

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

Summary results of the
Purebred Dog Health Survey
for Miniature Schnauzers

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%.

Miniature Schnauzers

A total of 583 forms were sent out and 289 were returned, representing 586 live dogs. This breed had a 49.6% response rate (289/583) and it represented 2.10% of all returns (289/13,741).

Mortality data

A total of 214 deaths were reported and this represents 1.35% of all deaths reported in the survey (214/15,881). The median age at death for Miniature Schnauzers was 12 years and 1 month (min = 7 months, max = 18 years and 2 months) and this was higher than the overall median of 11 years and 3 months (Figure 1). Table 1 shows the causes of death for Miniature Schnauzers. Age at death is presented for the most common causes of death (Figure 2).

Table 1. Causes of death by organ system/category for Miniature Schnauzers.

Cause of death	N	%	Most common specific causes in descending order
1 Cancer	46	21.5	Type unspecified (liver, stomach)
2 Old age	36	16.8	Old age and age combinations
3 Cardiac	25	11.7	Heart failure; heart attack; heart defect unspecified
4 Neurologic	14	6.5	Seizures; IVDD; spondylosis; unspecified
5 Combinations	13	6.1	
6 Hepatic	11	5.1	Liver disease (unspecified); liver failure
7 Cerebral vascular	9	4.2	Stroke or cerebral vascular accident
8 Endocrine	8	3.7	Cushings disease; diabetes mellitus; diabetes insipidus
9 Gastrointestinal	7	3.3	Pancreatitis; haemorrhagic gastroenteritis (HGE)
10 Other	7	3.3	Uncodeable
11 Urologic	7	3.3	Chronic kidney failure
12 Perioperative	4	1.9	
13 Respiratory	4	1.9	Choked; tracheal collapse; unspecified
14 Reproductive	3	1.4	Pyometra
15 Unknown	3	1.4	
16 Ocular	2	0.9	Blindness
17 Senility	2	0.9	
18 Trauma	2	0.9	Attacked by dog; unspecified
19 Portosystemic shunt (PSS)	1	0.5	
20 Behaviour	1	0.5	Unspecified behavioural problem
21 Cardiovascular	1	0.5	Unspecified
22 Hyperthermia	1	0.5	
23 Immune mediated	1	0.5	Haemolytic anaemia
24 Infection	1	0.5	Viral (unspecified)
25 Internal bleeding	1	0.5	
26 Musculoskeletal	1	0.5	Arthritis
27 Poisoning	1	0.5	
28 Septicaemia	1	0.5	
29 Sudden death	1	0.5	
Total	214	100.0	

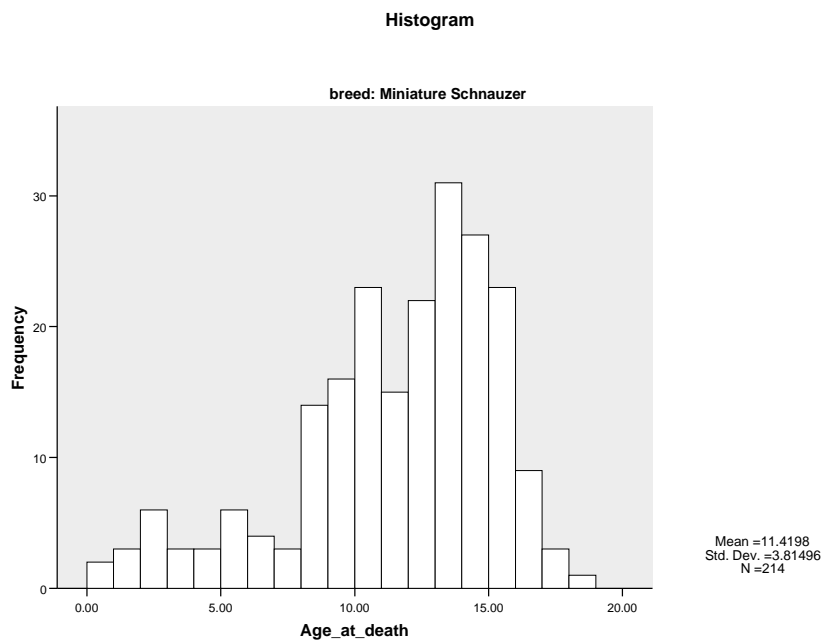


Figure 1. Histogram showing the frequency (as number of dogs) of age at death (in years) for the 214 Miniature Schnauzer deaths with age at death reported.

