

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

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

A total of 232 forms were sent out and 74 were returned, representing 193 live dogs. This breed had a 31.9% response rate (74/232) and it represented 0.54% of all returns (74/13,741).

Mortality data

A total of 132 deaths were reported and this represents 0.83% of all deaths reported in the survey (132/15,881). The median age at death for the Saluki breed was 12 years (min = 1 year and 11 months, max = 16 years and 4 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 Saluki 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 Saluki breed.

Cause of death	N	%	Most common specific causes in descending order
1 Cancer	47	35.6	Type unspecified (liver); lymphoma
2 Cardiac	19	14.4	Heart failure; heart defect unspecified
3 Old age	17	12.9	Old age & age combinations
4 Trauma	7	5.3	Road traffic accident; attacked by dog; shot; unspecified
5 Combinations	6	4.5	
6 Hepatic	6	4.5	Liver failure; liver disease (unspecified)
7 Other	4	3.0	Uncodeable
8 Respiratory	4	3.0	Laryngeal paralysis; tracheal collapse
9 Unknown	4	3.0	
10 Cerebral vascular	3	2.3	Stroke or cerebral vascular accident
11 Immune mediated	3	2.3	Unspecified; AIHA; thrombocytopenia
12 Sudden death	3	2.3	
13 Neurologic	2	1.5	Seizures; unspecified
14 Reproductive	2	1.5	Prostatic disease; pyometra
15 Urologic	2	1.5	Kidney failure
16 Behaviour	1	0.8	Aggression
17 Internal bleeding	1	0.8	
18 Poisoning	1	0.8	
Total	132	100.0	

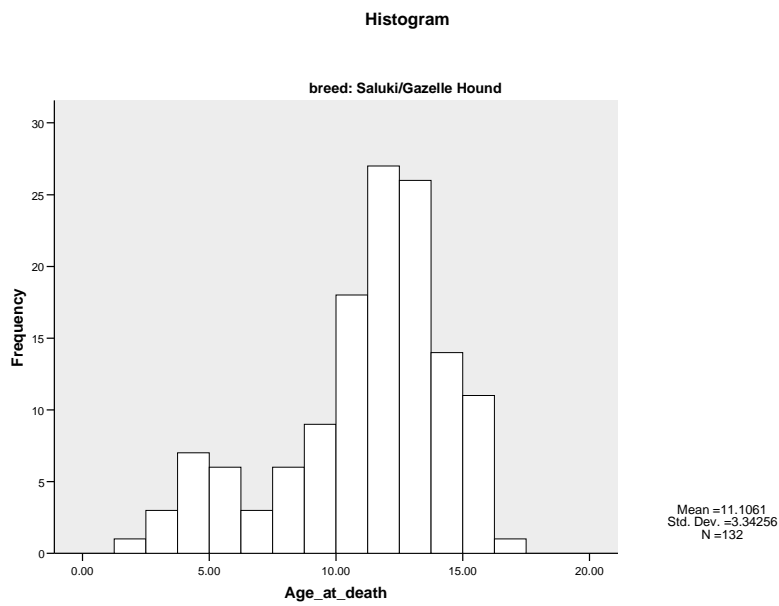


Figure 1. Histogram showing the frequency (as number of dogs) of age at death (in years) for the 132 Saluki deaths with age at death reported.

