

Supplementary Figure S1: Demonstration of VHS measurement in a dog. The long axis of the heart was measured from the center of the carina to the most distal contour of the ventral apex of the heart. The short axis of the heart was measured in the central third region of the heart, perpendicular to the long axis. Both axis measurements were then positioned over the thoracic vertebral bodies beginning at the cranial edge of the fourth thoracic vertebra. The sum of both axes was used to determine the number of vertebral units to the nearest 0.1 vertebra

