

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

Summary results of the
Purebred Dog Health Survey
for the Basenji 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 Basenji breed

A total of 171 forms were sent out and 40 were returned, representing 78 live dogs. This breed had a 23.4 % response rate (40/171) and it represented 0.29% of all returns (40/13,741).

Mortality data

A total of 46 deaths were reported and this represents 0.29 % of all deaths reported in the survey (46/15,881). The median age at death for the Basenji breed was 13 years and 7 months (min = 11 months, max = 17 years and 6 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 the Basenji 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 Basenji breed.

Cause of death	No. of deaths	% of deaths	Most common specific causes in descending order
1 Old age	14	30.4	Old age & age combinations
2 Urologic	6	13.0	Incontinence, Fanconi's syndrome, chronic kidney failure
3 Behaviour	4	8.7	Unspecified, aggression
4 Cancer	4	8.7	
5 Cardiac	3	6.5	Heart failure, heart defect unspecified, cardiomegaly
6 Cerebral vascular	3	6.5	Stroke or cerebral vascular accident
7 Neurologic	3	6.5	Seizures, deafness, intervertebral disc disease
8 Combinations	2	4.3	
9 Other	2	4.3	Uncodeable
10 Endocrine	1	2.2	Diabetes mellitus
11 Hepatic	1	2.2	Chronic liver failure
12 Immune mediated	1	2.2	Unspecified
13 Poisoning	1	2.2	
14 Trauma	1	2.2	
Total	46	100.0	

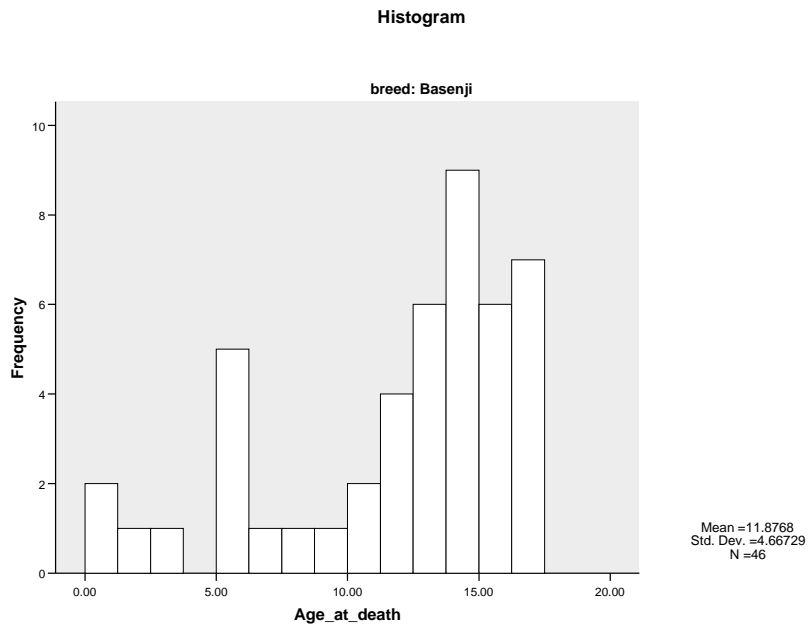


Figure 1. Histogram showing frequency (number of dogs) of age at death (in years) for the 46 Basenji deaths with age at death reported.

