

## **Pedigree Breed Health Survey**

The Pedigree Breed Health Survey 2014 was open from 8<sup>th</sup> November to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2014. The aim of this survey was to collect data on the causes of death & prevalence of conditions affecting the current population of Pedigree dogs.

Forms were received representing 43,005 living dogs & 5,663 deceased dogs.

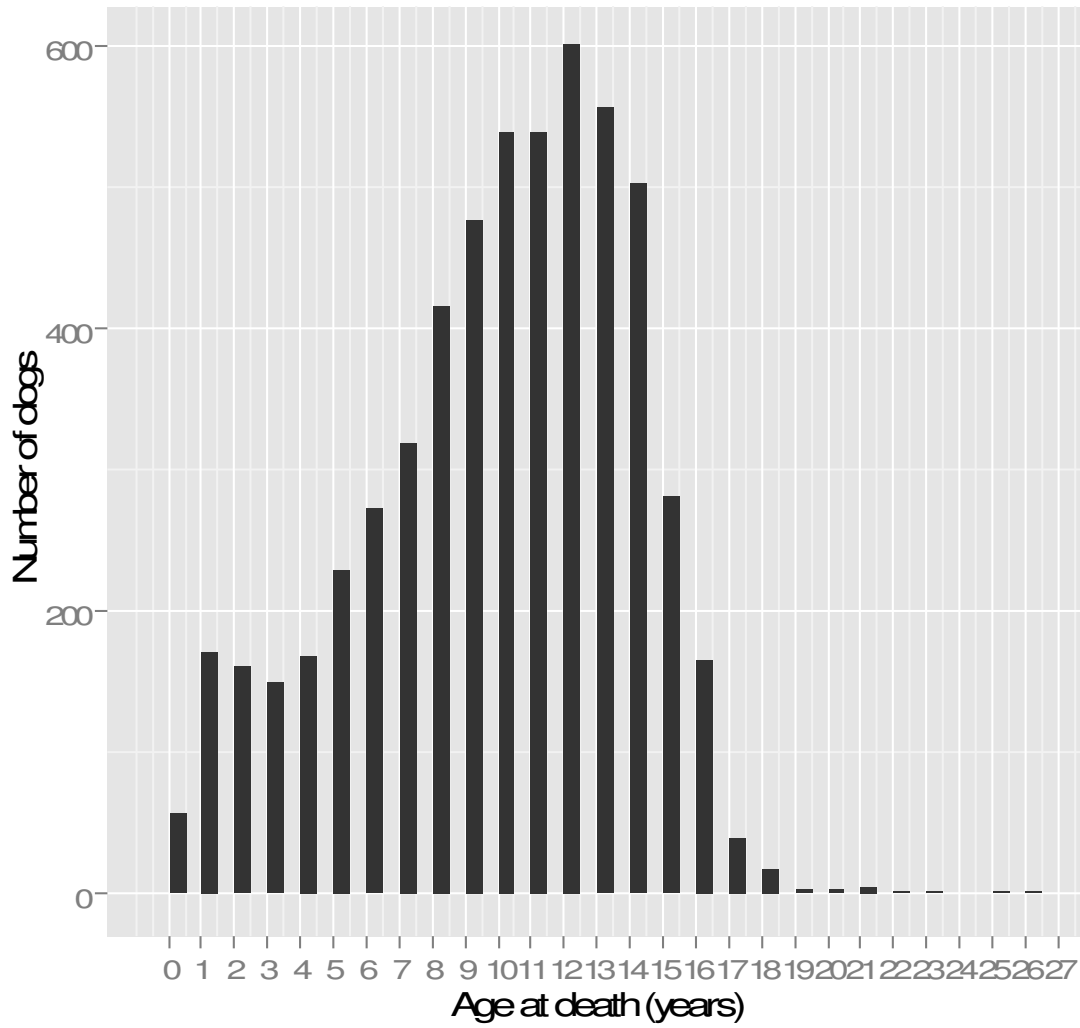
### **Mortality results**

A total of 5,663 deaths were reported for 179 breeds. No deaths were reported for the Bolognese, Canadian Eskimo Dog, English Toy Terrier (Black & Tan), Finnish Spitz, German Longhaired Pointer, Hamiltonstovare, Havanese, Kooikerhondje, Lowchen (Little Lion Dog), Portuguese Podengo, Pyrenean Sheepdog (Long Haired), Sloughi and Turkish Kangal Dog. Owners of the Anatolian Shepherd Dog, Foxhound, Slovakian Rough haired Pointer and Swedish Lapphund reported only deceased dogs.

