

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

Summary results of the
Purebred Dog Health Survey
for Bloodhounds

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%.

Bloodhounds

A total of 180 forms were sent out and 46 were returned, representing 112 live dogs. This breed had a 25.6 % response rate (46/180) and it represented 0.33% of all returns (46/13,741).

Mortality data

A total of 82 deaths were reported and this represents 0.52 % of all deaths reported in the survey (82/15,881). The median age at death for Bloodhounds was 6 years and 9 months (min = 11 months, max = 12 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 Bloodhounds. Age at death is presented for the most common causes of death (Figure 2).

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

Cause of death	No. of deaths	% of deaths	Most common specific causes in descending order
1 Gastrointestinal	28	34.1	Gastric dilatation/volvulus (GDV)
2 Cancer	22	26.8	Lymphoma; type unspecified
3 Other	6	7.3	Uncodeable
4 Old age	5	6.1	Old age
5 Cardiac	4	4.9	Heart failure; heart attack; cardiomyopathy unspecified
6 Neurologic	4	4.9	Spinal disease unspecified
7 Behaviour	2	2.4	Behavioural problem unspecified
8 Musculoskeletal	2	2.4	Arthritis; polymyositis
9 Trauma	2	2.4	Road traffic accident
10 Urologic	2	2.4	Chronic kidney failure
11 Combinations	1	1.2	Multiple organ failure
12 Died	1	1.2	Natural causes
13 Immune mediated	1	1.2	Unspecified
14 Poisoning	1	1.2	
15 Senility	1	1.2	
Total	82	100.0	

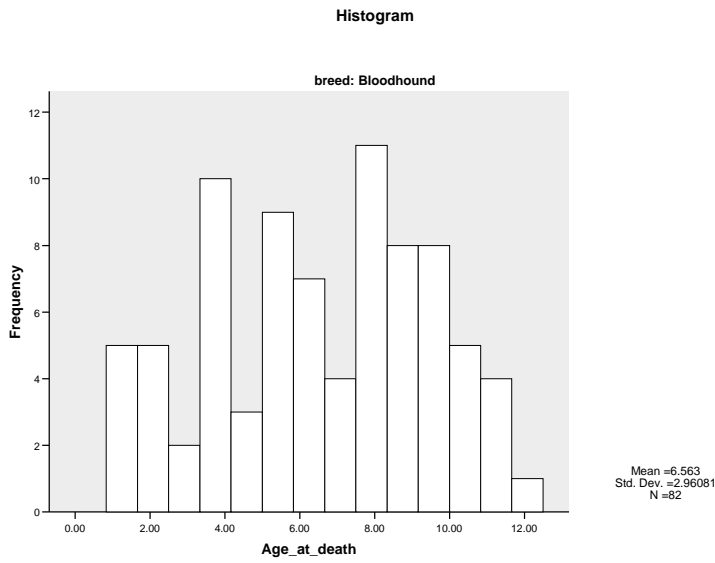


Figure 1. Histogram showing the frequency (as number of dogs) of age at death (in years) for the 82 Bloodhound deaths with age at death reported.

