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

Summary results of the
Purebred Dog Health Survey
for Airedale Terriers

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%.

<u>Airedale Terriers</u>

A total of 260 forms were sent out and 66 were returned, representing 153 live dogs. This breed had a 25.4 % response rate (66/260) and it represented 0.48% of all returns (66/13,741).

Mortality data
A total of 81 deaths were reported and this represents 0.51 % of all deaths reported in the survey (81/15,881). The median age at death for Airedale Terriers was 10 years and 9 months (min = 8 months, max = 16 years and 2 months) and this was lower than the overall median of 11 years and 3 months (Figure 1). Table 1 shows the causes of death for Airedale Terriers. Age at death is presented for the most common causes of death (Figure 2).

Table 1. Causes of death by organ system/category for Airedale Terriers.

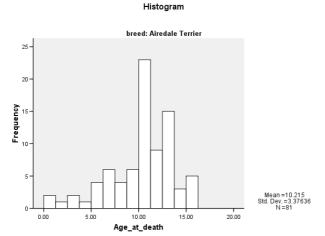| Cause of death	No. of deaths	% of deaths	Most common specific causes in descending order
1 Cancer	32	39.5	Type unspecified, lymphoma, leukaemia
2 Old age	11	13.6	Old age
3 Urologic	7	8.6	Bladder rupture, chronic kidney failure
4 Cardiac	6	7.4	Heart failure, heart disease and heart defect unspecified
5 Unknown	4	4.9	
6 Cerebral vascular	3	3.7	Stroke or cerebral vascular accident
7 Hepatic	3	3.7	Chronic liver failure
8 Other	3	3.7	Uncodeable
9 Reproductive	3	3.7	Pyometra, prostatic disease
10 Combinations	2	2.5	
11 Neurologic	2	2.5	Seizures, Wobblers syndrome
12 Poisoning	2	2.5	
13 Behaviour	1	1.2	Unspecified
14 Immune mediated	1	1.2	Haemolytic anaemia
15 Trauma	1	1.2	Road traffic accident
Total	81	100.0	

Figure 1. Histogram showing the frequency (as number of dogs) of age at death (in years) for the 81 Airedale Terrier deaths with age at death reported.
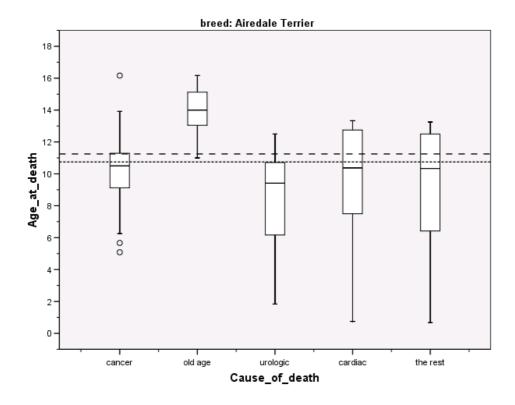
Figure 2. Box and whisker plot of age at death in years for the most common causes of death in Airedale Terriers (N=81). The dashed line (– – –) is the overall median age at death for all dogs in the survey and the dotted line (----) is the overall median age of death for Airedale Terriers. The solid line within each grey box represents the median age at death from the condition.

Morbidity data

The median current age of the 153 live dogs with a reported age was 4 years and 6 months (min=1 month, max=15 years and 1 month, Figure 3). Health information was reported for 153 live dogs of which 107 (70%) were healthy and 46 (30%) had at least one reported health condition, resulting in a total of 84 reported conditions with a median of 1 condition/dog (min=1, max=7).

The median current age of all healthy dogs with a reported age (N=107) was 3 years and 6 months (min=1 month, max=12 years and 3 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=46) was 7 years and 7 months (min=11 months, max=15 years and 1 month). The median age at diagnosis for all disease occurrences with a reported age at diagnosis (N=79) was 4 years and 4 months (min= 4 months, max= 15 years, Figure 4). Table 3 shows the disease conditions for Airedale Terriers. Age at diagnosis is presented for the most common disease conditions (Figure 5).

