

Report from the Kennel Club/
British Small Animal Veterinary Association
Scientific Committee

Summary results of the
Purebred Dog Health Survey
for the Japanese Chin breed

Warning: The results of this survey and particularly the breed-specific analyses should be interpreted with caution. The overall response rate was only 24% with breed-specific response rates from 4.5% to 64.7%.

The Japanese Chin breed

A total of 158 forms were sent out and 25 were returned, representing 113 live dogs. This breed had a 15.8% response rate (25/158) and it represented 0.18% of all returns (25/13,741).

Mortality data

A total of 38 deaths were reported and this represents 0.24% of all deaths reported in the survey (38/15,881). The median age at death for the Japanese Chin breed was 9 years and 3 months (min = 7 months, max = 14 years and 1 month) and this was lower than the overall median of 11 years and 3 months (Figure 1). Table 1 shows the causes of death for the Japanese Chin breed. Age at death is presented for the most common causes of death (Figure 2).

Table 1. Causes of death by organ system/category for the Japanese Chin breed.

| Cause of death | N | % | Most common specific causes in descending order |
|---------------------|----|-------|--|
| 1 Cardiac | 13 | 34.2 | Heart failure; MVD; cardiomegaly |
| 2 Cancer | 5 | 13.2 | Type unspecified (stomach, nose, brain) |
| 3 Old age | 5 | 13.2 | Old age & age combinations |
| 4 Combinations | 4 | 10.5 | Heart failure; ocular; epilepsy; MVD; kidney failure |
| 5 Cerebral vascular | 3 | 7.9 | Stroke or cerebral vascular accident |
| 6 Neurologic | 3 | 7.9 | Occipital dysplasia; seizures |
| 7 Hepatic | 1 | 2.6 | Chronic liver failure |
| 8 Musculoskeletal | 1 | 2.6 | Deformed hindlimb |
| 9 Other | 1 | 2.6 | Uncodeable |
| 10 Reproductive | 1 | 2.6 | Pyometra |
| 11 Respiratory | 1 | 2.6 | Respiratory failure unspecified |
| Total | 38 | 100.0 | |

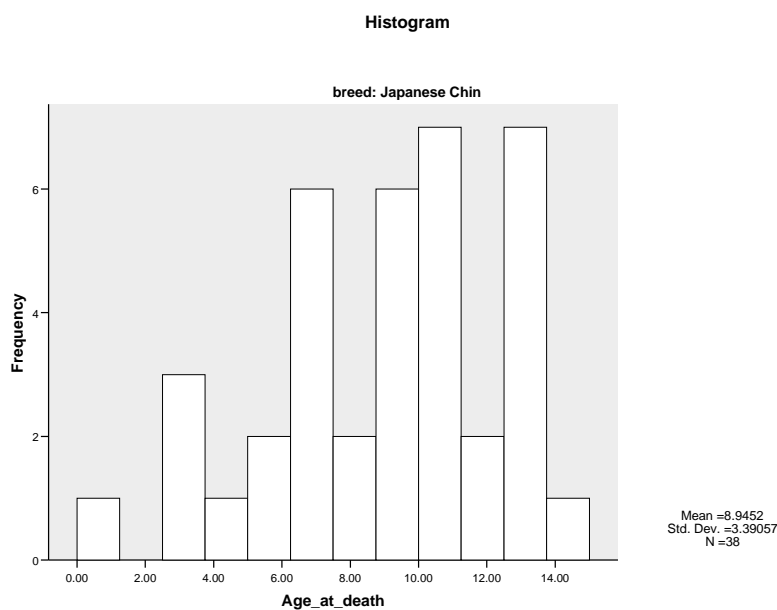


Figure 1. Histogram showing the frequency (as number of dogs) of age at death (in years) for the 38 Japanese Chin deaths with age at death reported.

