

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

Summary results of the
Purebred Dog Health Survey
for Bedlington 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%.

Bedlington Terriers

A total of 200 forms were sent out and 61 were returned, representing 187 live dogs. This breed had a 30.5 % response rate (61/200) and it represented 0.44% of all returns (61/13,741).

Mortality data

A total of 48 deaths were reported and this represents 0.30 % of all deaths reported in the survey (48/15,881). The median age at death for Bedlington Terriers was 13 years and 5 months (min = 1 year and 2 months, max = 18 years and 5 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 Bedlington 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 Bedlington Terriers.

Cause of death	N	%	Most common specific causes in descending order
1 Old age	11	22.9	Old age
2 Urologic	7	14.6	Kidney failure chronic or unspecified
3 Hepatic	6	12.5	Copper Toxicosis; liver disease; liver failure
4 Cancer	5	10.4	Unspecified (mammary); brain tumour; unspecified
5 Trauma	4	8.3	Road traffic accident; unspecified trauma
6 Endocrine	3	6.3	Cushings or hyperadrenocorticism
7 Combinations	2	4.2	Cushings & cancer unspecified; multiple organ failure
8 Cardiac	1	2.1	Heart failure
9 Cerebral vascular	1	2.1	Stroke or cerebral vascular accident
10 Collapse	1	2.1	
11 Gastrointestinal	1	2.1	Colitis or chronic colitis
12 Immune mediated	1	2.1	Unspecified
13 Infection	1	2.1	Viral infection
14 Other	1	2.1	Uncodeable
15 Poisoning	1	2.1	
16 Reproductive	1	2.1	Prostatic disease
17 Senility	1	2.1	
Total	48	100.0	

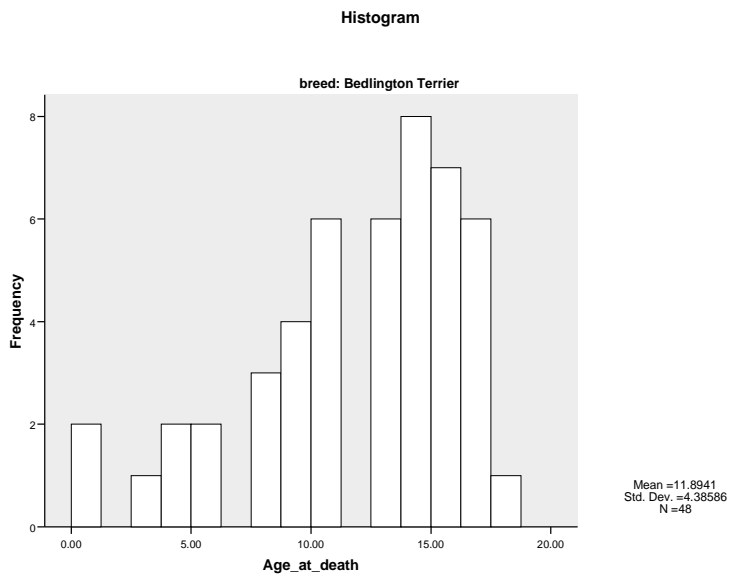


Figure 1. Histogram showing the frequency (as number of dogs) of age at death (in years) for the 48 Bedlington Terrier deaths with age at death reported.

