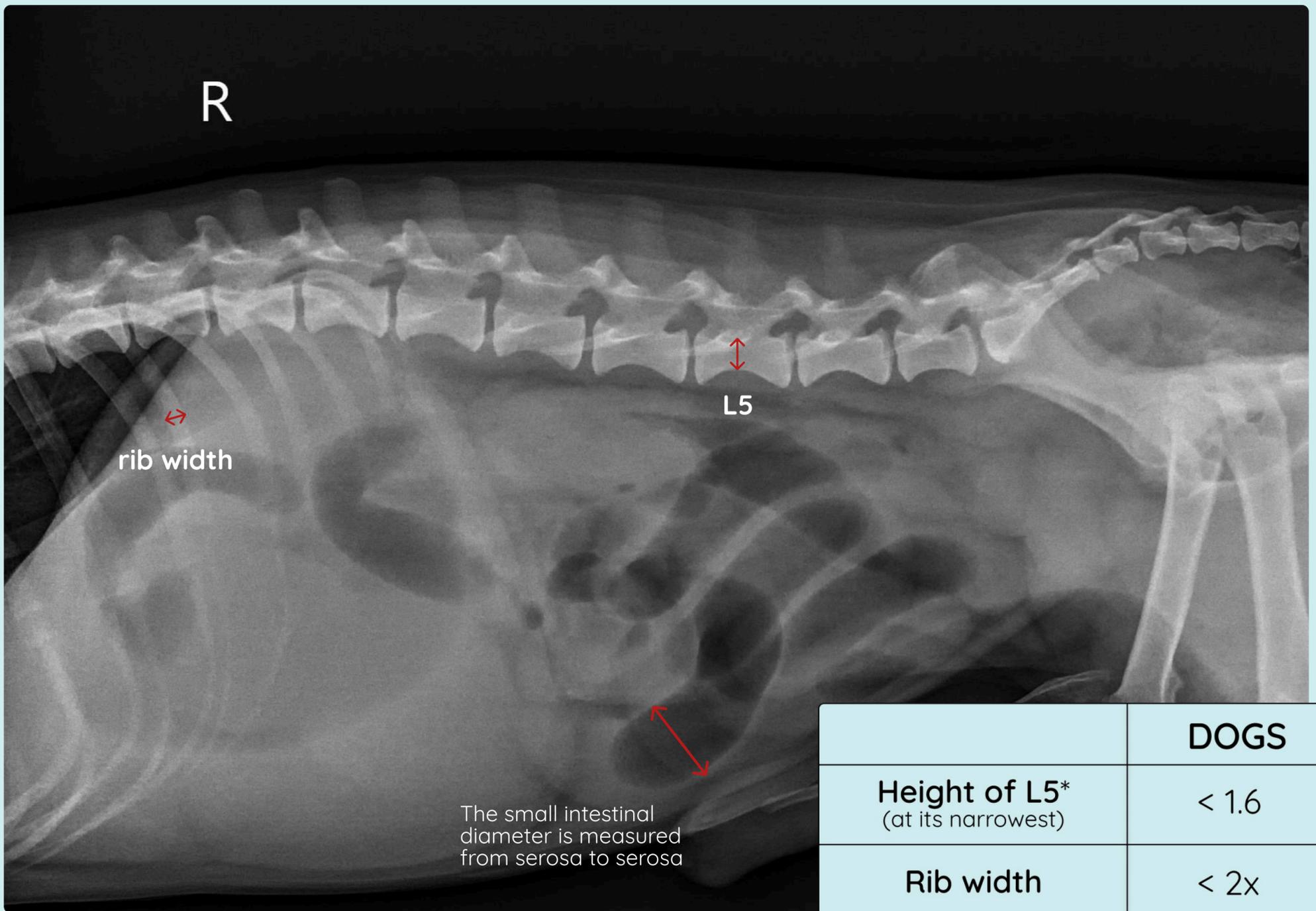


Small intestinal diameter



Normal small intestinal diameter in dogs

The maximum diameter of a normal jejunal segment in the dog should not exceed 1.6x the height of the narrowest part of L5 or 2x the width of a rib.