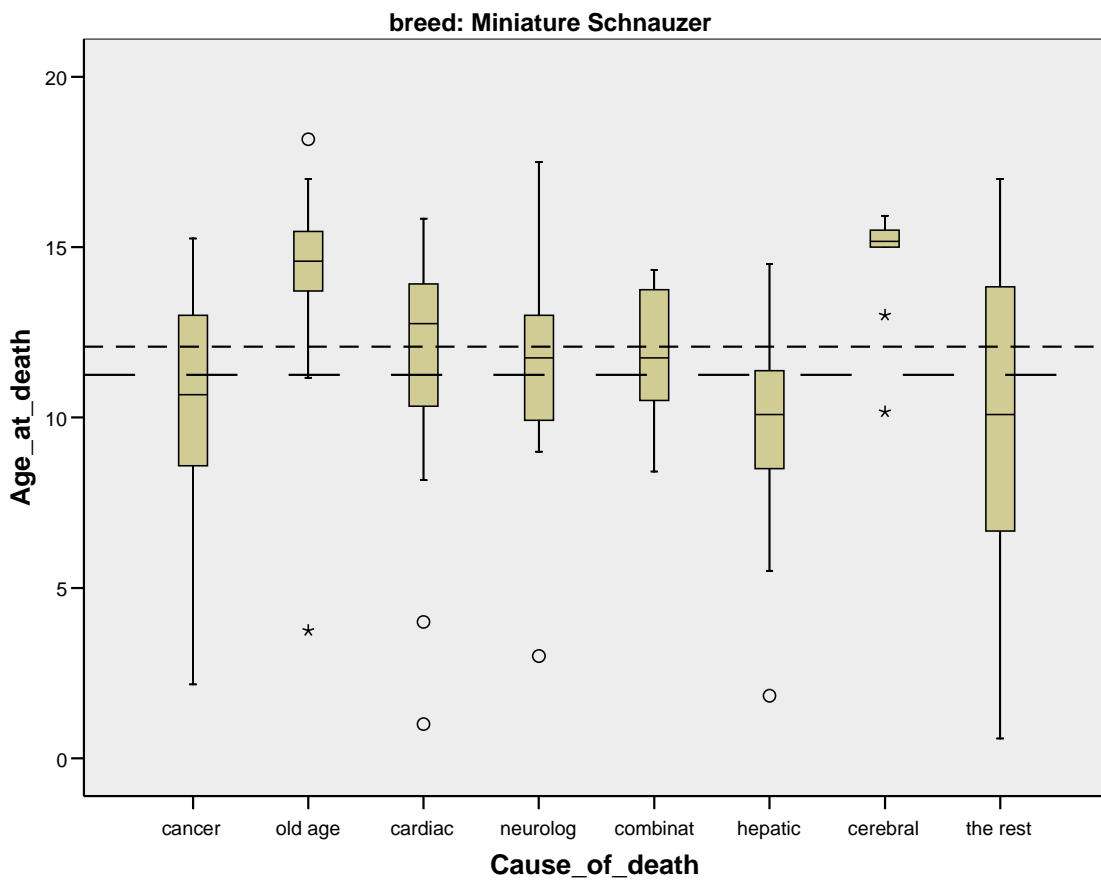


Figure 2. Box and whisker plot of age at death in years for the most common causes of death in Miniature Schnauzers (N=214). The dashed line (---) is the overall median age at death for all dogs in the survey and the dotted line (----) is the overall median age of death for Miniature Schnauzers. The solid line within each grey box represents the median age at death from the condition.

