

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

Summary results of the  
Purebred Dog Health Survey  
for the Welsh Corgi Cardigan 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 Welsh Corgi breeds combined

A total of 416 forms were sent out and 95 were returned, representing 312 live dogs. These breeds had a 22.8% combined response rate (95/416) and represented 0.69% of all returns (95/13,741).

## The Welsh Corgi Cardigan breed

### Mortality data

A total of 53 deaths were reported and this represents 0.33% of all deaths reported in the survey (53/15,881). The median age at death for the Welsh Corgi Cardigan breed was 12 years and 2 months (min = 1 year, max = 16 years and 8 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 Welsh Corgi Cardigan 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 Welsh Corgi Cardigan breed.

Cause of death	N	%	Most common specific causes in descending order
1 Cancer	15	28.3	Type unspecified (mammary; spleen); leukaemia
2 Old age	13	24.6	Old age & age combinations
3 Neurologic	8	15.2	IVDD; discospondylitis; spinal paralysis; seizures
4 Combinations	4	7.6	
5 Cerebrovascular	2	3.7	Stroke or cerebral vascular accident
6 Cardiac	2	3.7	Heart attack; heart failure
7 Respiratory	2	3.7	Pneumonia; respiratory disease unspecified
8 Unknown	2	3.7	
9 Trauma	1	1.9	Road traffic accident
10 Urologic	1	1.9	Chronic renal failure
11 Hepatic	1	1.9	Chronic liver failure
12 Musculoskeletal	1	1.9	Arthritis
13 Other	1	1.9	Uncodeable
Total	53	100.0	

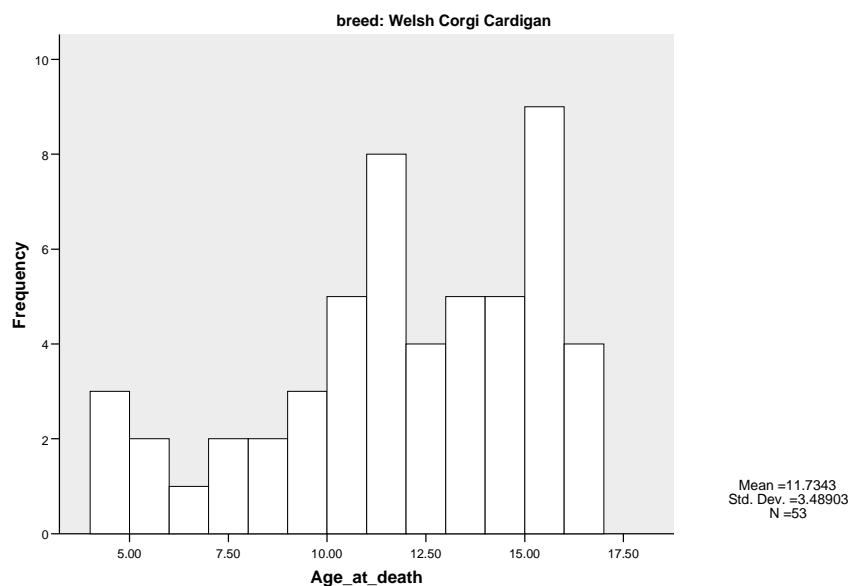


Figure 1. Histogram showing the frequency (as number of dogs) of age at death (in years) for the 53 Welsh Corgi Cardigan deaths with age at death reported.