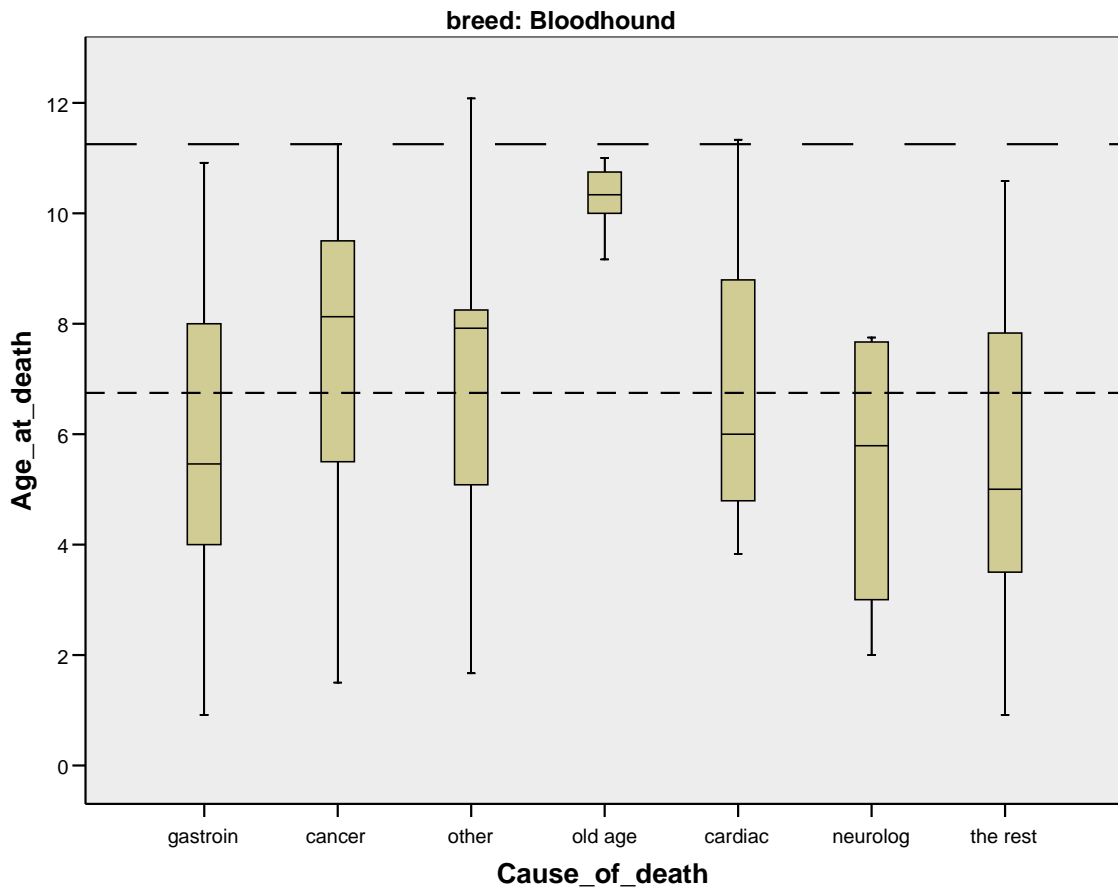


Figure 2. Box and whisker plot of age at death in years for the most common causes of death in Bloodhounds (N=82). The dashed line (---) is the overall median age at death for all dogs in the survey and the dotted line (----) is the overall median age of death for Bloodhounds. The solid line within each 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 (min=7 months, max=9 years and 10 months, Figure 3). Health information was reported for 112 live dogs of which 54 (48%) were healthy and 58 (52%) had at least one reported health condition, resulting in a total of 103 reported conditions with a median of 1 condition/dog (min=1, max=6).

The median current age of all healthy dogs with a reported age (N=54) was 2 years and 5 months (min=7 months, max=8 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=58) was 5 years and 4 months (min=11 months, max=9 years and 10 months). The median age at diagnosis for all disease occurrences with a reported age at diagnosis (N=97) was 2 years and 7 months (min= 4 months, max= 9 years and 10 months, Figure 4). Table 3 shows the disease conditions for Bloodhounds. Age at diagnosis is presented for the most common disease conditions (Figure 5).

Table 2. Distribution of gender and neuter status for 111 Bloodhounds with reported gender and neuter status.

Gender	Neuter status		Totals
	Intact	Neutered	
Female	43	29	72 (65%)
Male	34	5	39 (35%)
Totals	77 (69%)	34 (31%)	111 (100%)

Significantly more females were neutered (P=0.0027).

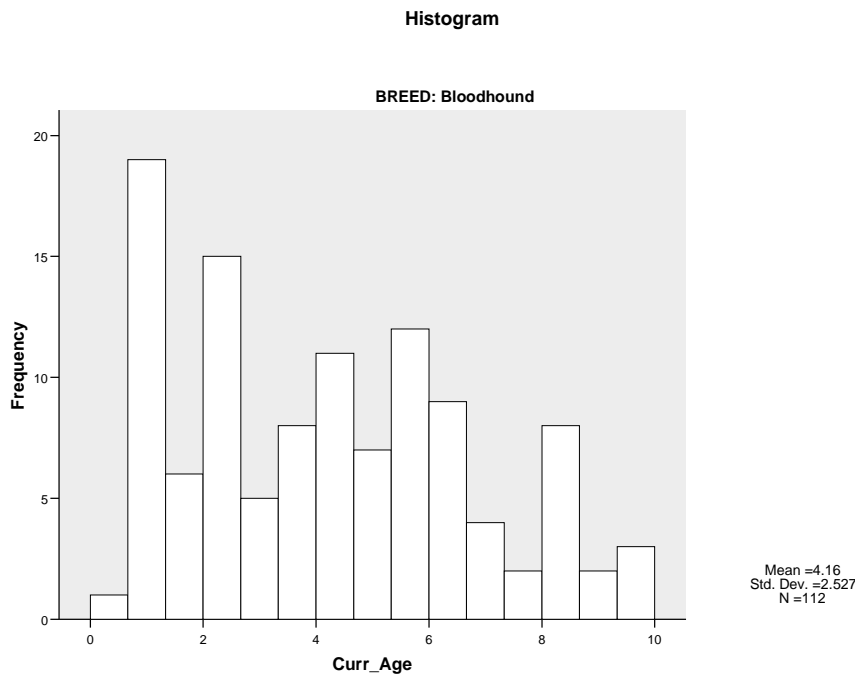


Figure 3. Histogram showing frequency of current age in years for the 112 live Bloodhounds with age reported.

