

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

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

Giant Schnauzers

A total of 190 forms were sent out and 69 were returned, representing 113 live dogs. This breed had a 36.3% response rate (69/190) and it represented 0.50% of all returns (69/13,741).

Mortality data

A total of 39 deaths were reported and this represents 0.25% of all deaths reported in the survey (39/15,881). The median age at death for Giant Schnauzers was 10 years (min = 8 months, max = 16 years and 11 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 Giant 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 Giant Schnauzers.

Cause of death	N	%	Most common specific causes in descending order
1 Cancer	16	41.0	Lymphoma; type unspecified (liver, unspecified)
2 Cardiac	6	15.4	Heart attack; heart failure; heart disease unspecified
3 Cerebral vascular	4	10.3	Stroke or cerebral vascular accident
4 Old age	4	10.3	Old age
5 Immune mediated	2	5.1	Thrombocytopaenia; unspecified
6 Died	1	2.6	
7 Gastrointestinal	1	2.6	Pancreatitis
8 Infection	1	2.6	Bacterial (unspecified)
9 Neurologic	1	2.6	Paralysis of limbs or spinal paralysis
10 Other	1	2.6	Uncodeable
11 Systemic	1	2.6	Allergy or insect bite or sting or snake bite
12 Urologic	1	2.6	Chronic kidney failure
Total	39	100.0	

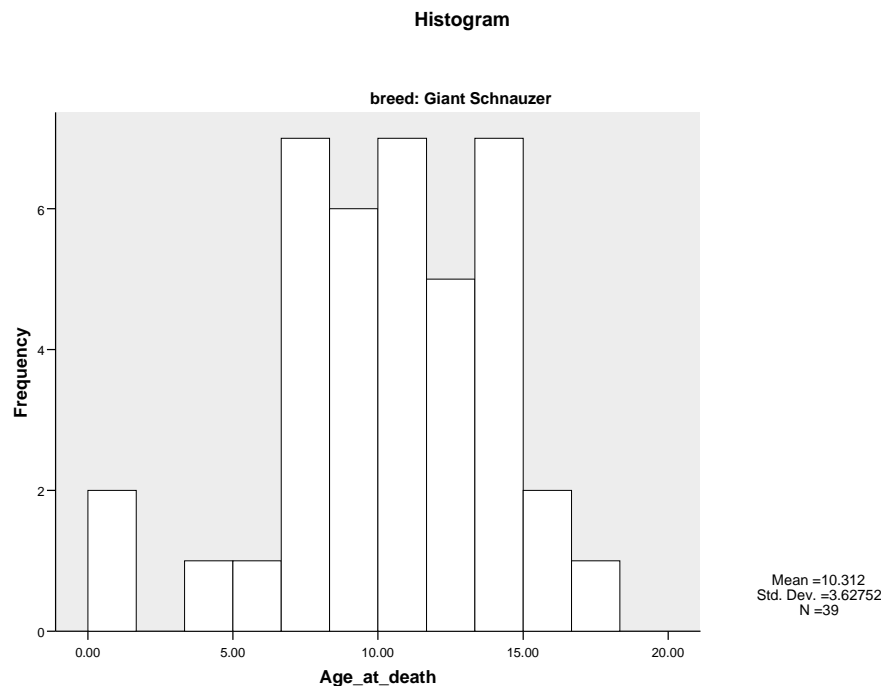


Figure 1. Histogram showing the frequency (as number of dogs) of age at death (in years) for the 39 Giant Schnauzer deaths with age at death reported.