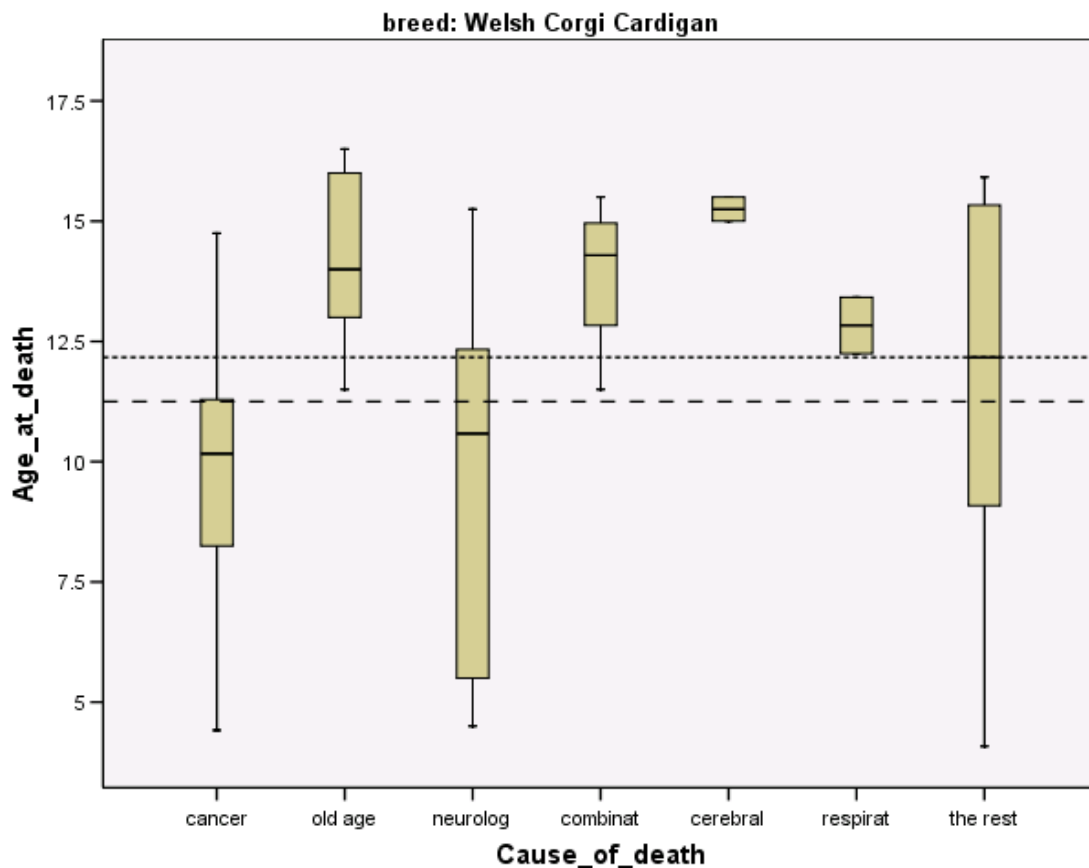


Figure 2. Box and whisker plot of age at death in years for the most common causes of death in the Welsh Corgi Cardigan breed (N=53). The dashed line (---) is the overall median age at death for all dogs in the survey and the dotted line (----) is the overall median age of death for the Welsh Corgi Cardigan 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 92 live dogs with a reported age was 6 years and 3 months (min=9 months, max=14 years and 11 months, Figure 3). Health information was reported for 92 live dogs of which 59 (64%) were healthy and 33 (36%) had at least one reported health condition, resulting in a total of 49 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=59) was 4 years and 9 months (min=9 months, max=12 years and 7 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=33) was 8 years and 4 months (min=1 year and 7 months, max=14 years and 11 months). The median age at diagnosis for all disease occurrences with a reported age at diagnosis (N=49) was 3 years (min= 2 months, max= 13 years, Figure 4). Table 3 shows the disease conditions for the Welsh Corgi Cardigan breed. Age at diagnosis is presented for the most common disease conditions (Figure 5).

Table 2. Distribution of gender and neuter status for the 91 Welsh Corgi Cardigan breed with reported gender and neuter status.

Gender	Neuter status		Totals
	Intact	Neutered	
Female	37	21	58 (64%)
Male	28	5	33 (36%)
Totals	65 (71%)	26 (29%)	91 (100%)

Significantly more females were neutered (P=0.0326).

