

Appendix

Evaluation of radiographic congestive heart failure score

Variable	Assessment	Score
Cardiomegaly (VHS)*	None (<8.1)	0
	Mild/Moderate (8.1-9.3)	1
	Severe (>9.3)	2
Pulmonary vessel engorgement [#]	None	0
	Present	2
Pulmonary infiltrates compatible with cardiogenic edema	None	0
	Equivocal	2
	Present	3
Pleural effusion	None	0
	Equivocal	2
	Present	3
Distention of the caudal vena cava	None	0
	Present	2
Final assessment	Total score:	

* , vertebral heart score (VHS) was determined and chambers enlarged documented.

[#] , vessels enlarged were documented (arteries, veins, both).

A total score of > 2 indicated presence of congestive heart failure.