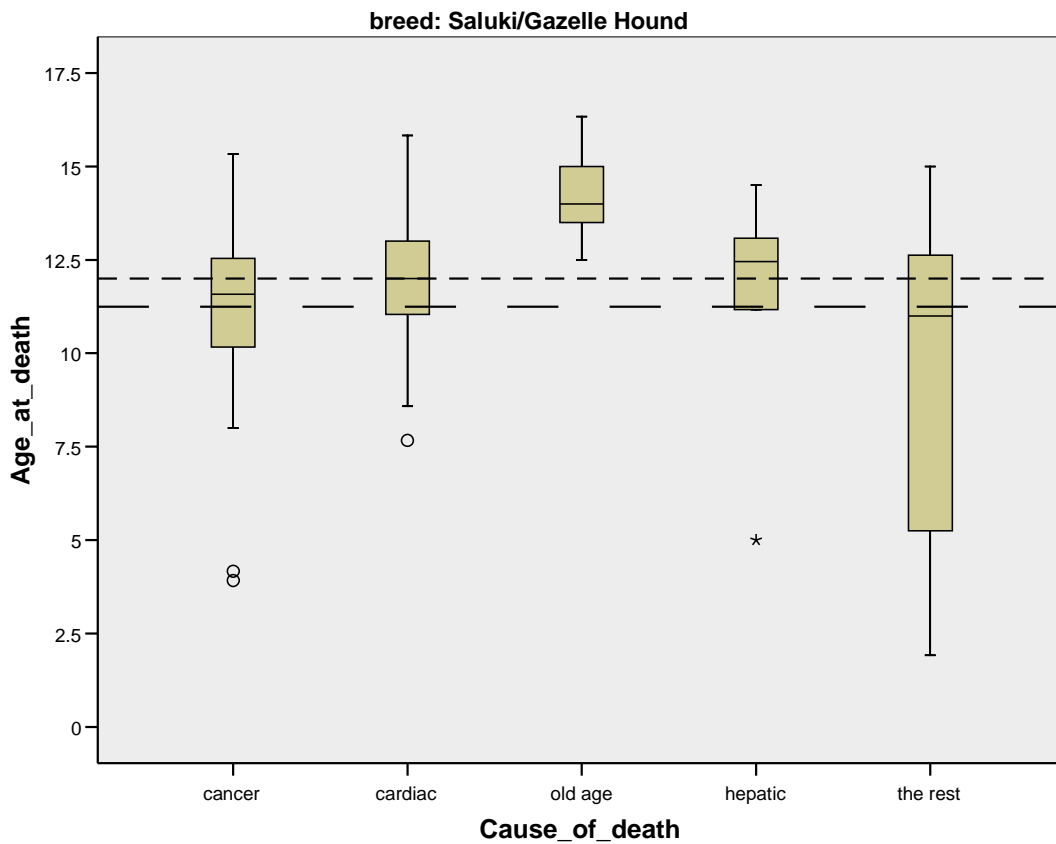


Figure 2. Box and whisker plot of age at death in years for the most common causes of death in the Saluki breed (N=132). The dashed line (---) is the overall median age at death for all dogs in the survey and the dotted line (----) is the overall median age of death for the Saluki breed. The solid line within each grey box represents the median age at death from the condition.

Morbidity data

The median current age of the 191 live dogs with a reported age was 5 years and 1 month (min=6 months, max=16 years and 7 months, Figure 3). Health information was reported for 193 live dogs of which 130 (67%) were healthy and 63 (33%) had at least one reported health condition, resulting in a total of 93 reported conditions with a median of 1 condition/dog (min=1, max=4).

The median current age of all healthy dogs with a reported age (N=130) was 4 years and 5 months (min=6 months, max=13 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=62) was 8 years and 2 months (min=11 months, max=16 years and 7 months). The median age at diagnosis for all disease occurrences with a reported age at diagnosis (N=91) was 3 years (min= 3 months, max= 16 years and 1 month, Figure 4). Table 3 shows the disease conditions for the Saluki breed. Age at diagnosis is presented for the most common disease conditions (Figure 5).

Table 2. Distribution of gender and neuter status for the 192 Saluki breed with reported gender and neuter status.

Gender	Neuter status		Totals
	Intact	Neutered	
Female	84	26	110 (57%)
Male	74	8	82 (43%)
Totals	158 (82%)	34 (18%)	192 (100%)

Significantly more females were neutered (P=0.0127).

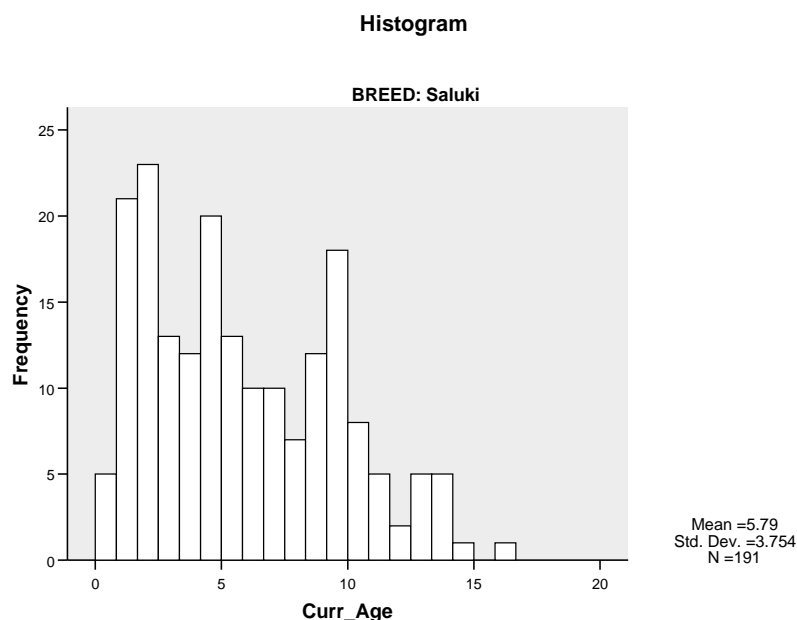


Figure 3. Histogram showing frequency of current age in years for the 191 live Saluki breed with age reported.