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Table 2. Distribution of gender and neuter status for 151 Airedale Terriers with reported gender and neuter status.

	Neuter status		
Gender	Intact	Neutered	Totals
Female	71	30	101 (67%)
Male	41	9	50 (33%)
Totals	112 (74%)	39 (26%)	151 (100%)

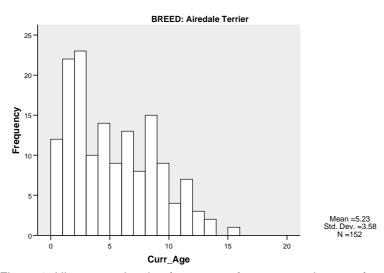There was no association between gender and neuter status (P=0.1).

Histogram

Figure 3. Histogram showing frequency of current age in years for the 152 live Airedale Terriers with age reported.

Histogram

Figure 4. Histogram showing frequency of age at diagnosis for the 43 Airedale Terriers 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.
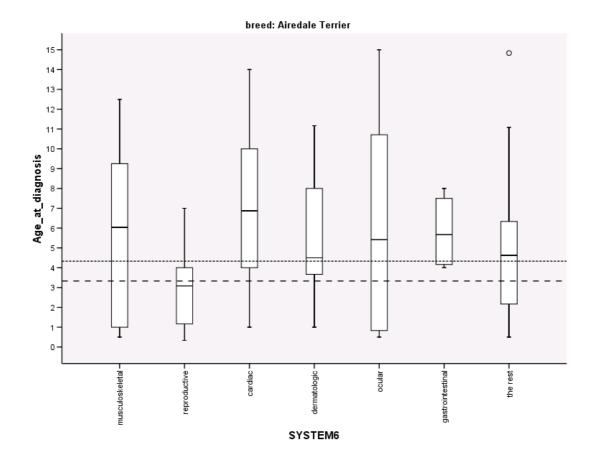
breed: Airedale Terrier

Figure 5. Box and whisker plot of age at diagnosis in years for the most common disease conditions in descending order for Airedale Terriers (N=79 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 Airedale Terriers. 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 Airedale Terriers.

	Disease condition	All conditions N	%	Prevalence %	Most common specific conditions in descending order
1	Musculoskeletal	14	16.7	9.15	Arthritis, tendon injury, bone malformation unspecified, hip dysplasia
2	Reproductive	14	16.7	9.15	Uterine inertia (failure to push), spontaneous abortion, pyometra, prostatomegaly, polycystic ovaries, irregular heats, false pregnancy, cryptorchid
3	Cardiac	10	11.9	6.54	Arrhythmia, heart murmur
4	Dermatologic	9	10.7	5.88	Dermatitis, pyotraumatic dermatitis, perianal fistula, hairloss
5	Ocular	8	9.5	5.23	Ingrowing eyelashes (trichiasis), epiphora, entropion, cataracts, blocked tear duct
6	Respiratory	5	6.0	3.27	Infection, noisy breathing, kennel cough
7	Gastrointestinal	4	4.8	2.61	Pancreatitis, inflammatory bowel disease (IBD)
8	Urologic	4	4.8	2.61	Urate cystouroliths (bladder stones), haematuria (blood in urine), cystitis (bladder infection)
9	Dental	3	3.6	1.96	Retained puppy teeth, dental deformity other than extra teeth
10	Endocrine	3	3.6	1.96	Weight gain undiagnosed, Addisons disease (hypoadrenocorticism), hair loss undiagnosed
11	Immune mediated	3	3.6	1.96	Flea allergy
12	Aural	2	2.4	1.31	Otitis externa
13	Neurologic	2	2.4	1.31	Seizures, lumbosacral disorder
14	Benign neoplasia	1	1.2	0.65	Unspecified
15	Cancer	1	1.2	0.65	Type unspecified
16	Unknown	1	1.2	0.65	
	Total	84	100.0	54.90	