Morbidity data

The median current age of the 584 live dogs with a reported age was 4 years and 7 months (min=2 months, max=16 years and 6 months, Figure 3). Health information was reported for 586 live dogs of which 393 (67%) were healthy and 193 (33%) had at least one reported health condition, resulting in a total of 388 reported conditions with a median of 1 condition/dog (min=1, max=9).

The median current age of all healthy dogs with a reported age (N=393) was 3 years and 4 months (min=2 months, max=15 years and 9 months). 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=186) was 7 years and 9 months (min=8 months, max=16 years and 6 months). The median age at diagnosis for all disease occurrences with a reported age at diagnosis (N=374) was 5 years (min= 2 months, max= 14 years and 3 months, Figure 4). Table 3 shows the disease conditions for Miniature Schnauzers. Age at diagnosis is presented for the most common disease conditions (Figure 5).

Table 2. Distribution of gender and neuter status for 586 Miniature Schnauzers with reported gender and neuter status.

Gender	Neuter status		Totals
	Intact	Neutered	
Female	185	187	372 (63%)
Male	163	51	214 (37%)
Totals	348 (59%)	238 (41%)	586 (100%)

Significantly more females were neutered (P<0.0001).

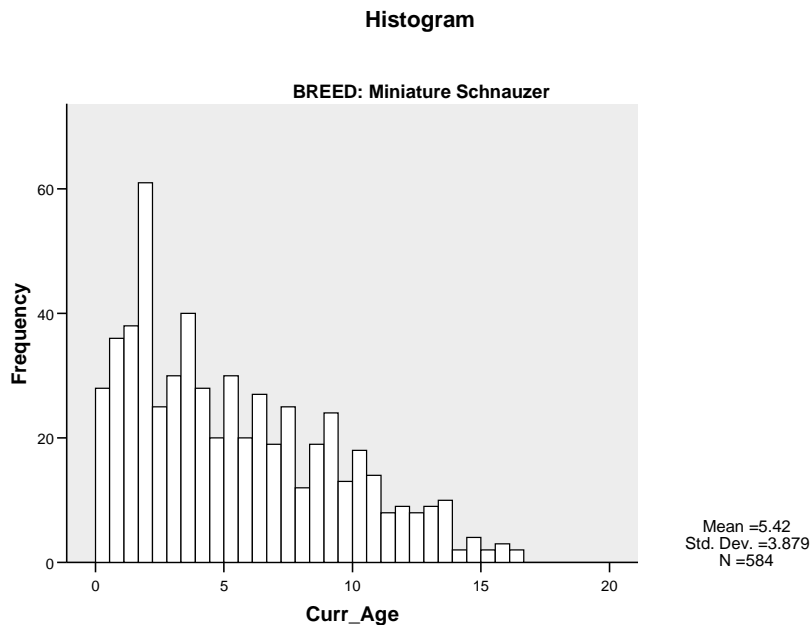


Figure 3. Histogram showing frequency of current age in years for the 584 live Miniature Schnauzers with age reported.