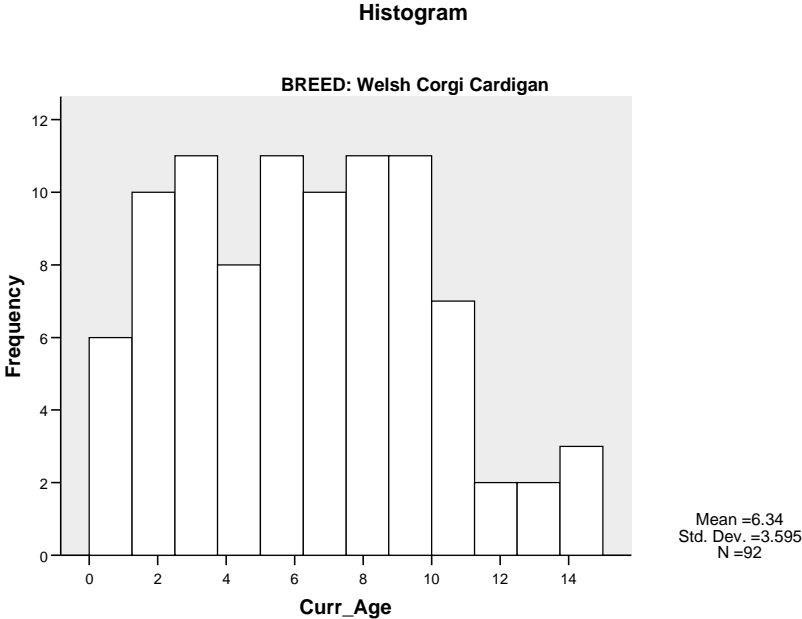


Figure 3. Histogram showing frequency of current age in years for the 92 live Welsh Corgi Cardigan breed with age reported.

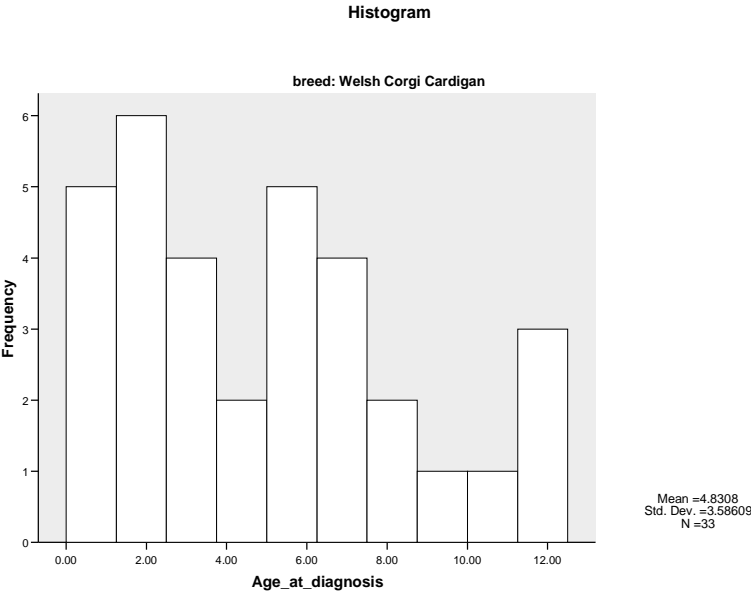


Figure 4. Histogram showing frequency of age at diagnosis for the 33 the Welsh Corgi Cardigan breed with one or more disease conditions, using the youngest age at which a disease condition was first reported for those dogs with more than one disease condition or episode.