	DOGS
Height of L5* (at its narrowest)	< 1.6
Rib width	< 2x

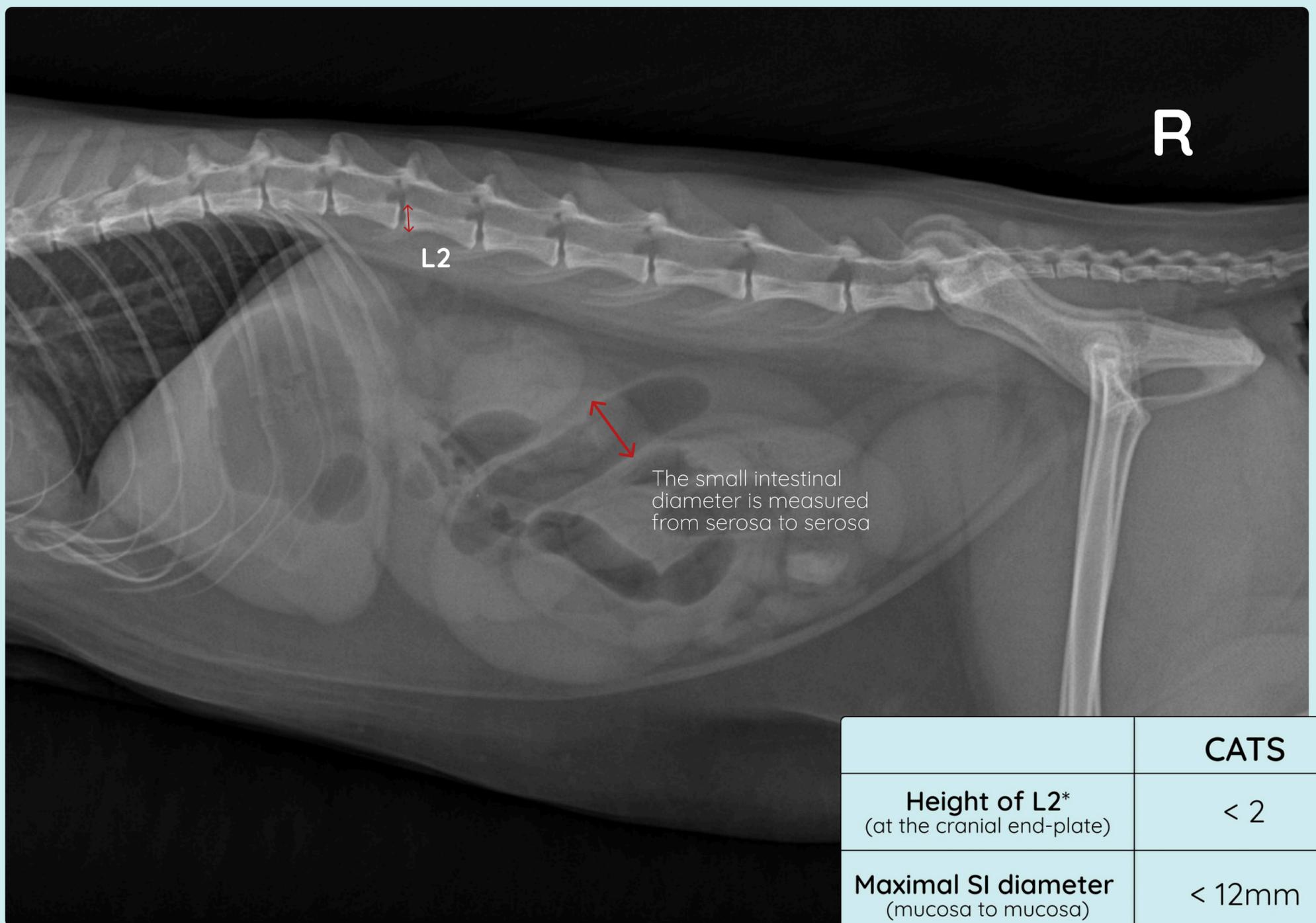
*L5=Lumbar vertebrae no. 5



- In dogs, no specific normal measurement for small intestinal diameter exists because of breed-related variations in body size and the magnification effects of radiography.
- In general, no intestinal loop should measure more than **twice the diameter** of the adjacent loops.
- Multiple dilated intestinal loops often appear stacked against one another and may curve abnormally, resembling a hairpin or a paper clip.
- Radiographic findings should always be interpreted in conjunction with the patient's clinical signs and history. A normal intestinal diameter does not exclude the possibility of an obstruction, particularly when the obstruction is located in the duodenum.

Normal small intestinal diameter in cats

The maximum diameter of a normal jejunal segment in the cat should not exceed 2x the height of the cranial end plate of L2 or 12 mm.