Histogram

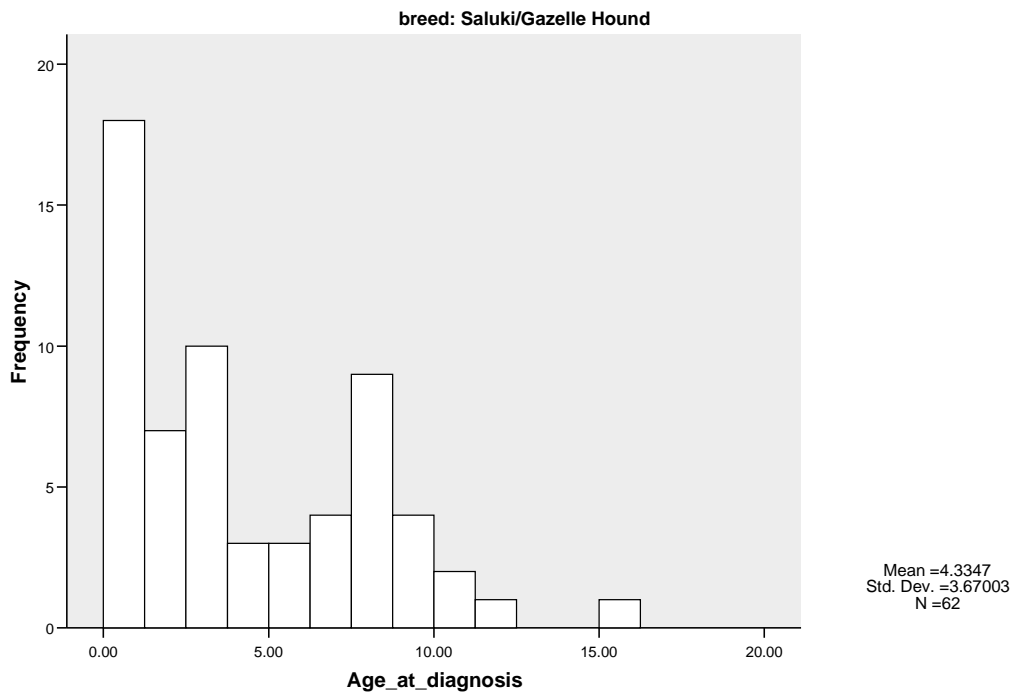


Figure 4. Histogram showing frequency of age at diagnosis for the 62 Saluki breed with one or more disease conditions, using the youngest age at which a disease condition was first reported for those dogs with more than one disease condition or episode.