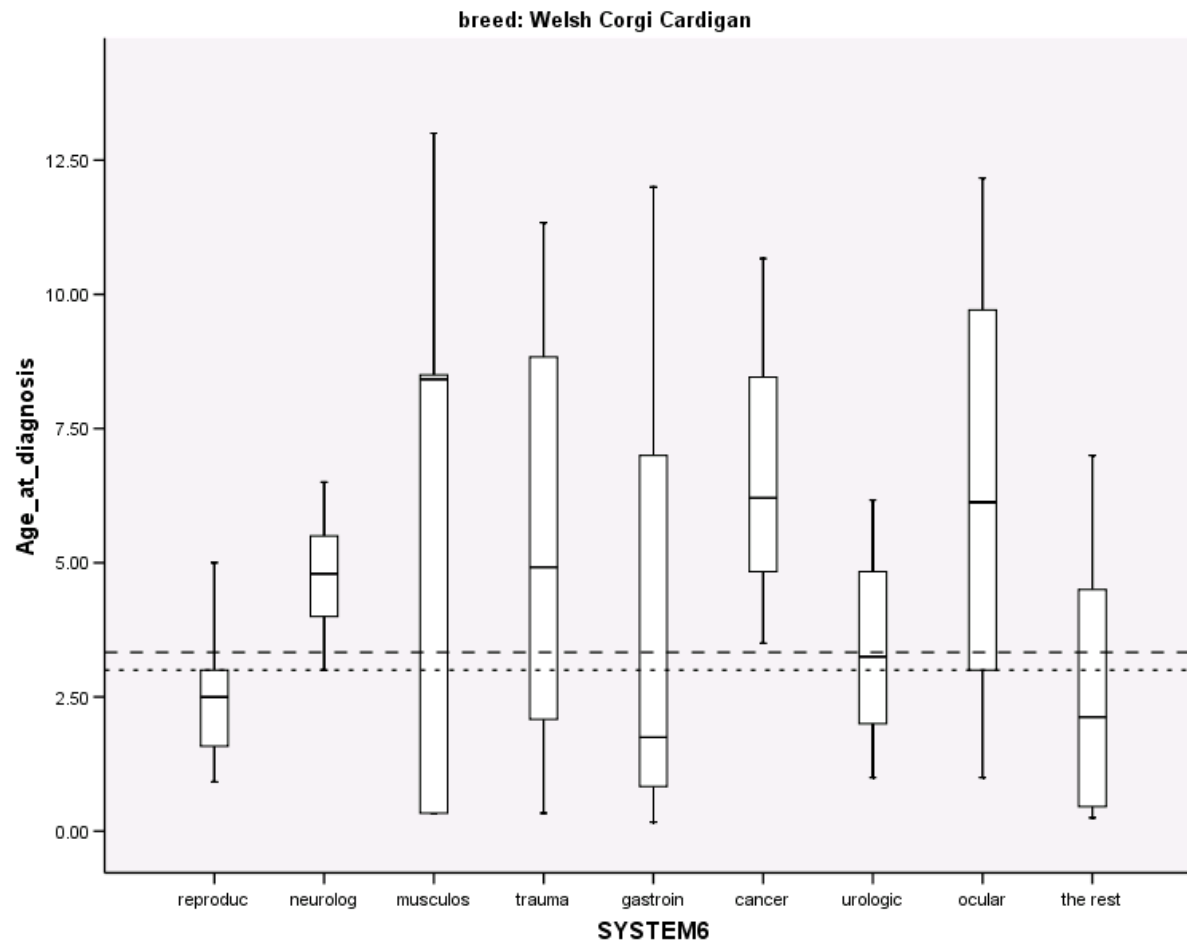


Figure 5. Box and whisker plot of age at diagnosis in years for the most common disease conditions in descending order for the Welsh Corgi Cardigan breed (N=33 dogs with 49 conditions with age reported). The dashed line (---) is the overall median age at diagnosis for all dogs in the survey and the dotted line (----) is the overall median age at diagnosis for the Welsh Corgi Cardigan 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 Welsh Corgi Cardigan breed.

Disease condition	All conditions		Most common specific conditions in descending order
	N	%	
1 Reproductive	9	18.4	Caesarean section; irregular heat cycles; vaginitis; false pregnancy; infertility; stuck puppy
2 Neurologic	6	12.2	IVDD (lumbar=unspecified); seizures
3 Musculoskeletal	5	10.2	Arthritis (hindlimb=spine=unspecified); panosteitis; bone malformation (unspecified)
4 Trauma	5	10.2	Cornea; forelimb; head or jaw; spine; other (unspecified)
5 Gastrointestinal	4	8.2	Diarrhoea; colitis; EPI
6 Cancer	4	8.2	Carcinoma (mammary); unspecified (mammary; flank)
7 Urologic	4	8.2	Cystitis; cystinuria; haematuria; incontinence (OHE)
8 Dermatologic	3	6.1	Pyotraumatic dermatitis; fading nose pigment; recurrent pyoderma
9 Ocular	3	6.1	Cataracts; red eye; corneal ulcer
10 Immune mediated	2	4.1	Food allergy; gluten-sensitive enteropathy
11 Other	2	4.1	Uncodeable
12 Benign neoplasia	1	2.0	Cyst (neck)
13 Unknown	1	2.0	
Total	49	100.0	