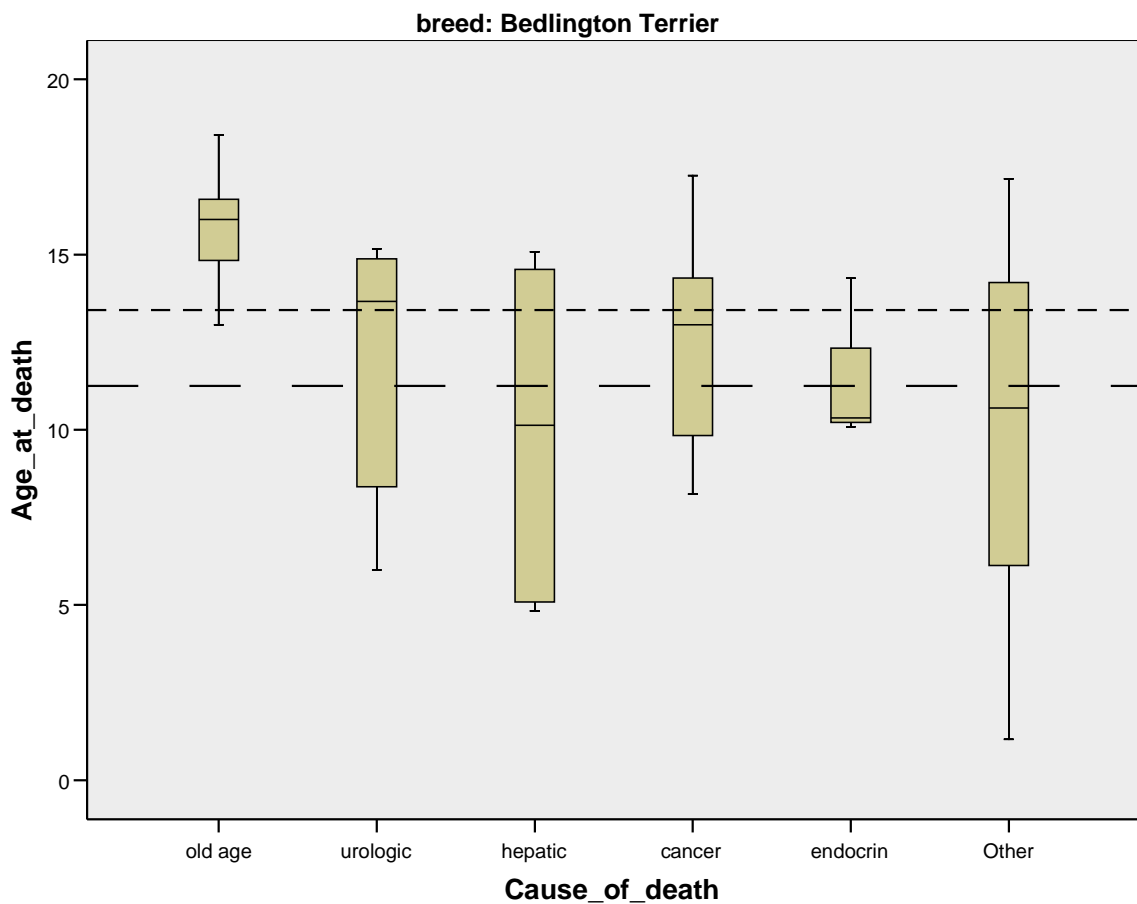


Figure 2. Box and whisker plot of age at death in years for the most common causes of death in Bedlington Terriers (N=48). The dashed line (---) is the overall median age at death for all dogs in the survey and the dotted line (----) is the overall median age of death for Bedlington Terriers. The solid line within each grey box represents the median age at death from the condition.

Morbidity data

The median current age of the 187 live dogs with a reported age was 5 years and 2 months (min=3 months, max=16 years and 1 month, Figure 3). Health information was reported for 187 live dogs of which 130 (70%) were healthy and 57 (30%) had at least one reported health condition, resulting in a total of 87 reported conditions with a median of 1 condition/dog (min=1, max=5).

The median current age of all healthy dogs with a reported age (N=130) was 3 years and 9 months (min=3 months, max=14 years and 4 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=57) was 7 years (min=2 years and 4 months, max=16 years and 1 month). The median age at diagnosis for all disease occurrences with a reported age at diagnosis (N=82) was 3 years and 3 months (min= 3 months, max= 15 years and 8 months, Figure 4). Table 3 shows the disease conditions for Bedlington Terriers. Age at diagnosis is presented for the most common disease conditions (Figure 5).

Table 2. Distribution of gender and neuter status for 186 Bedlington Terriers with reported gender and neuter status.

Gender	Neuter status		Totals
	Intact	Neutered	
Female	90	32	122 (66%)
Male	55	9	64 (34%)
Totals	145 (78%)	41 (22%)	186 (100%)

There was no association between gender and neuter status (P=0.0572).

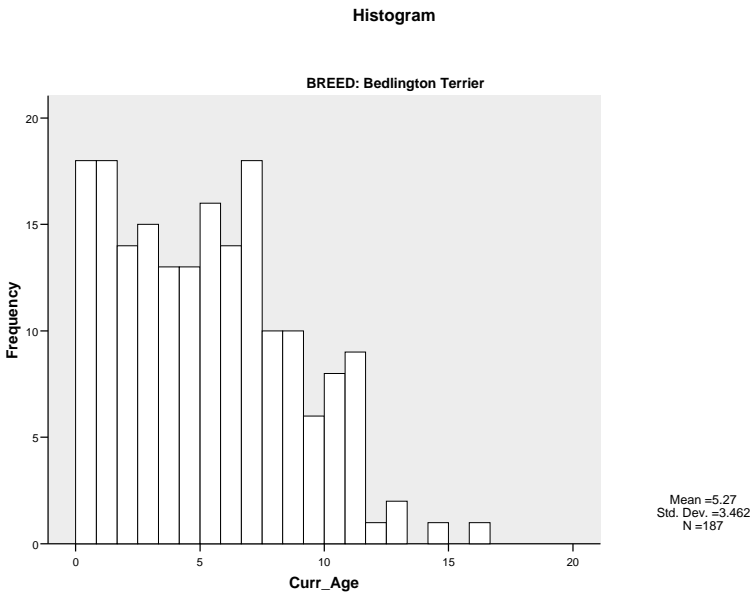


Figure 3. Histogram showing frequency of current age in years for the 187 live Bedlington Terriers with age reported.