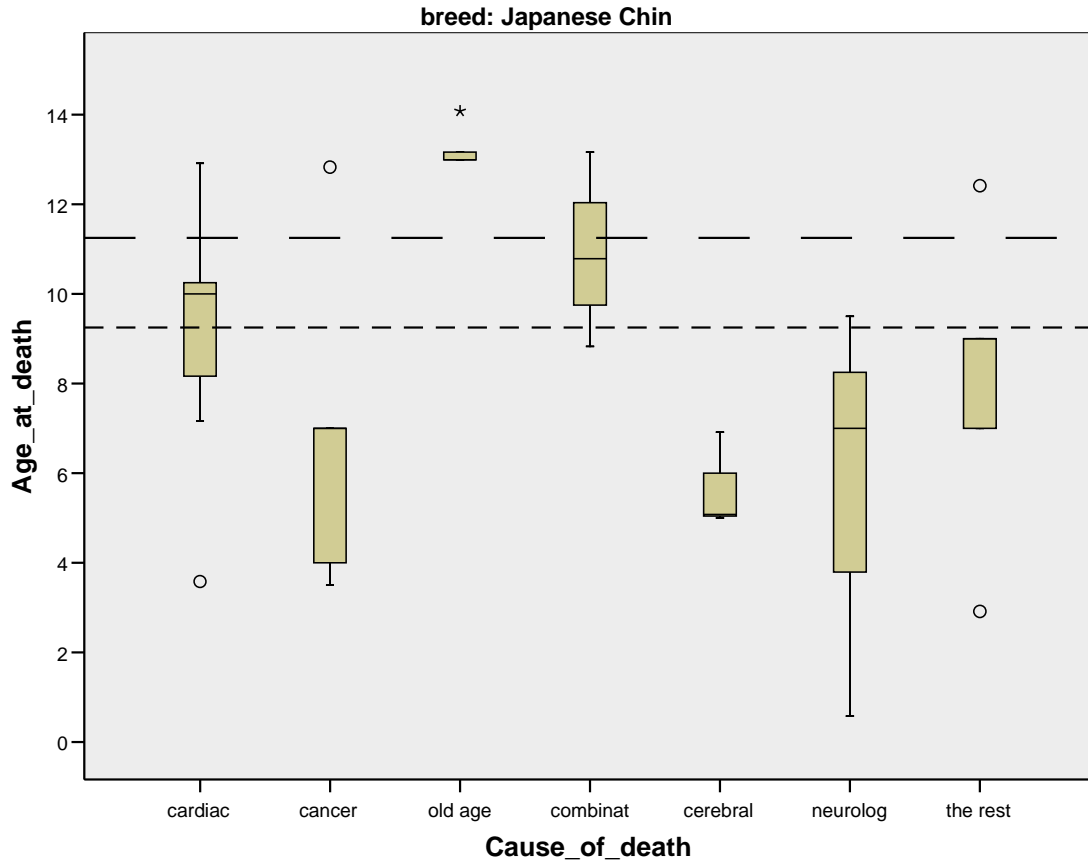


Figure 2. Box and whisker plot of age at death in years for the most common causes of death in the Japanese Chin breed (N=38). The dashed line (---) is the overall median age at death for all dogs in the survey and the dotted line (----) is the overall median age of death for the Japanese Chin breed. The solid line within each grey box represents the median age at death from the condition.

Morbidity data

The median current age of the 112 live dogs with a reported age was 4 years and 7 months (min=4 months, max=14 years and 1 month, Figure 3). Health information was reported for 113 live dogs of which 68 (60%) were healthy and 45 (40%) had at least one reported health condition, resulting in a total of 65 reported conditions with a median of 1 condition/dog (min=1, max=3).

The median current age of all healthy dogs with a reported age (N=68) was 4 years (min=4 months, max=14 years and 1 month). The distribution of gender and neuter status is shown in Table 2.

The median current age of all dogs with one or more disease conditions and a reported age (N=43) was 5 years and 2 months (min=8 months, max=12 years). The median age at diagnosis for all disease occurrences with a reported age at diagnosis (N=61) was 2 years and 3 months (min= 2 months, max= 11 years, Figure 4). Table 3 shows the disease conditions for the Japanese Chin breed. Age at diagnosis is presented for the most common disease conditions (Figure 5).

Table 2. Distribution of gender and neuter status for the 111 Japanese Chin breed with reported gender and neuter status.

| Gender | Neuter status | | Totals |
|--------|---------------|----------|------------|
| | Intact | Neutered | |
| Female | 55 | 12 | 67 (60%) |
| Male | 34 | 10 | 44 (40%) |
| Totals | 89 (80%) | 22 (20%) | 111 (100%) |

There was no association between gender and neuter status (P=0.5335).