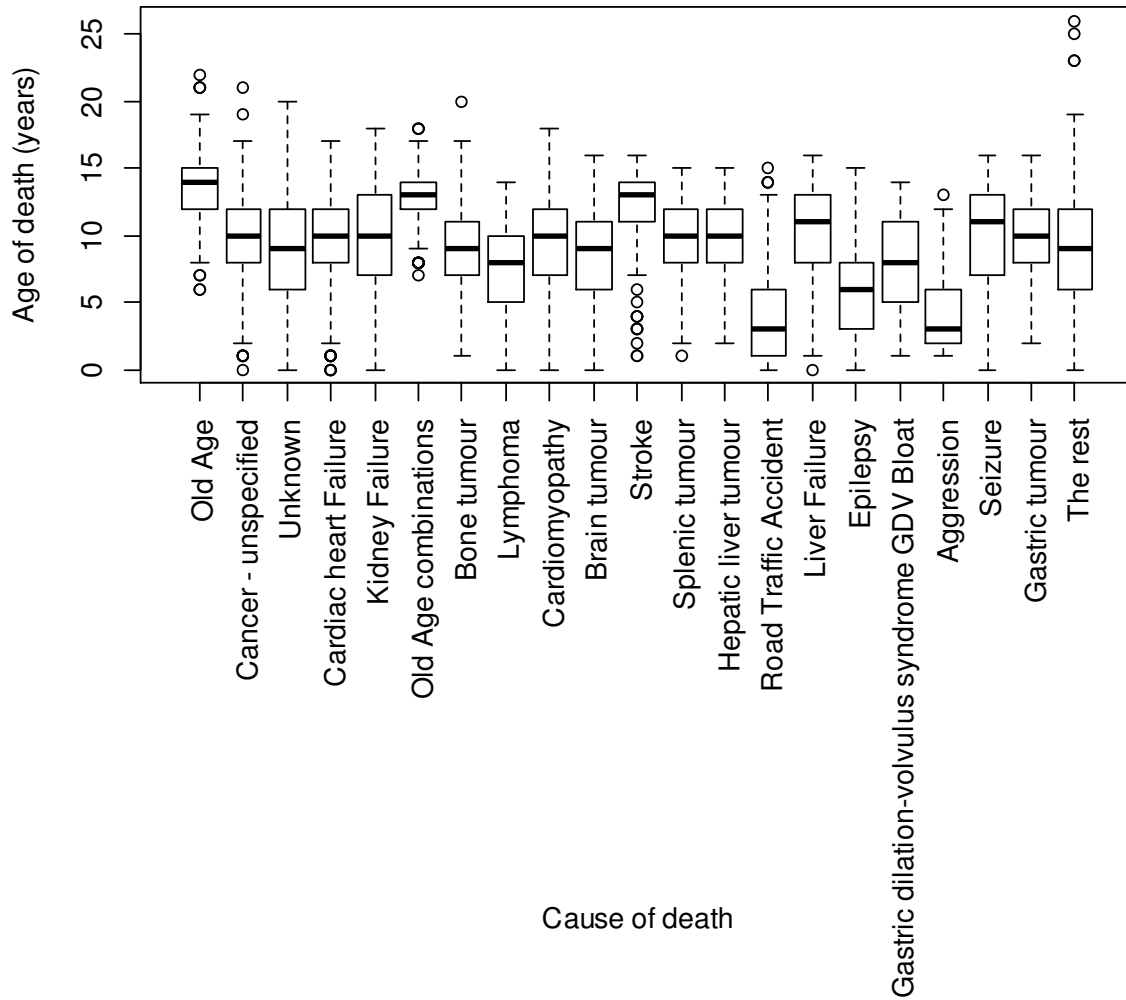
The median age at death for all dogs was 10 (Figure 1). Table 1 shows the most common causes of death for all dogs. Age at death is presented for the most common causes in Figure 2.

**Table 1** The twenty most common causes of death/reasons for euthanasia for all breeds (N = 5,663 deceased dogs).

<b>Cause of death</b>	<b>Number of deaths</b>	<b>Proportion</b>
Old Age	780	13.77
Cancer - unspecified	492	8.69
Unknown	290	5.12
Cardiac heart Failure	277	4.89
Kidney Failure	239	4.22
Old Age combinations	229	4.04
Bone tumour	192	3.39
Lymphoma	180	3.18
Cardiomyopathy	166	2.93
Brain tumour	159	2.81
Stroke	136	2.40
Splenic tumour	129	2.28
Hepatic (liver) tumour	115	2.03
Road Traffic Accident	102	1.80
Liver Failure	89	1.57
Epilepsy	88	1.55
Gastric dilation-volvulus syndrome (GDV/Bloat)	87	1.54
Aggression	85	1.50
Seizure	82	1.45
Gastric tumour	78	1.38



**Figure 1:** Histogram of the overall longevity for 5,663 deaths representing 179 breeds with reported deaths: overall median age at death was 10 years 4 months (minimum=0 years, maximum=26 years); mean age at death was 9.72 years.



**Figure 2:** Box and whisker plot of age at death in years for the twenty most common causes of death (N=5,684). The solid line within each box represents the median age of death from the condition. The box represents 50% of the dogs and the whiskers represent 95% of the dogs for each condition. The circles (o) represent possible outliers.