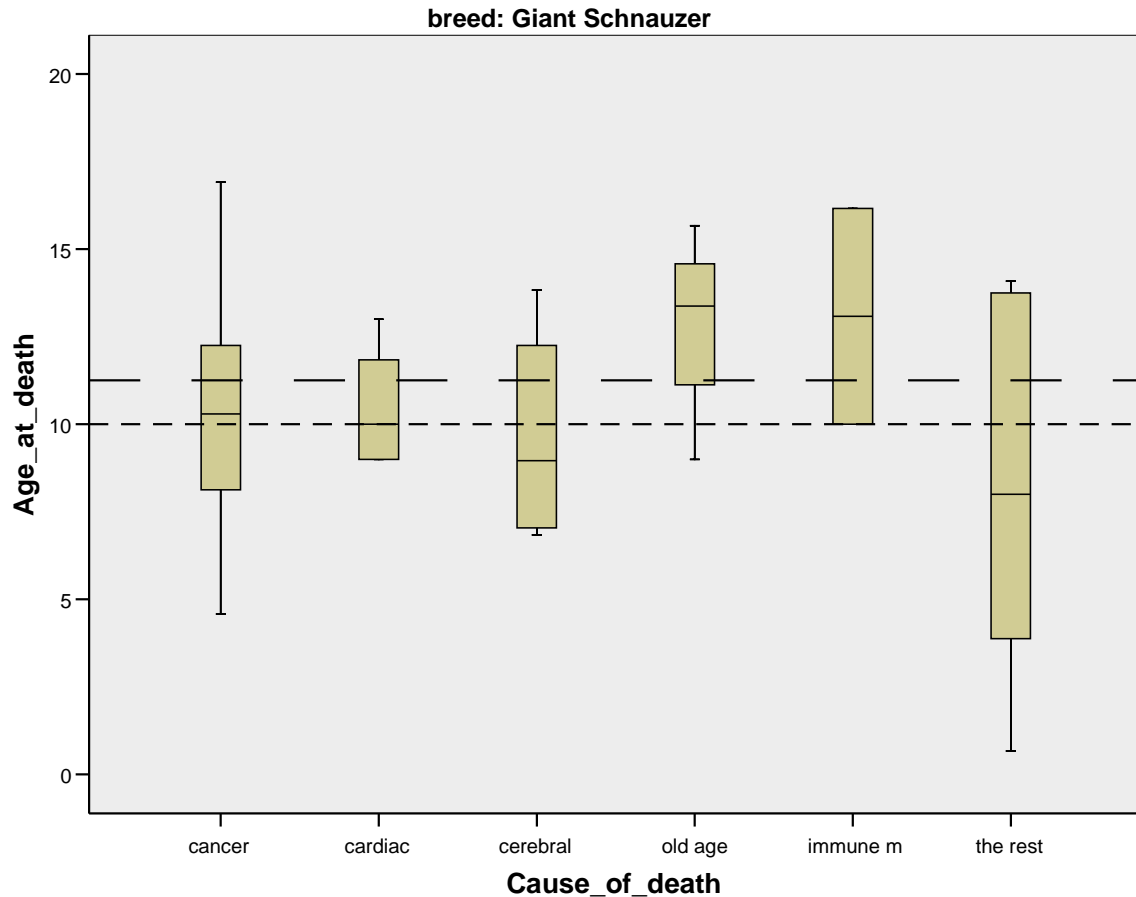


Figure 2. Box and whisker plot of age at death in years for the most common causes of death in Giant Schnauzers (N=39). The dashed line (---) is the overall median age at death for all dogs in the survey and the dotted line (----) is the overall median age of death for Giant Schnauzers. The solid line within each grey box represents the median age at death from the condition.

Morbidity data

The median current age of the 113 live dogs with a reported age was 4 years and 11 months (min=4 months, max=15 years and 5 months, Figure 3). Health information was reported for 113 live dogs of which 63 (56%) were healthy and 50 (44%) 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=5).

The median current age of all healthy dogs with a reported age (N=63) was 3 years and 6 months (min=4 months, max=10 years and 6 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=50) was 6 years and 9 months (min=6 months, max=15 years and 5 months). The median age at diagnosis for all disease occurrences with a reported age at diagnosis (N=99) was 4 years and 6 months (min= 2 months, max= 14 years and 11 months, Figure 4). Table 3 shows the disease conditions for Giant Schnauzers. Age at diagnosis is presented for the most common disease conditions (Figure 5).

Table 2. Distribution of gender and neuter status for 113 Giant Schnauzers with reported gender and neuter status.

Gender	Neuter status		Totals
	Intact	Neutered	
Female	38	36	74 (65%)
Male	22	17	39 (35%)
Totals	60 (53%)	53 (47%)	113 (100%)

There was no association between gender and neuter status (P=0.6084).