Histogram

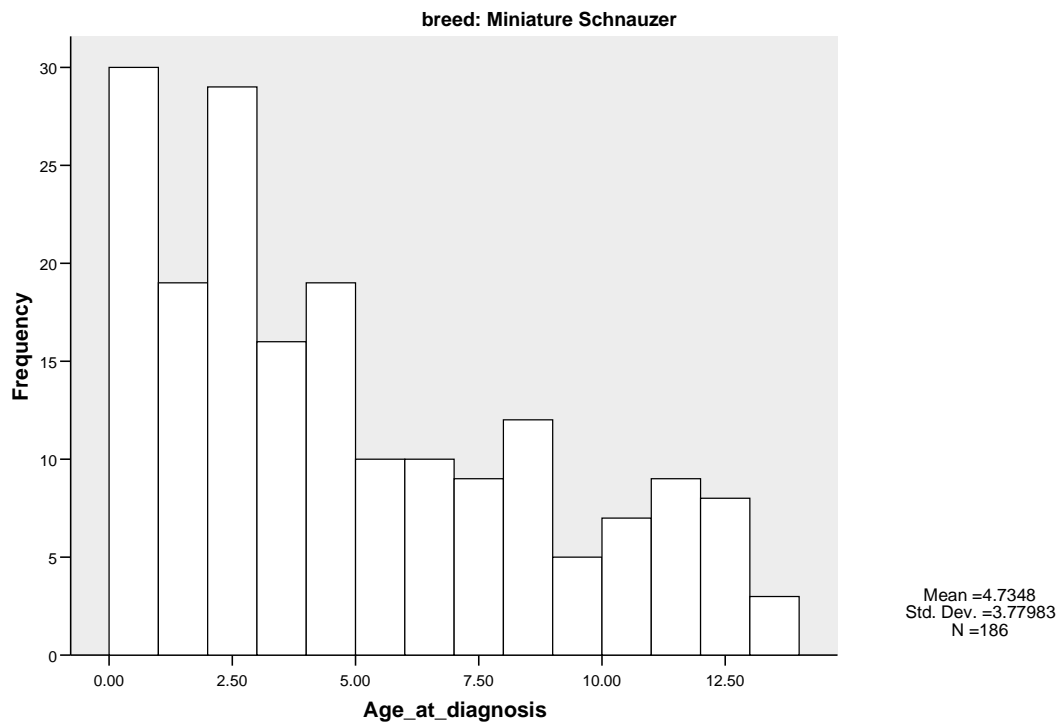


Figure 4. Histogram showing frequency of age at diagnosis for the 186 Miniature Schnauzers with one or more disease conditions, using the youngest age at which a disease condition was first reported for those dogs with more than one disease condition or episode.

