

## PATIENT DISCHARGE SUMMARY

**OSU Case Number:** 000470989  
**Client:** Teresa Sweeney  
**Patient:** Highlander Wilma  
**Referring Veterinarian:** Not Found  
**Date Admitted:** 9/10/2019 **Date Discharged:** 9/10/2019  
**Patient Status:** Released  
**Clinician:** Jaylyn Rhinehart DVM, DACVIM (Cardiology)

Columbus Small Animal 614-292-3551  
Dublin Small Animal 614-889-8070  
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### **Final Diagnosis:**

Normal feline cardiac examination - Normal cardiac auscultation  
No evidence of congenital or acquired heart disease  
Echocardiogram: Normal (no evidence of cardiomyopathy) at this time

### **History and Clinical Problems:**

Wilma is three year old, female, Maine Coon Cat (indoors only) who was examined today at the OSU-Veterinary Medical Center **Cardiology Service** for a screening evaluation for congenital heart disease and for hypertrophic cardiomyopathy. She has not exhibited any signs related to cardiovascular disease at home (respiratory distress, syncope, exercise intolerance, or coughing). She is UTD on vaccines and has been eating and drinking normally. Wilma is not currently on heartworm prevention. The Sweeney family feeds a diet Solid Gold, Royal Canin Maine Coon, and Kitten dry kibble, along with various canned food and boiled chicken and beef. She is not currently on any medications.

### **Diagnostic Procedures and Physical Findings:**

**Weight:** 5 kg **Temperature:** Not taken **BCS:** 4/9 (ideal) **RR:** 28 bpm **HR:** 240 bpm  
**Respiratory:** Normal bronchovesicular sounds. No crackles or wheezes heard on auscultation.  
**Mucous membranes and refill time:** pink, <2 sec  
**Examination was focused on cardiac evaluation:**  
Physical examination of the heart and cardiovascular system was normal.  
Heart rate, heart rhythm, femoral pulses, and precordial impulses were normal.  
Heart sounds were normal; no gallop sounds were detected.  
Cardiac murmurs were not detected during careful auscultation of the heart.  
**Physical Examination:** No abnormalities were noted.

### **Diagnostic Tests**

#### **Echocardiography:**

The echocardiographic examination was conducted from both the right and left sides of the thorax. A screening echocardiogram was requested and completed with maily subjective evaluation of the heart for hypertrophic cardiomyopathy.  
There is no clear evidence of cardiomyopathy or serious structural heart disease based on subjective imaging or diastolic measures of the LV walls or septum.  
The papillary muscles are normal.  
There is no systolic anterior motion of the MV observed.  
LV ejection fraction is normal.  
Trace tricuspid regurgitation.  
Results are static with previous echo on 9/4/2018.

### **Surgical and Therapeutic Procedures:**

Physical examination  
Echocardiogram

### **Treatment:**

No treatments were given in hospital.

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### Recommendations and Instructions:

**Medications:** As there is no evidence of heart disease, no medications have been prescribed at this time.

**Activity:** She can continue normal activities.

**Diet:** There are no dietary restrictions based on today's heart evaluation.

### Prognosis:

The current **prognosis for heart health is very good**. This screening examination did not reveal any evidence of congenital heart disease (birth defects) or acquired heart disease (such as hypertrophic cardiomyopathy, HCM). It should be appreciated that cardiomyopathies are classified as adult-onset, genetic heart diseases. These can develop later in life and for this reason the examination findings should be interpreted as "normal for this time frame".

Cats used for recurrent breeding should be re-evaluated at regular intervals (e.g., yearly) since HCM can develop later in life, even after a normal screening examination.

There are limited genetic tests available for identifying carriers and affected cats with HCM and these are only available for certain breeds (currently limited to the Maine coon cat and Ragdoll breeds). Please discuss with the cardiologist any questions you have about genetic testing in cats. When appropriate, we can refer you to laboratories that offer this service directly to breeders and cat owners. Currently, we recommend the genetic screening services available at North Carolina State University College of Veterinary Medicine. See: <https://cvm.ncsu.edu/genetics/submit-dna-testing/>

Even when a genetic test is available for a particular breed, that laboratory test is not sufficient as a single screening method. Cats with HCM can carry other genetic mutations that are not identified by available laboratory testing. As a result, the stethoscope (for auscultation) and ultrasound examinations of the heart (echocardiography) have been the most important methods for screening cats for obvious heart diseases such as HCM. It should be understood that minor or trivial heart (birth) defects might not be identified conclusively by cardiac ultrasound, and the echocardiographic criteria used for diagnosis of HCM in cats are not "black and white". In fact the measurement values used in different parts of the world for the diagnosis are different! As a result of this uncertainty, we emphasize to our clients that the echocardiogram is a good method for detecting moderate to severe HCM, but there are some cats where the ultrasound examination is "borderline". In these cases, a discussion should be undertaken with the cardiologist and breeders should review all of the other characteristics of that cat and plan follow up examinations. Additionally, genetic tests should be evaluated if available. The NT-proBNP test is another "biomarker" that can be performed at through family veterinarian's office (using IDEXX laboratories). Unfortunately, this test is most useful in cats with heart murmurs and more likely to be positive when there is moderate to severe heart disease. Like the echocardiogram, "borderline" cases of HCM will be more challenging to identify with certainty.

### Next Appointment:

If breeding is continued a reevaluation echocardiogram should be scheduled in approximately one year. You can discuss this with the cardiologist if you have any questions. Thank you for bring Wilma to the Ohio State Veterinary Medical Center Cardiology today. Please do not hesitate to contact us should you have any further questions.

Thank you. We appreciate your patronage. Your support of our programs is important. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions about our evaluation or instructions.

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Melanie Priebe

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