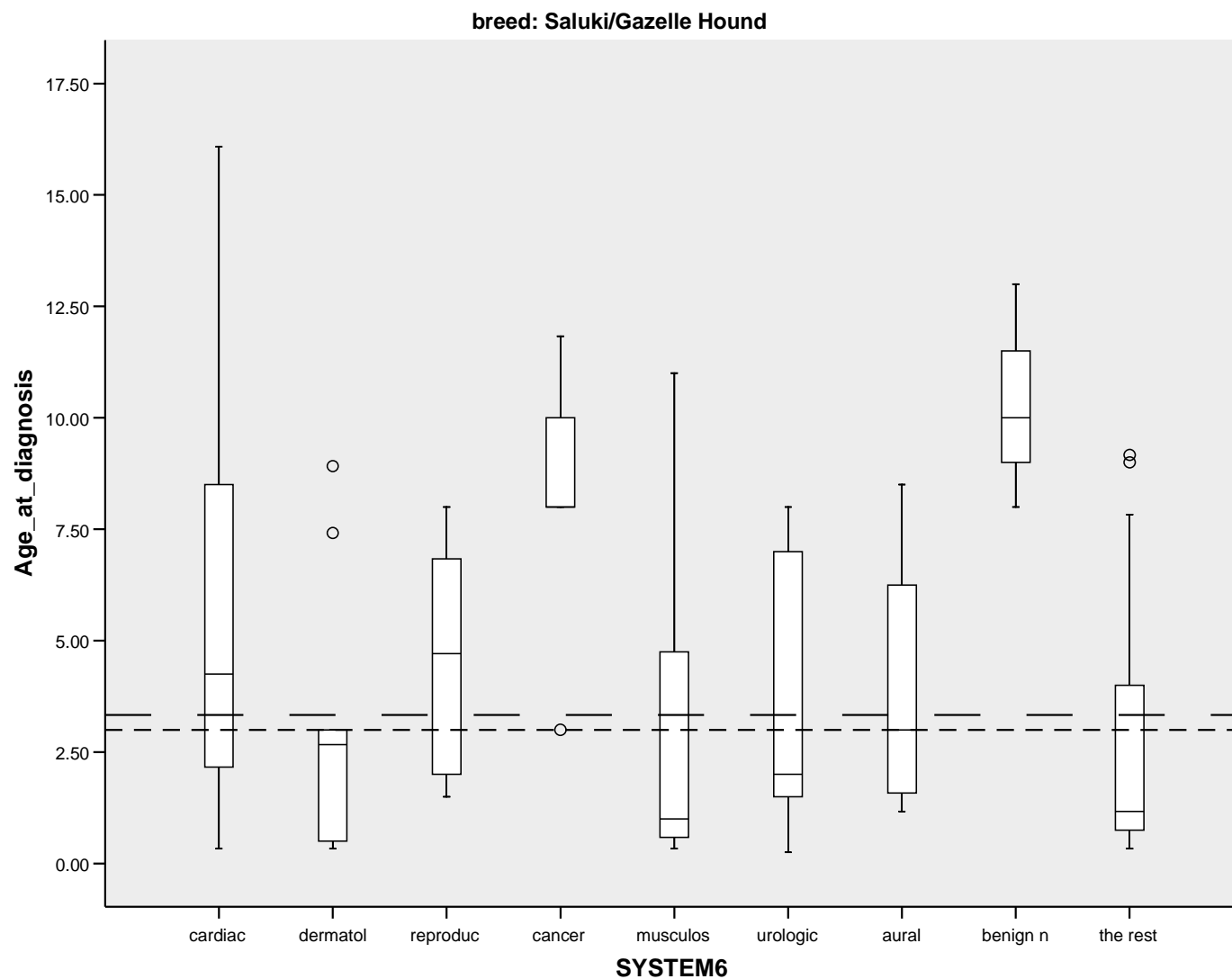


Figure 5. Box and whisker plot of age at diagnosis in years for the most common disease conditions in descending order for the Saluki breed (N=62 dogs with 91 conditions with age reported). The dashed line (---) is the overall median age at diagnosis for all dogs in the survey and the dotted line (----) is the overall median age at diagnosis for the Saluki 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 Saluki breed.

Disease condition	All conditions		Most common specific conditions in descending order
	N	%	
1 Cardiac	16	17.2	Heart murmur (unspecified>grade 1,2>grade 3,5); cardiomyopathy (unspecified>dilated)
2 Dermatologic	10	10.8	Mites (sarcoptes); dermatitis; alopecia
3 Reproductive	9	9.7	False pregnancy; infertility; irregular heats; prostatomegaly; pyometra
4 Cancer	7	7.5	Unspecified (mammary); sarcoma; carcinoma (mammary)
5 Musculoskeletal	7	7.5	Fracture (hindlimb=other); arthritis; bone malformation (unspecified)
6 Urologic	7	7.5	Cystitis
7 Trauma	5	5.4	Forelimb; forepaw; skin; other (unspecified)
8 Aural	4	4.3	Ear mites; otitis externa; excessive ear wax
9 Benign neoplasia	3	3.2	Lipoma
10 Haematopoietic	3	3.2	Von Willebrand disease; bleeding disorder unspecified
11 Hepatic	3	3.2	Ascites; hepatitis; portosystemic shunt (PSS)
12 Immune mediated	3	3.2	Allergy to stings; gluten-sensitive enteropathy
13 Unknown	3	3.2	Undiagnosed illness
14 Endocrine	2	2.2	Hypothyroidism
15 Gastrointestinal	2	2.2	Foreign body obstruction; acute vomiting
16 Neurologic	2	2.2	IVDD (unspecified); seizures
17 Ocular	2	2.2	KCS; eyelid abnormality unspecified
18 Respiratory	2	2.2	Asthma; kennel cough
19 Anal gland	1	1.1	Anal sacculitis
20 Behaviour	1	1.1	Aggression
21 Dental	1	1.1	Retained puppy teeth
Total	93	100.0	