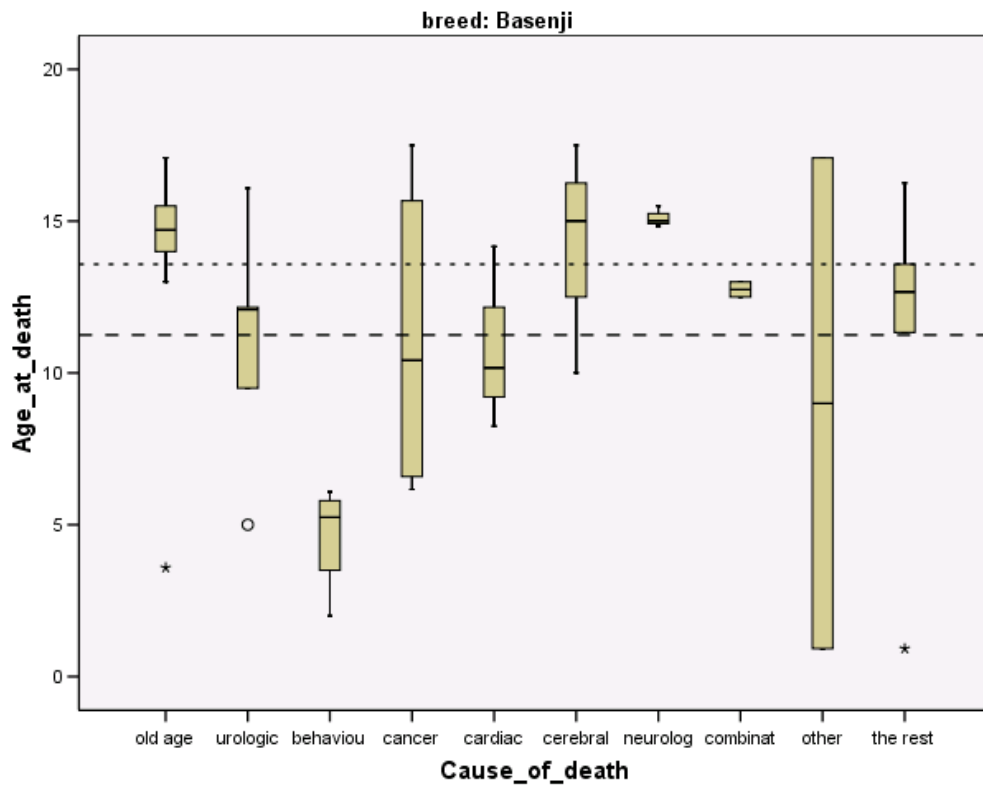


Figure 2. Box and whisker plot of age at death in years for the most common causes of death in the Basenji breed (N=46). The dashed line (---) is the overall median age at death for all dogs in the survey and the dotted line (----) is the overall median age of death for the Basenji breed. The solid line within each grey box represents the median age at death from the condition.

Morbidity data

The median current age of the 78 live dogs with a reported age was 6 years and 6 months (min=4 months, max=15 years and 2 months, Figure 3). Health information was reported for 78 live dogs of which 52 (67%) were healthy and 26 (33%) had at least one reported health condition, resulting in a total of 38 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=52) was 6 years and 1 month (min=4 months, max=14 years and 2 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=26) was 7 years and 9 months (min=1 year and 2 months, max=15 years and 2 months). The median age at diagnosis for all disease occurrences with a reported age at diagnosis (N=37) was 5 years (min= 1 month, max= 14 years and 7 months, Figure 4). Table 3 shows the disease conditions for the Basenji breed. Age at diagnosis is presented for the most common disease conditions (Figure 5).

Table 2. Distribution of gender and neuter status for 77 the Basenji breed with reported gender and neuter status.

Gender	Neuter status		Totals
	Intact	Neutered	
Female	23	19	42 (55%)
Male	30	5	35 (45%)
Totals	53 (69%)	24 (31%)	77 (100%)

Significantly more females were neutered (P=0.0035).

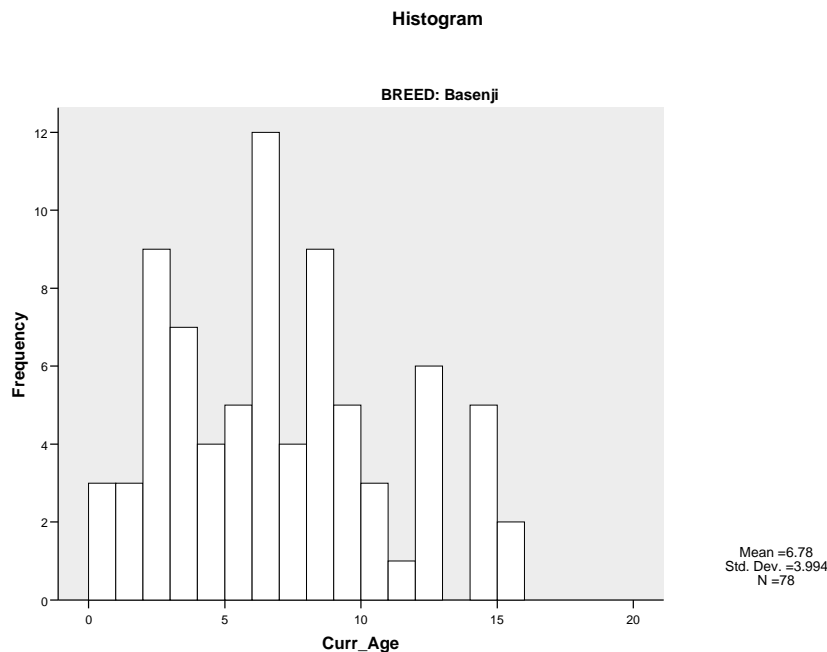


Figure 3. Histogram showing frequency of current age in years for the 78 live the Basenji breed with age reported.

