

WHAT IS YOUR DIAGNOSIS

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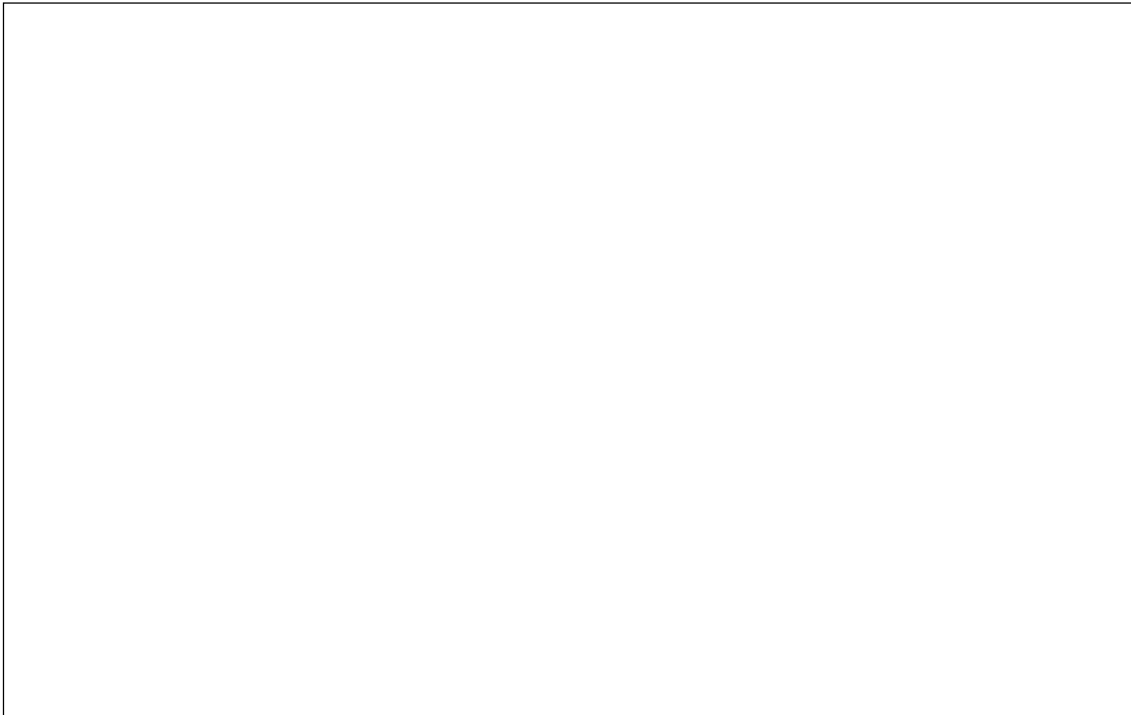


Figure 1. Lateral view of the distal abdomen.

History :

A 7 year old female, mixed breed dog was presented with respiratory tract symptoms and enlargement of the abdominal cavity. There were space occupying masses in the last three mammary glands. A radiograph of the thorax revealed a metastatic tumor in the lung. Area a radiograph of the abdomen was performed in the lateral position.

Give your diagnosis and turn to page 76.

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Radiographic Diagnosis :

Spondylosis between the sixth and seventh lumbar vertebrae.

Radiographic Findings and Comments :

The lateral view of the abdomen revealed urine retention in the bladder, multiple gas-filled loops of small intestine and constipation was observed along the distal colon and rectum.

A large calcification was seen joining the ventral border of the sixth and the seventh lumbar vertebrae, spondylitis should be expected.

Spondylosis of distal lumbar vertebrae do not cause many problems to animals except for urine retention and constipation. The animals can normally use their hind limbs satisfactorily.