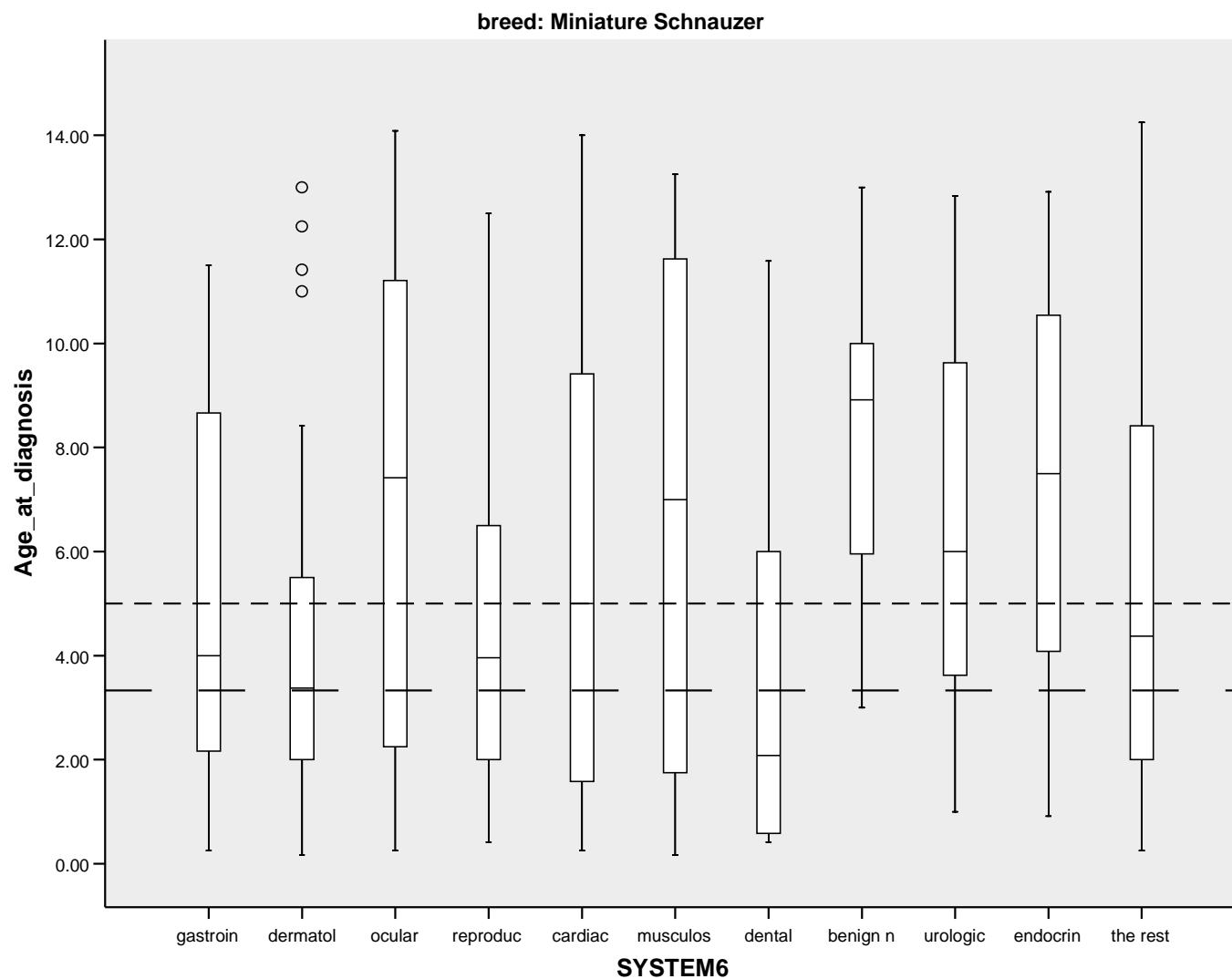


Figure 5. Box and whisker plot of age at diagnosis in years for the most common disease conditions in descending order for Miniature Schnauzers (N=186 dogs with 374 conditions with age reported). The dashed line (---) is the overall median age at diagnosis for all dogs in the survey and the dotted line (----) is the overall median age at diagnosis for Miniature Schnauzers. 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 Miniature Schnauzers.

Disease condition	All conditions		Most common specific conditions in descending order
	N	%	
1 Gastrointestinal	46	11.9	Pancreatitis; colitis; haemorrhagic gastroenteritis
2 Dermatologic	42	10.8	Dermatitis; alopecia; recurrent pyoderma; pyotraumatic dermatitis; fungal skin infection
3 Ocular	39	10.1	Cataracts; blocked tear ducts; KCS; epiphora; corneal ulcer; red eye
4 Reproductive	37	9.5	Pyometra; vaginitis; difficulty whelping (unspecified); false pregnancy; infertility
5 Cardiac	33	8.5	Heart murmur (unspecified>without clinical signs>grade 2>rest); arrhythmia
6 Musculoskeletal	29	7.5	Arthritis (hindlimb>unspecified>spine>rest); prognathism; CHD
7 Dental	26	6.7	Retained puppy teeth; dental disease; defect other than extra teeth
8 Benign neoplasia	24	6.2	Lipoma; adenoma (anal); cysts (leg); unspecified (neck)
9 Urologic	19	4.9	Cystouroliths (unspecified>struvite>calcium oxalate=cystine); cystitis; incontinence
10 Endocrine	16	4.1	Hypothyroidism; Cushing's disease; diabetes mellitus; hyperthyroidism; pituitary dwarfism
11 Immune mediated	16	4.1	Food allergy; flea allergy; atopy; other allergy (unspecified)
12 Neurologic	14	3.6	Seizures; IVDD (unspecified>lumbar); meningitis
13 Cancer	12	3.1	Type unspecified (skin>rest); carcinoma (liver)
14 Respiratory	11	2.8	Kennel cough; bronchitis; rhinitis; noisy breathing; respiratory infection
15 Aural	6	1.5	Otitis externa; excessive ear wax; ear mites
16 Unknown	5	1.3	Undiagnosed or unknown; undiagnosed liver disease
17 Behaviour	3	0.8	Unspecified
18 Other	3	0.8	Uncodeable
19 Anal gland	2	0.5	Anal sacculitis
20 Cerebrovascular	2	0.5	Stroke or cerebral vascular accident
21 Haematopoietic	1	0.3	Bleeding disorder unspecified
22 Hepatic	1	0.3	Unspecified
23 Trauma	1	0.3	Spine
Total	388	100.0	