Histogram

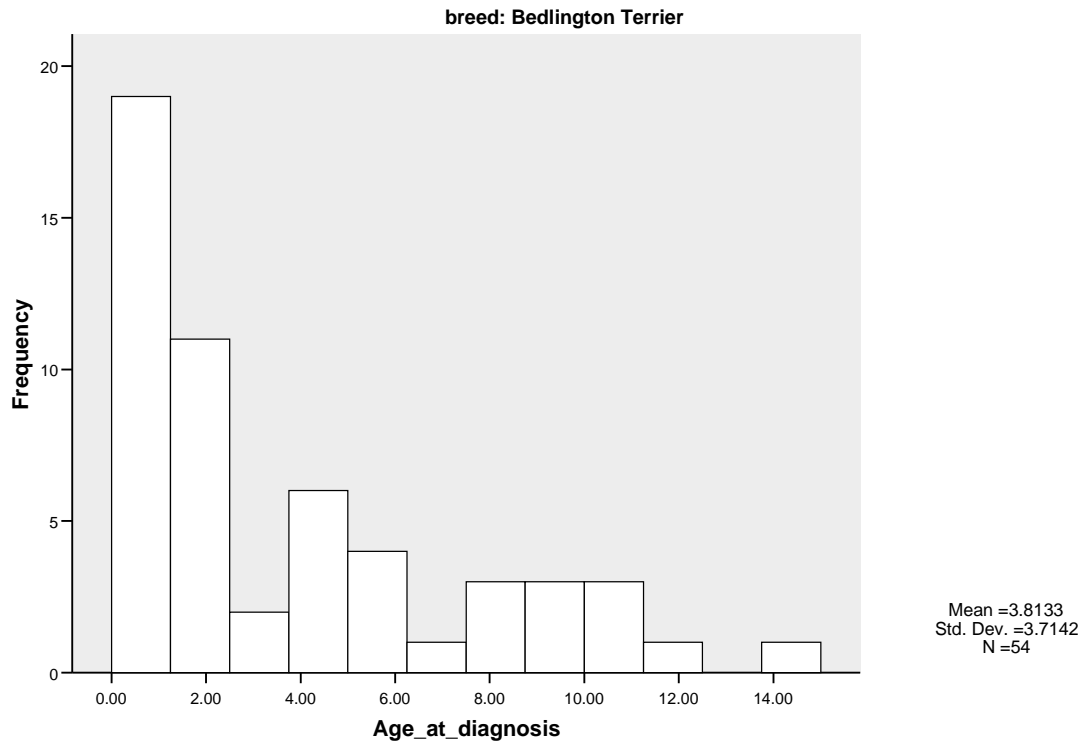


Figure 4. Histogram showing frequency of age at diagnosis for the 54 Bedlington Terriers with one or more disease conditions, using the youngest age at which a disease condition was first reported for those dogs with more than one disease condition or episode.