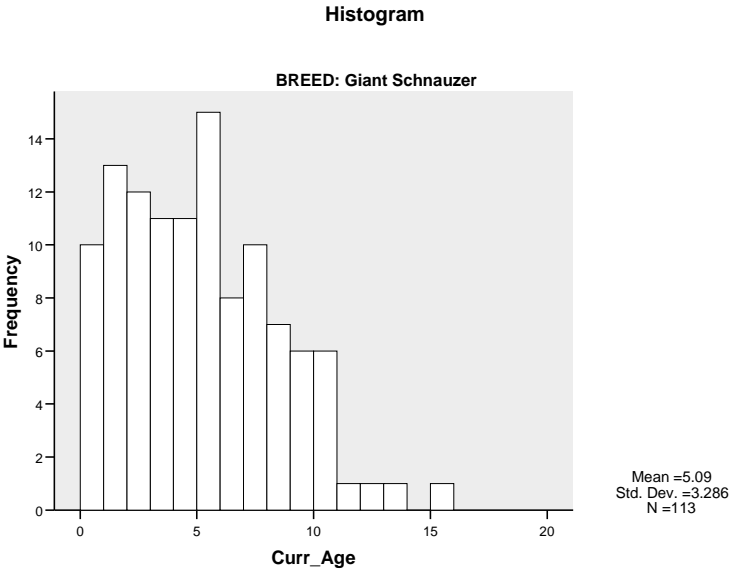


Figure 3. Histogram showing frequency of current age in years for the 113 live Giant Schnauzers with age reported.

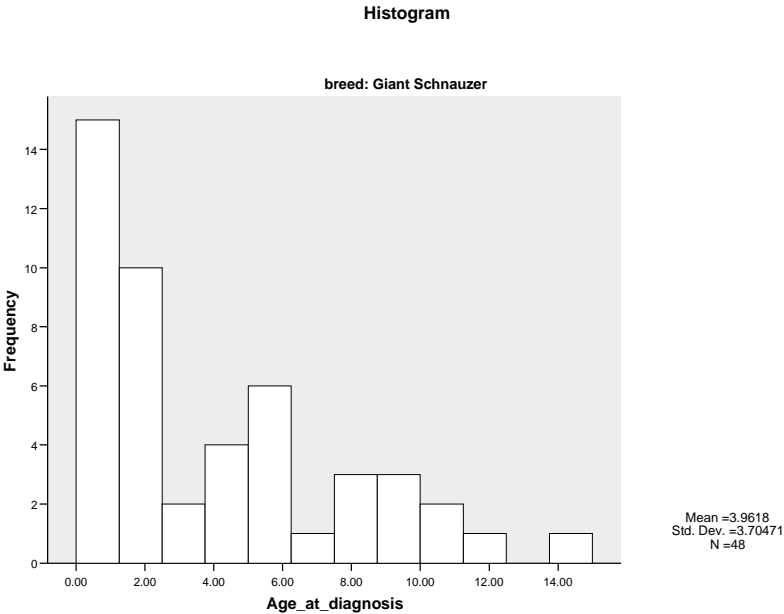


Figure 4. Histogram showing frequency of age at diagnosis for the 48 Giant Schnauzers with one or more disease conditions, using the youngest age at which a disease condition was first reported for those dogs with more than one disease condition or episode.