Histogram

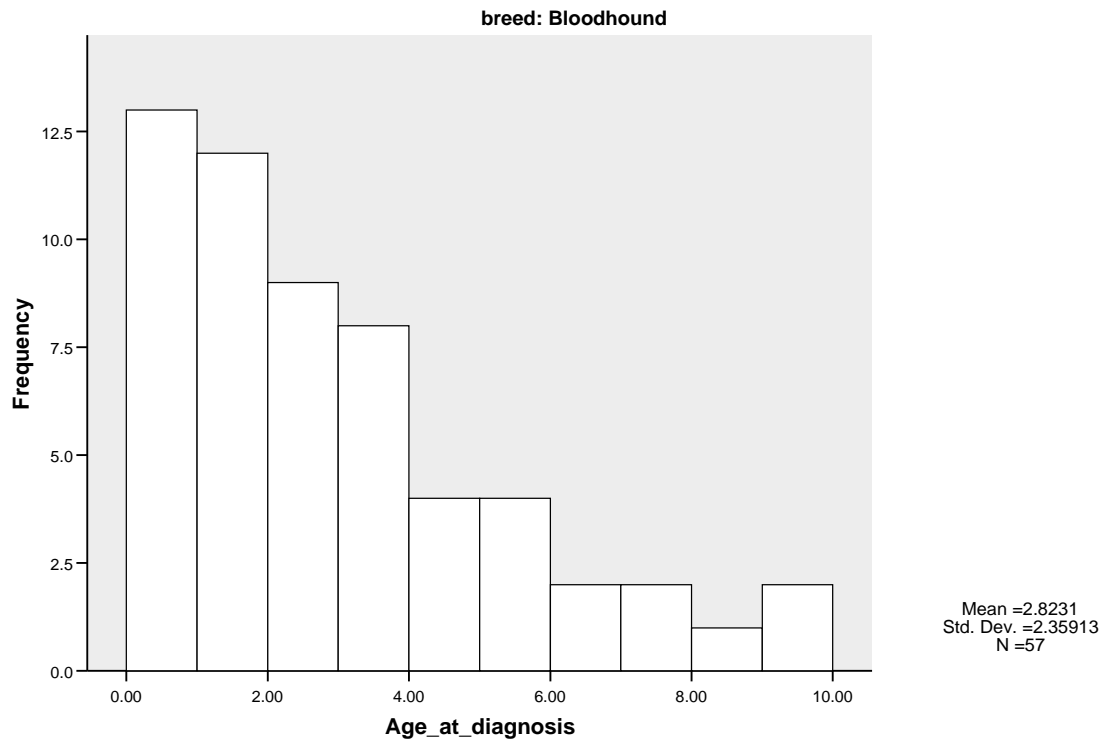


Figure 4. Histogram showing frequency of age at diagnosis for the 57 Bloodhounds with one or more disease conditions, using the youngest age at which a disease condition was first reported for those dogs with more than one disease condition or episode.