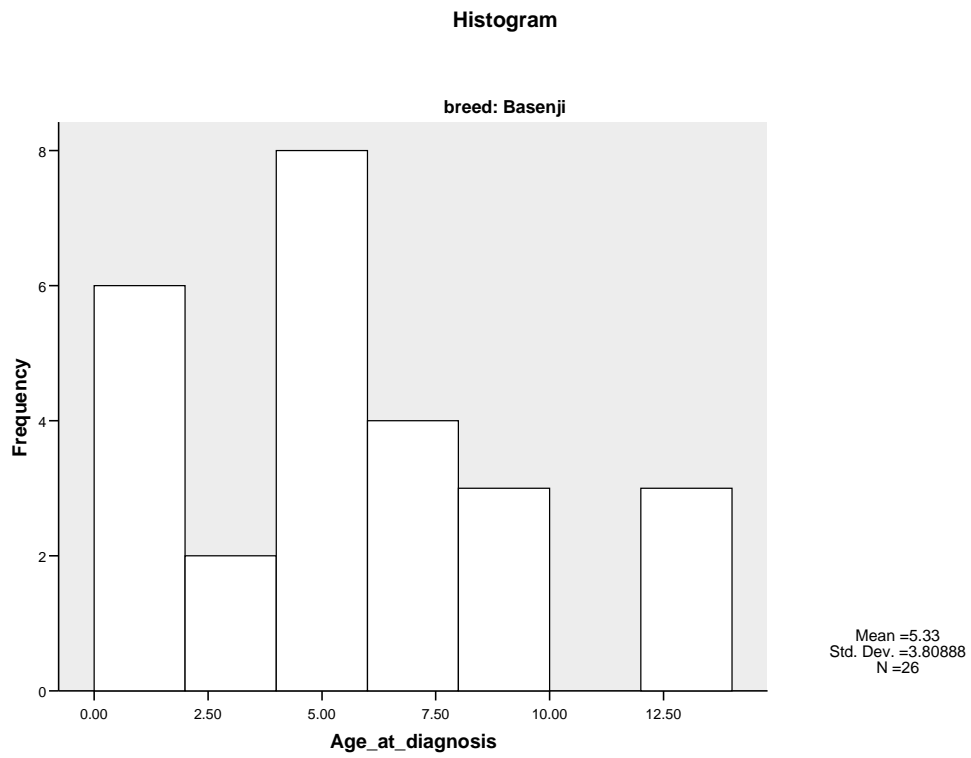


Figure 4. Histogram showing frequency of age at diagnosis for the 26 the Basenji breed with one or more disease conditions, using the youngest age at which a disease condition was first reported for those dogs with more than one disease condition or episode.