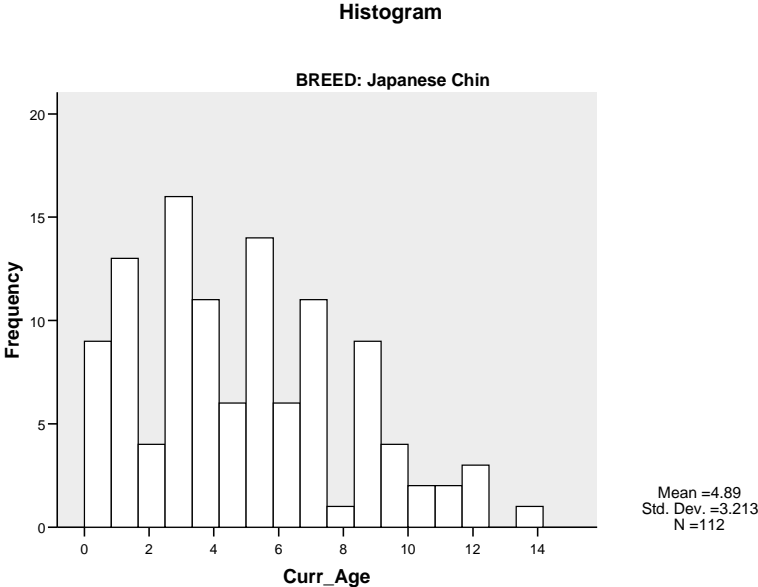


Figure 3. Histogram showing frequency of current age in years for the 112 live Japanese Chin breed with age reported.

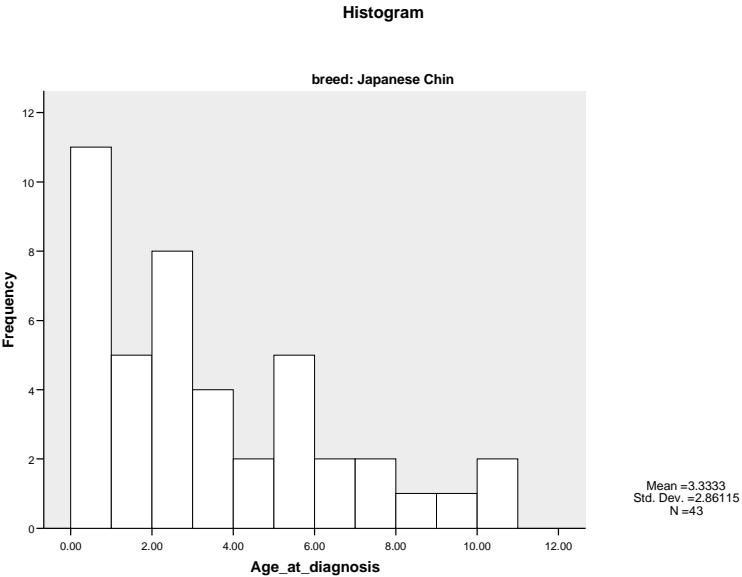


Figure 4. Histogram showing frequency of age at diagnosis for the 43 Japanese Chin breed with one or more disease conditions, using the youngest age at which a disease condition was first reported for those dogs with more than one disease condition or episode.