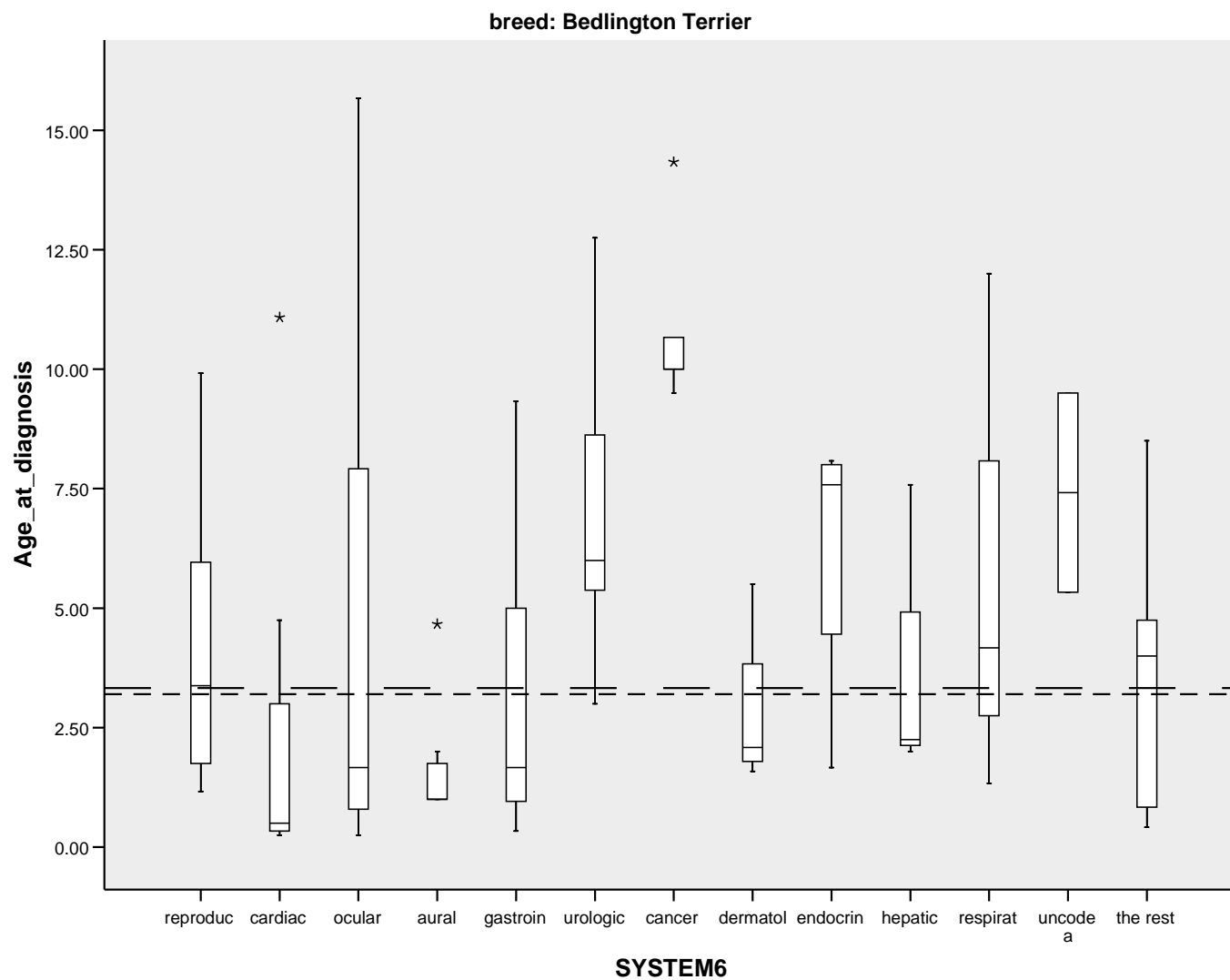


Figure 5. Box and whisker plot of age at diagnosis in years for the most common disease conditions in descending order for Bedlington Terriers (N=57 dogs with 82 conditions with age reported). The dashed line (---) is the overall median age at diagnosis for all dogs in the survey and the dotted line (----) is the overall median age at diagnosis for Bedlington 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 Bedlington Terriers.

Disease condition	All conditions		Most common specific conditions in descending order
	N	%	
1 Reproductive	14	16.1	Infertility; false pregnancy; pyometra
2 Cardiac	10	11.5	Heart murmur
3 Ocular	8	9.2	Epiphora; cataracts; blocked tear duct; glaucoma
4 Aural	7	8.0	Excessive ear wax; otitis externa; ear mites
5 Gastrointestinal	7	8.0	Gastroenteritis; colitis; pancreatitis; vomiting; diarrhoea
6 Urologic	7	8.0	Incontinence; chronic kidney failure
7 Cancer	5	5.7	Type unspecified
8 Dermatologic	4	4.6	Dermatitis; mites (unspecified)
9 Endocrine	4	4.6	Cushings disease; hypothyroidism
10 Hepatic	4	4.6	Copper toxicosis
11 Musculoskeletal	3	3.4	Stiff joints
12 Respiratory	3	3.4	Kennel cough; noisy breathing
13 Immune mediated	2	2.3	Atopy; food allergy
14 Neurologic	2	2.3	Seizures
15 Trauma	2	2.3	Skin
16 Uncode and other	2	2.3	Heat stroke
17 Benign neoplasia	1	1.1	Lipoma
18 Dental	1	1.1	Defect other than extra teeth
19 Unknown	1	1.1	Undiagnosed illness
Total	87	100.0	