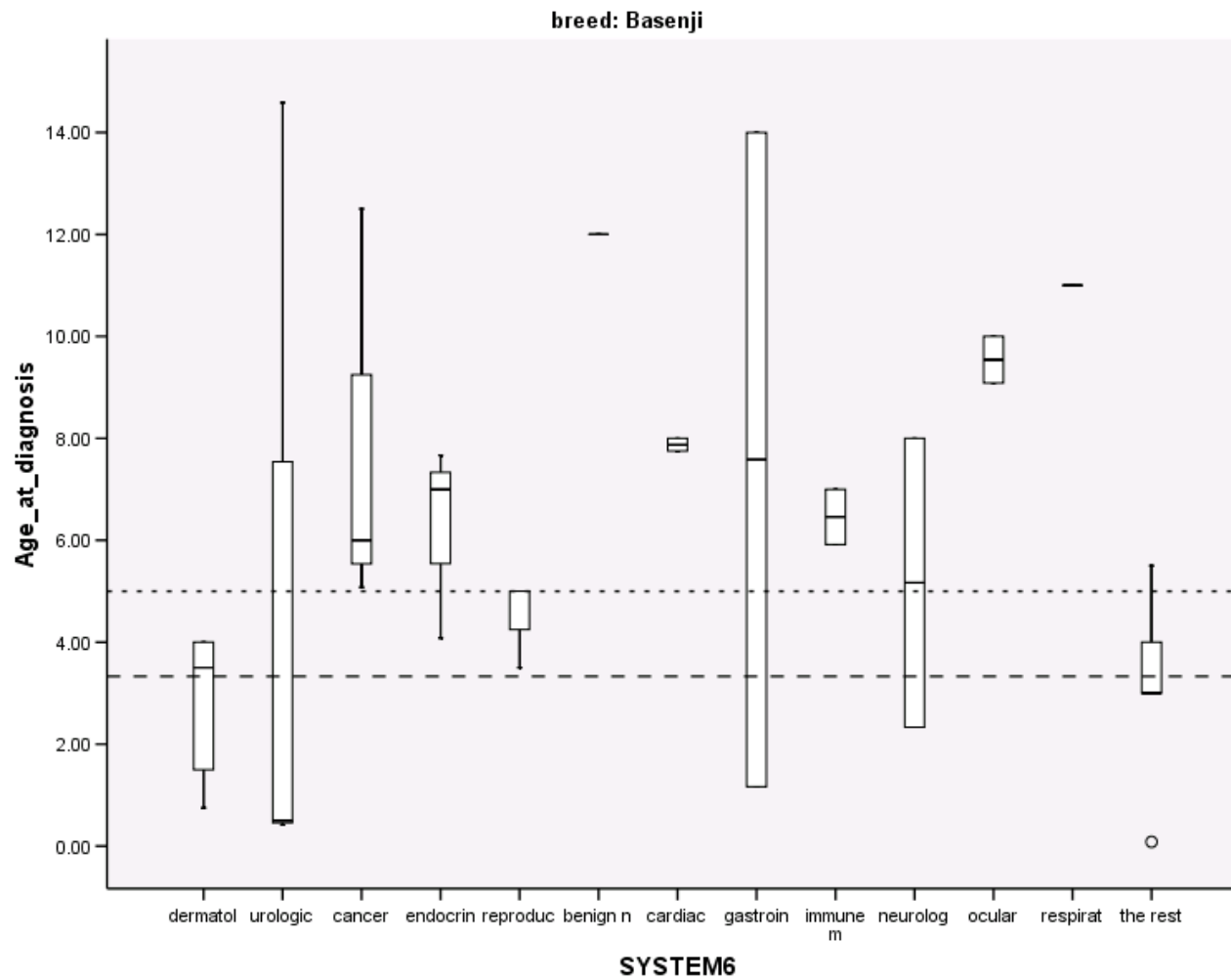


Figure 5. Box and whisker plot of age at diagnosis in years for the most common disease conditions in descending order for the Basenji breed (N=37 conditions with age reported). The dashed line (---) is the overall median age at diagnosis for all dogs in the survey and the dotted line (----) is the overall median age at diagnosis for the Basenji 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 Basenji breed.

Disease condition	All conditions		Prevalence	Most common specific conditions in descending order
	N	%	%	
1 Dermatologic	7	18.4	8.97	Dermatitis, pyoderma, hair loss, fading nose pigment, demodex
2 Urologic	4	10.5	5.13	Incontinence, cystitis (bladder infection)
3 Cancer	3	7.9	3.85	Type unspecified
4 Endocrine	3	7.9	3.85	Hypothyroidism
5 Reproductive	3	7.9	3.85	Pyometra, infertility
6 Benign neoplasia	2	5.3	2.56	Lipoma
7 Cardiac	2	5.3	2.56	Heart murmur
8 Gastrointestinal	2	5.3	2.56	Weight loss, regurgitation
9 Immune mediated	2	5.3	2.56	Autoimmune haemolytic anemia, atopy (inhalant allergy)
10 Musculoskeletal	2	5.3	2.56	Arthritis, hip dysplasia
11 Neurologic	2	5.3	2.56	Seizures
12 Ocular	2	5.3	2.56	Corneal ulcer
13 Unknown	2	5.3	2.56	Undiagnosed illness
14 Respiratory	1	2.6	1.28	Coughing
15 Other	1	2.6	1.28	Hernia unspecified
Total	38	100.0	48.72	