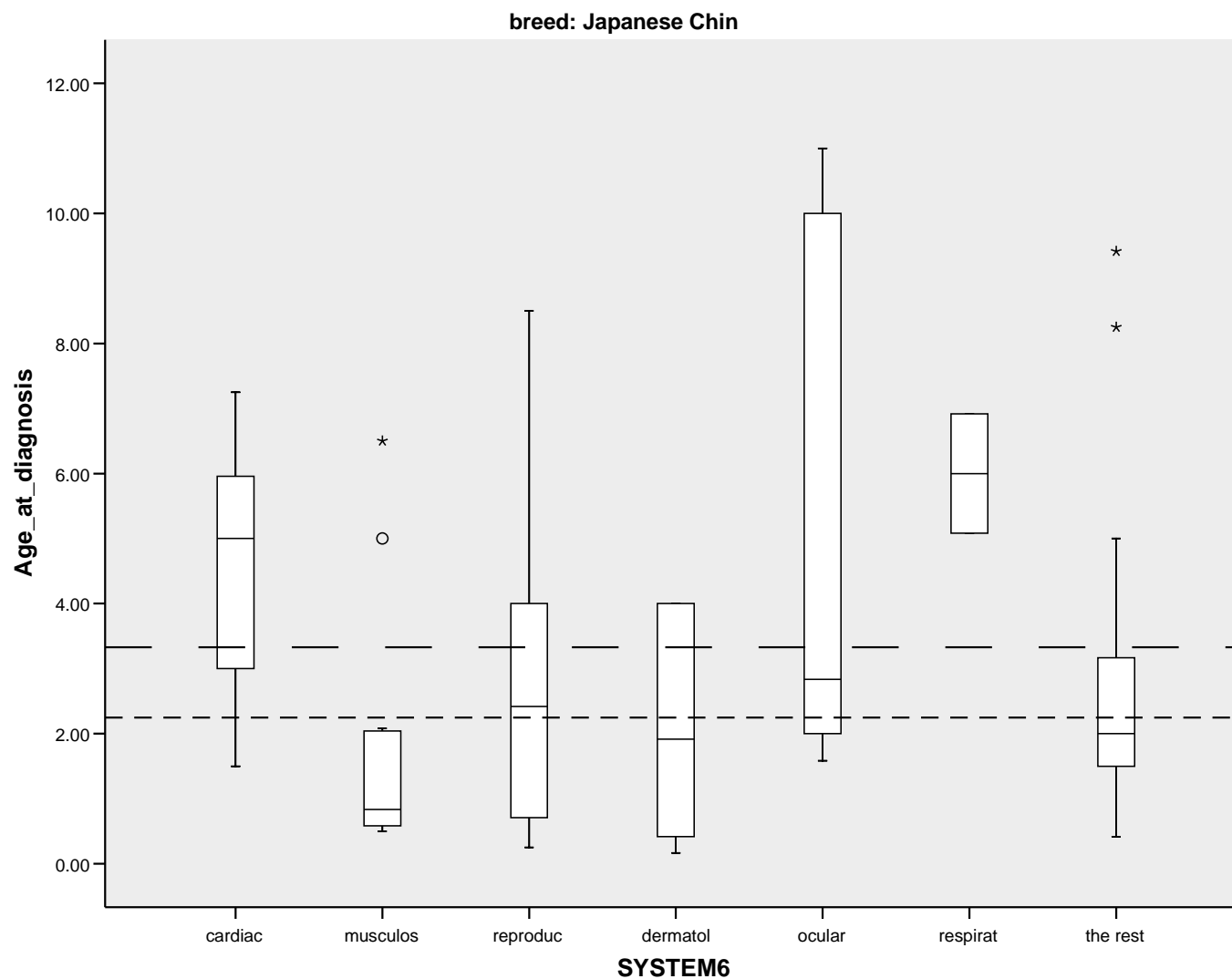


Figure 5. Box and whisker plot of age at diagnosis in years for the most common disease conditions in descending order for the Japanese Chin breed (N=43 dogs with 61 conditions with age reported). The dashed line (---) is the overall median age at diagnosis for all dogs in the survey and the dotted line (----) is the overall median age at diagnosis for the Japanese Chin breed. The solid line within each grey box represents the median age at diagnosis from the condition.

Table 3. Disease conditions by organ system/category for the Japanese Chin breed.

| Disease condition | All conditions | | Most common specific conditions in descending order |
|---------------------|----------------|-------|--|
| | N | % | |
| 1 Cardiac | 14 | 21.5 | Heart murmur (unspecified>grade 3=grade 5>with clinical signs); MVD |
| 2 Musculoskeletal | 12 | 18.5 | Patellar luxation; arthritis (forelimb=hindlimb); CHD |
| 3 Reproductive | 12 | 18.5 | Pyometra; dystochia (uterine inertia>physical blockage); cryptorchid |
| 4 Dermatologic | 6 | 9.2 | Dermatitis; mites (cheyletiella) |
| 5 Ocular | 5 | 7.7 | Cataracts; KCS; distichiasis; corneal ulcer |
| 6 Aural | 3 | 4.6 | Otitis externa; ear mites |
| 7 Respiratory | 3 | 4.6 | Coughing |
| 8 Other | 3 | 4.6 | Uncodeable |
| 9 Neurologic | 2 | 3.1 | Seizures |
| 10 Cancer | 1 | 1.5 | Unspecified |
| 11 Cerebrovascular | 1 | 1.5 | Stroke or cerebral vascular accident |
| 12 Dental | 1 | 1.5 | Dental disease |
| 13 Gastrointestinal | 1 | 1.5 | Bowel disorder unspecified |
| 14 Urologic | 1 | 1.5 | Cystouroliths unspecified |
| Total | 65 | 100.0 | |