

**Figure 3-8**  
Lateral view of the abdomen of a dog with a liposarcoma.

## Disruption of Borders of the Peritoneal Cavity

- ✓ Herniation of abdominal organs through the diaphragm, abdominal wall, or perineal tissues.
- ✓ Ultrasonography can be useful to identify displaced organs.

## Diaphragmatic Hernia

“Ruptured” diaphragm (Figures 3-9A and 3-9B)

- ✓ A hernia’s appearance varies depending on which organs pass through the tear.
- ✓ Herniated contents can include liver, spleen, stomach, intestines, and omentum.

## Roentgen Signs on Survey Radiography

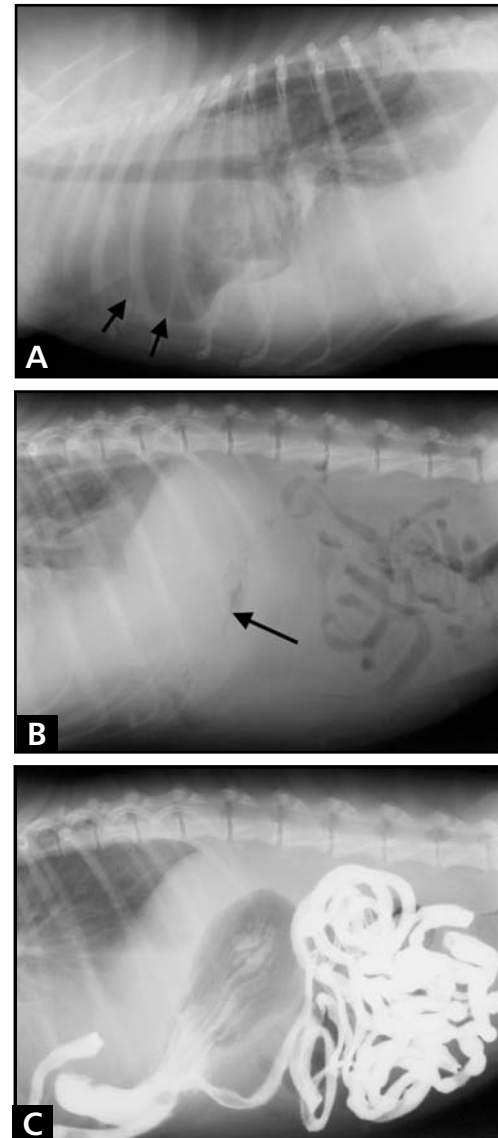
- ✓ Diaphragmatic shadow is interrupted.
- ✓ Pleural effusion can be present.
- ✓ Circular or oval air opacities in thorax may indicate gas within displaced GI tract.
- ✓ Herniated solid organs (liver, spleen) can present as a solid fluid opacity in the thorax

## Roentgen Signs on Contrast Radiography

- ☞ Purpose is to put contrast into or around a herniated organ

Upper GI series will help if portions of the GI tract are herniated (Figure 3-9C)

- ✓ You could conceivably put iodine contrast in vessels (arteriography), although it would be impractical
- ✓ Celiography can be diagnostic



**Figure 3-9**

**A.** Lateral view of the thorax of a dog with a diaphragmatic hernia shows disruption of the diaphragm. Pleural effusion is present causing retraction of the edges of the lung lobes (black arrows). **B.** Lateral view of the abdomen of a dog with a diaphragmatic hernia shows displacement of the stomach. Air is present in the lumen of the stomach. **C.** Barium contrast aids in identification of the stomach.