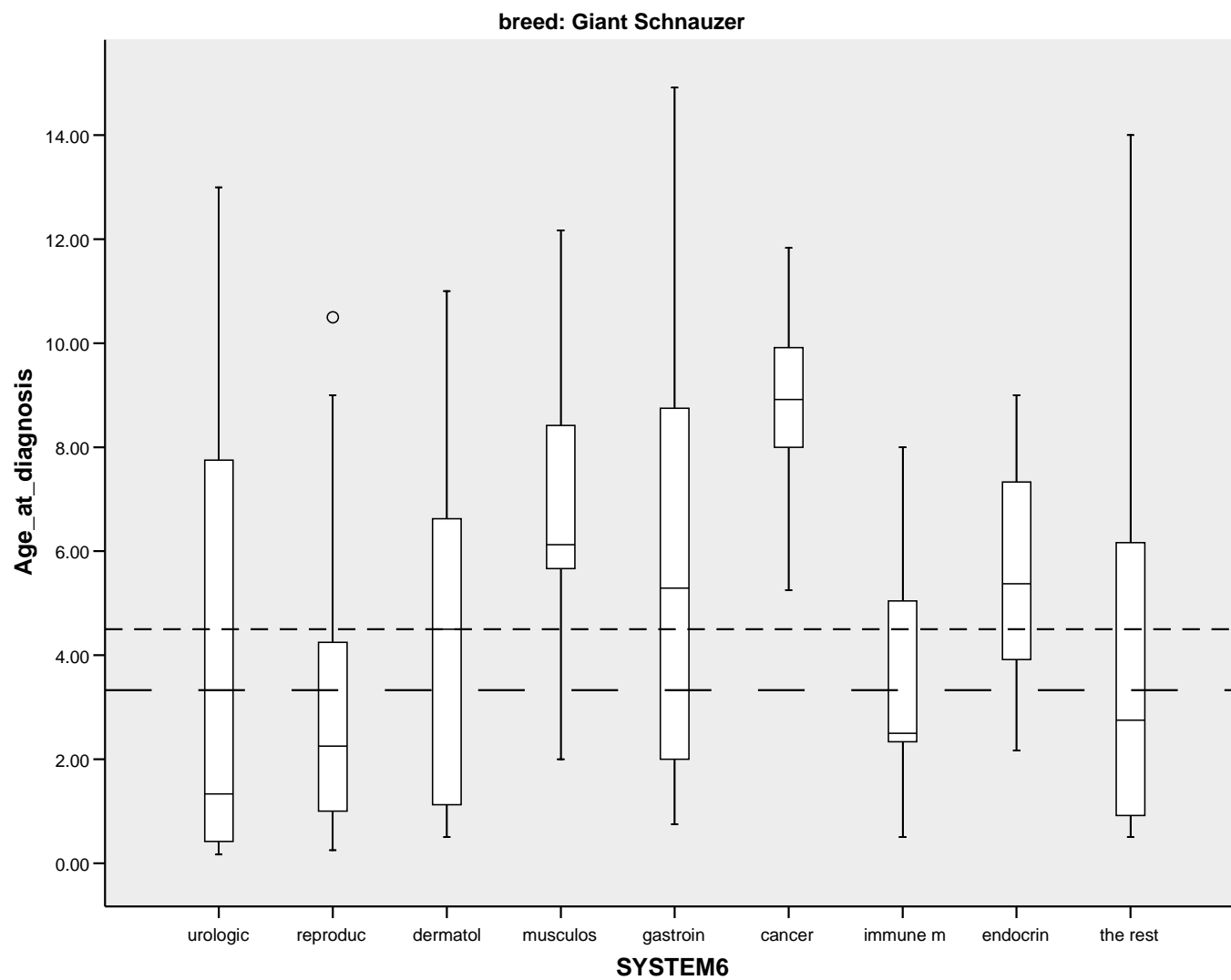


Figure 5. Box and whisker plot of age at diagnosis in years for the most common disease conditions in descending order for Giant Schnauzers (N=50 dogs with 99 conditions with age reported). The dashed line (---) is the overall median age at diagnosis for all dogs in the survey and the dotted line (----) is the overall median age at diagnosis for Giant 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 Giant Schnauzers.

Disease condition	All conditions		Most common specific conditions in descending order
	N	%	
1 Urologic	13	12.6	Incontinence (unspecified>OHE); cystitis
2 Reproductive	12	11.7	False pregnancy; pyometra; cryptorchid
3 Dermatologic	11	10.7	Dermatitis; mites (demodex); paronchya; alopecia
4 Musculoskeletal	11	10.7	Arthritis (hips>hindlimb); CLR; CHD; spondylosis
5 Gastrointestinal	10	9.7	GDV; diarrhoea; campylobacter; colitis; gastric ulcer; IBD; pancreatitis
6 Cancer	7	6.8	Type unspecified (skin, liver, mammary); mast cell tumour
7 Immune mediated	7	6.8	Gluten-sensitive enteropathy; food hypersensitivity; atopy; DLE
8 Endocrine	6	5.8	Hypothyroidism
9 Ocular	5	4.9	Other (unspecified); cataracts; conjunctivitis; KCS
10 Behaviour	4	3.9	Unspecified; aggression
11 Aural	3	2.9	Otitis externa; ear mites; excessive ear wax
12 Neurologic	3	2.9	Seizures
13 Respiratory	3	2.9	Bronchitis; kennel cough; noisy breathing
14 Benign neoplasia	2	1.9	Lipoma
15 Uncode and other	2	1.9	Uncodeable
16 Cardiac	1	1.0	Heart rhythm disorder
17 Dental	1	1.0	Retained puppy teeth
18 Haematopoietic	1	1.0	Hypereosinophilic syndrome
19 Unknown	1	1.0	
Total	103	100.0	