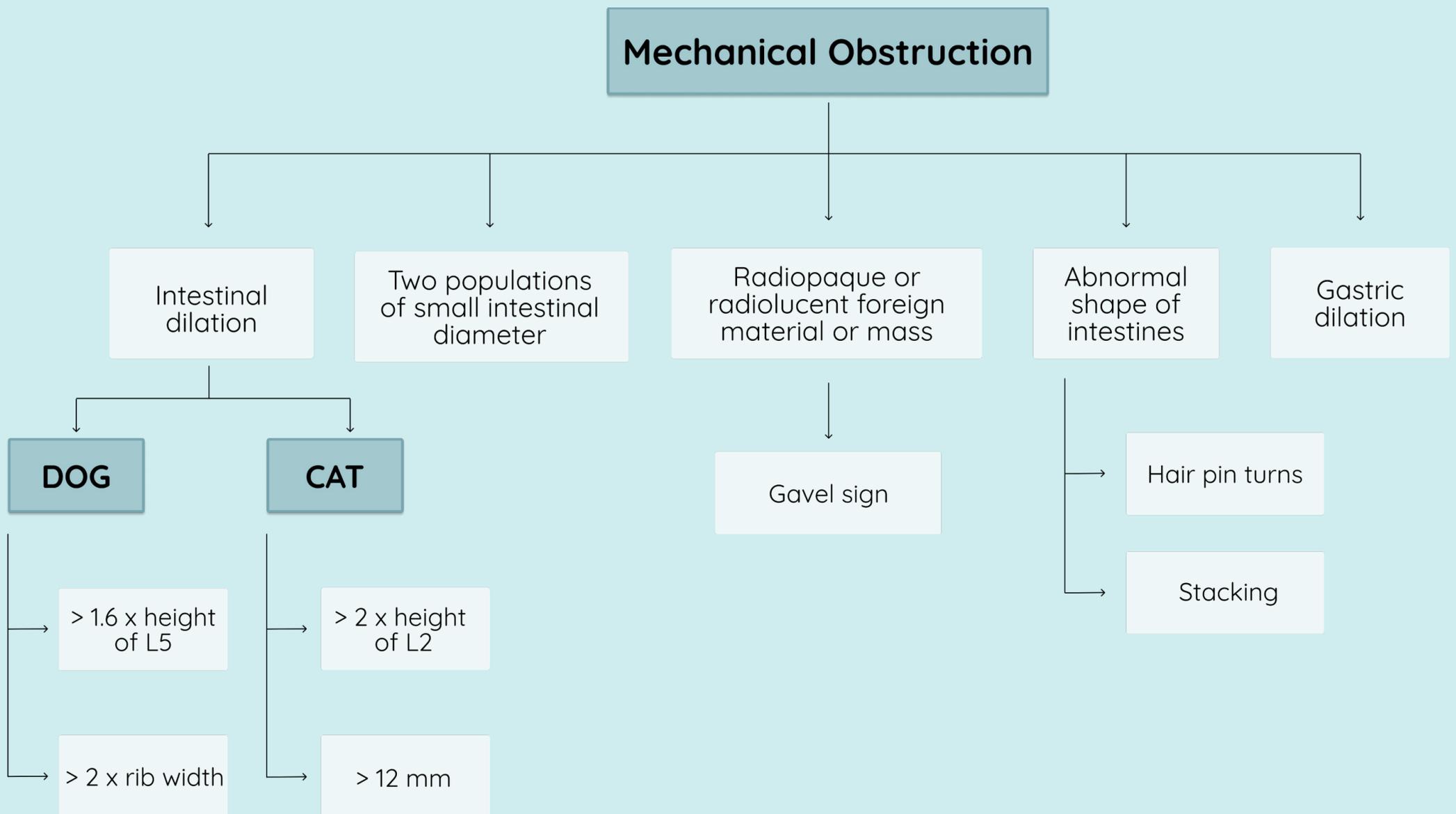
	CATS
Height of L2* (at the cranial end-plate)	< 2
Maximal SI diameter (mucosa to mucosa)	< 12mm

*L2=Lumbar vertebrae no. 2



- In cats, a specific normal measurement for small intestinal diameter exists because most cats tend to have similar body sizes. The 12 mm measurement should be made from **mucosa to mucosa** in gas-filled intestinal loops
- In general, no intestinal loop should measure more than **twice the diameter** of the adjacent loops.
- Multiple dilated intestinal loops often appear stacked against one another and may curve abnormally, resembling a hairpin or a paper clip.
- Radiographic findings should always be interpreted in conjunction with the patient's clinical signs and history. A normal intestinal diameter does not exclude the possibility of an obstruction, particularly when the obstruction is located in the duodenum.

Radiographic findings associated with a mechanical obstruction



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