

attenuation of the subarachnoid space at the level of the foramen magnum and the cerebellar vermis protrudes caudally toward the foramen magnum. 3. There is minimal dilation of the fourth ventricle. 4. A broad-based hypointense band is present dorsal to the vertebral canal at the level of the atlantoaxial joint that narrows, though does not completely compress, the dorsal subarachnoid space, consistent with an atlantoaxial dural band. The spinal cord diameter and shape are normal at this level. 5. There is no evidence of syrinx formation. 6. The remaining included structures are unremarkable. Conclusions: 1. Crowding of the caudal fossa, flattening of the cerebellum, and minimal fourth ventriculomegaly, consistent with mild Chiari-like malformation (caudal occipital malformation syndrome).

**ASSESSMENT:**

Tina has been diagnosed with mild caudal occipital malformation syndrome. This is a condition to which chondrodystrophic breeds, including Cavalier King Charles Spaniels, are predisposed. Clinical signs can be mild to non-existent, however, can progress to signs of pain, scratching at the head and neck, incoordination, weakness, lethargy, or seizures. If you notice any of these signs in Tina, or if you have any concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us.

**FOLLOW-UP:**

No follow-up is needed unless Tina begins having any abnormal behavior or exhibits neurologic changes. Thank you again for bringing Charlie to the University of Missouri and entrusting us with his care. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us at 573-882-7821.

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**Signature**

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