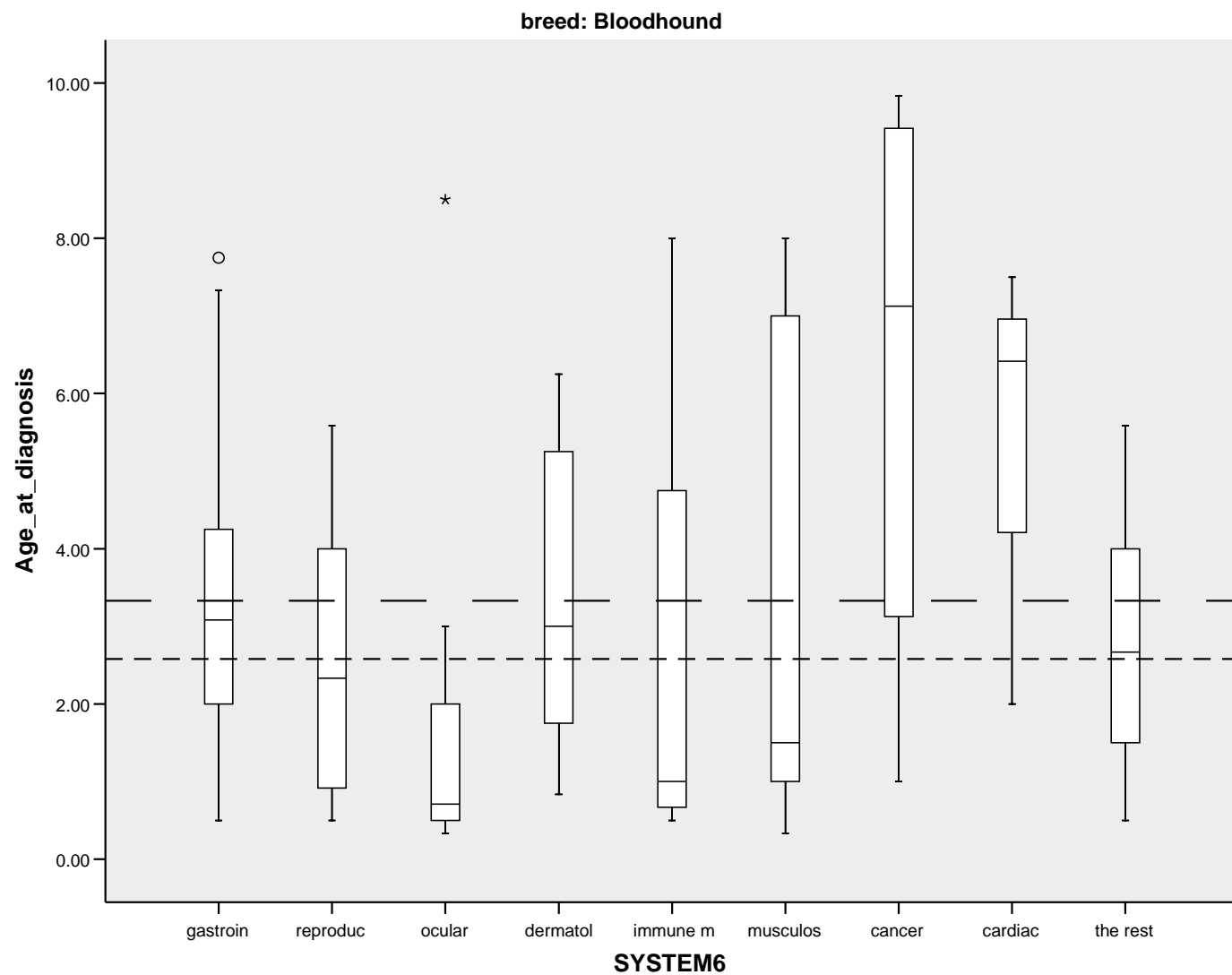


Figure 5. Box and whisker plot of age at diagnosis in years for the most common disease conditions in descending order for Bloodhounds (N=97 conditions with age reported). The dashed line (---) is the overall median age at diagnosis for all dogs in the survey and the dotted line (----) is the overall median age at diagnosis for Bloodhounds. 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 Bloodhounds.

Disease condition	All conditions		Prevalence	Most common specific conditions in descending order
	N	%	%	
1 Gastrointestinal	22	21.4	7.14	Gastric dilatation/volvulus (GDV); gastroenteritis
2 Reproductive	18	17.5	4.56	False pregnancy; pyometra; infertility
3 Ocular	14	13.6	3.77	Cherry eye; entropion
4 Dermatologic	12	11.7	2.78	Dermatitis; unspecified parasites; unspecified skin infection
5 Immune mediated	7	6.8	2.58	Gluten-sensitive enteropathy; atopy; dust mites; unspecified
6 Musculoskeletal	7	6.8	2.18	Arthritis; pelvic fracture; elbow dysplasia; prognathism
7 Aural	5	4.9	1.79	Otitis externa
8 Cancer	4	3.9	1.39	Type unspecified; carcinoma; SCC
9 Cardiac	3	2.9	1.39	Hear murmur; pericardial effusion
10 Neurologic	3	2.9	1.19	Seizures; rage syndrome
11 Trauma	2	1.9	1.19	Musculoskeletal; unspecified
12 Other	2	1.9	0.99	Uncodeable
13 Endocrine	1	1.0	0.79	Addisons disease
14 Haematopoietic	1	1.0	0.60	Unspecified platelet disorder
15 Respiratory	1	1.0	0.60	Pneumonia
16 Urologic	1	1.0	0.40	Cystitis
Total	103	100.0	35.12	