



Receiving acupuncture treatment

Glucose	52	46-93 mg/dL	
Creatinine	1.5	0.0-2.0 mg/dL	
BUN	20	7-17 mg/dL	
BUN: Creatinine Ratio	13		
Phosphorus	7.8	4.3-7.9 mg/dL	
Calcium	2.1	7.8-10.5 mg/dL	
Total Protein	6.9	5.8-8.0 g/dL	
Albumin	2.3	2.5-3.6 g/dL	
Globulin	4.6	2.7-3.8 g/dL	
Albumin: Globulin Ratio	0.5		
ALT	132	U/L	
ALP	75	10-149 U/L	
GGT	29	0-80 U/L	
Bilirubin - Total	<0.1	0.0-0.7 mg/dL	
Cholesterol	61	76-227 mg/dL	
Amylase	59	0-28 U/L	
Lipase	74	30-400 U/L	

(Top) Lab results (Bottom) lab machines



Our clinic got a call about a herd **favorite cow that had unexpectedly calved while owners were away**. There were some difficulties getting the calf out and the cow was **in labor for longer than anticipated**. This put **extra strain on her nerves and muscles in her pelvis during the difficult birth**. She was unable to get up and Dr Abbey evaluated her a few days later to see if she'd be a good candidate for acupuncture. After seeing that she could still move her tail and back legs while laying down to make sure she hadn't lost sensory and motor nerve function, Dr Abbey placed some **acupuncture needles**. She placed them in specific locations to stimulate her muscles and nerves that had worked so hard during calving. In this case, Dr Abbey chose to hook the needles to a box that allows us to provide a small electrical stimulation **similar to that of a TENS unit used for therapeutic reasons in people**. What's different about using this method in cattle and this case specifically, is that **we can turn the electrical stimulation up higher than we can in our healthy, standing patients**. It's important to note that we aren't electrocuting her nor is it like using a hot shot. It's at a different frequency that **allows for proper muscle activation deeper into the tissues by way of the acupuncture needle**. She got up 3 days later and has been moving around well ever since!

While working to properly diagnose everything this cow had going on Dr. Knaack drew some blood to run at our clinic. While it can be common in dairy cows, **hypocalcemia or "milk fever"**, is not common in most beef cows. Dr. Knaack remembered this particular client had a **hereditarily high producing milking line** of Simmental cattle. A simple blood draw from this cow's tail while she was lying down in the pasture helped to diagnose a secondary underlying condition. **In less than 15 minutes** our doctors were able to rule out other serious problems like anemia. Her calcium levels had just started to drop below normal which was corrected with an oral calcium gel. This case was a great example of teamwork between doctors and being able to use our in house diagnostic equipment and taking treatments and therapies out on farm.

Your Other Family Doctor September 2024 Newsletter

The same cow a couple of weeks later

