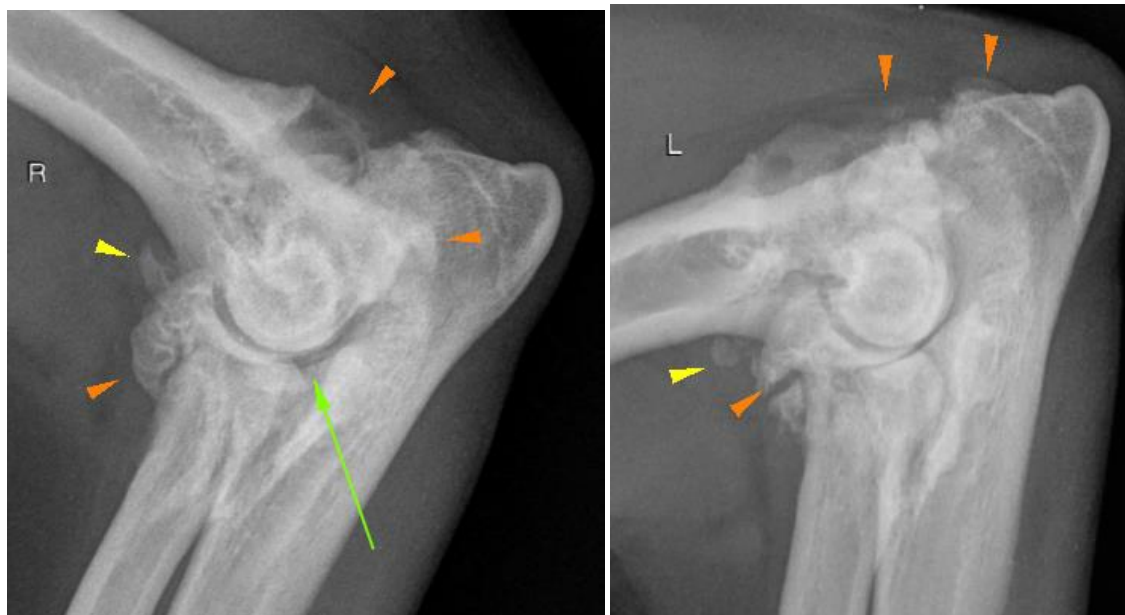
Clinical History:

Chronic front limb lameness, acutely worse on RF and dog yelped in pain in the yard/garden.

Details of study and technical comments: Orthogonal radiographs of the right elbow are provided.

Diagnostic interpretation:

RIGHT FRONT LIMB: The elbow has severe periarticular new bone formation (orange arrow heads) including minimally displaced calcified bodies (yellow arrow head). On the CC views, some of these minimally displaced calcified bodies are situated medially adjacent to the medial epicondyle. Limited assessment of the lateral epicondyle of the CC views due to obliquity. The elbow joint has incongruity characterized by focal widening at the humeral ulnar region (green arrow), however positioning can affect this radiographic appearance. There is no definitive radiographic evidence of bone lysis.



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t. +44 (0)1223 422251 www.vet-ct.com e. info@vet-ct.com

Co Number 6955449 Registered Office St John's Innovation Centre Cowley Road Cambridge CB4 0WS UK

ABN 24601862220 Registered Office in Australia Suite 11, 185-187 High Street Fremantle WA 6160 Australia

This report is based on the available history and radiographic interpretation only and not on a physical examination of the patient. It has been prepared specifically for interpretation by the currently licensed and registered veterinary surgeon responsible for the care of this patient.

Conclusions:

1. Severe chronic osteoarthritis of the right elbows
2. Calcified bodies represent osteochondral fragment and/or fragmented osteophyte.
3. Medial epicondyle remodelling/calcified bodies could support flexor enthesiopathy, however this may be subclinical
4. Probable right elbow incongruity-limited assessment with radiographs and concurrent left elbow incongruity cannot be excluded. This would be a frequent cause of chronic arthritis as a component of canine elbow dysplasia.

Additional comments:

The radiographic findings confirm severe chronic elbow arthritis. Acute worsening of lameness on the right may be due to exacerbation of these changes during exercise, cartilage eburnation, or less likely concurrent pathology such as secondary early septic arthritis cannot be fully excluded. I am referencing a case series below as septic arthritis is a potential sequelae to chronic elbow arthritis in dogs. There is no current definitive radiographic evidence to support septic arthritis, but I am making note of this possibility because the radiographic findings can lag behind the clinical signs. Please correlate with palpation to rule in/out excess synovial effusion, heat, pain, and consider arthrocentesis if indicated.

Bielke et al. Spontaneous septic arthritis of canine elbows, 21 cases. VCOT 2018.



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