## **Morbidity results**

Of the 43,005 live dogs which the survey covers 27,972 had reported no conditions and 15,033 reported affected by at least one condition (min = 1 condition, max = 18 conditions), giving a total of 27,035 incidents of conditions. The median age at the time of survey for all live dogs was 4 years (Table 2).

The gender, neuter status and age of neutering summary statistics are shown in Table 3. There were 36,500 dogs with a reported Body Condition comment by their Veterinary practitioner displayed in Table 4.

The median age the dogs were first affected by a condition was 3 years (min = 0 years, max= 17 years, Figure 3). The ages for the most common conditions is displayed in Figure 4. Table 5 shows the frequency of occurrence of all reported disease conditions.

**Table 2:** The summary statics for the dogs' current age when survey was completed

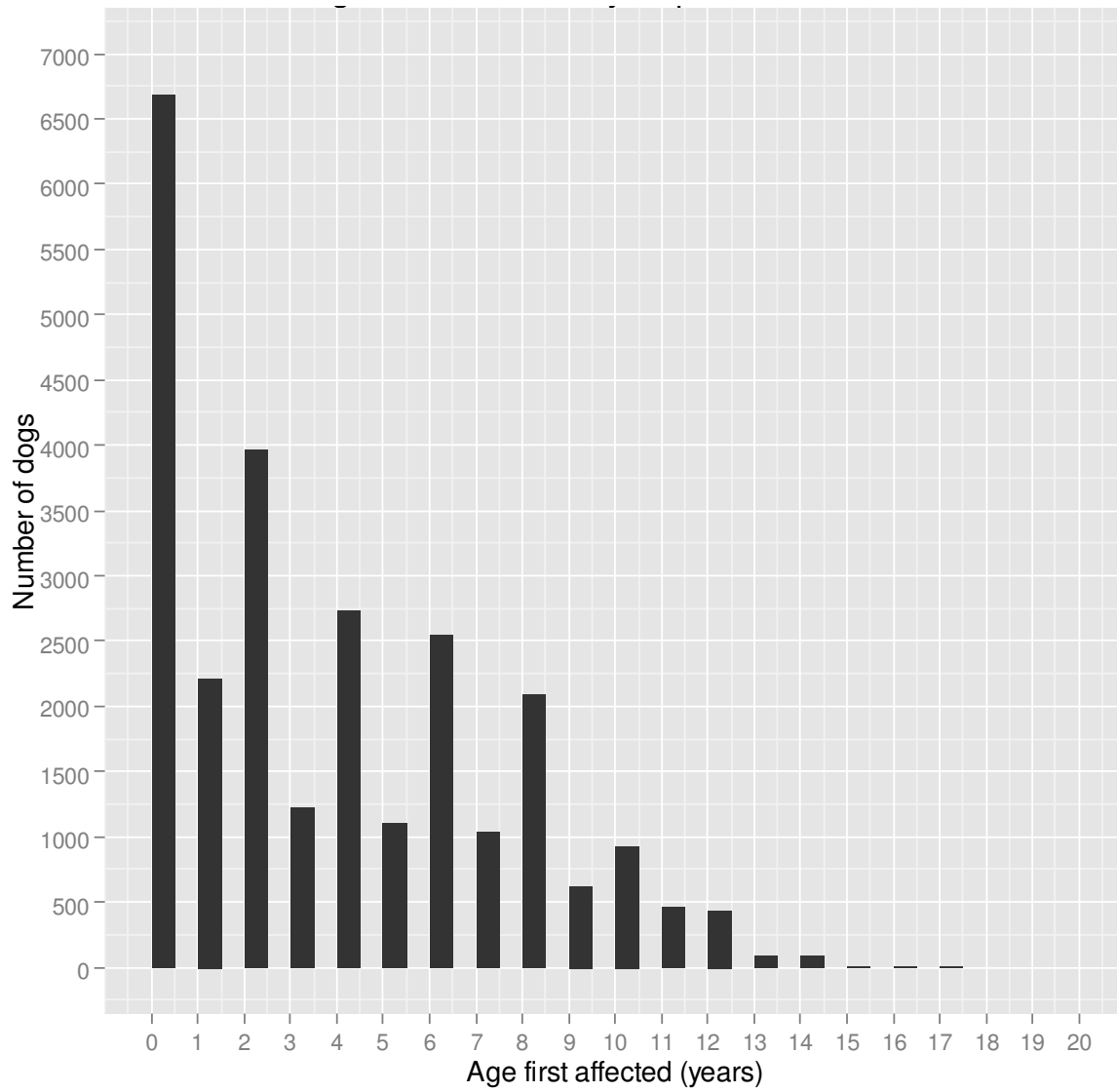
Number of Dogs	Mean age	Median age	Min age	Max age
43,005	4.51	4	0	28

**Table 3:** Gender, neuter status and age summary statistics for dogs where gender and neuter status was reported

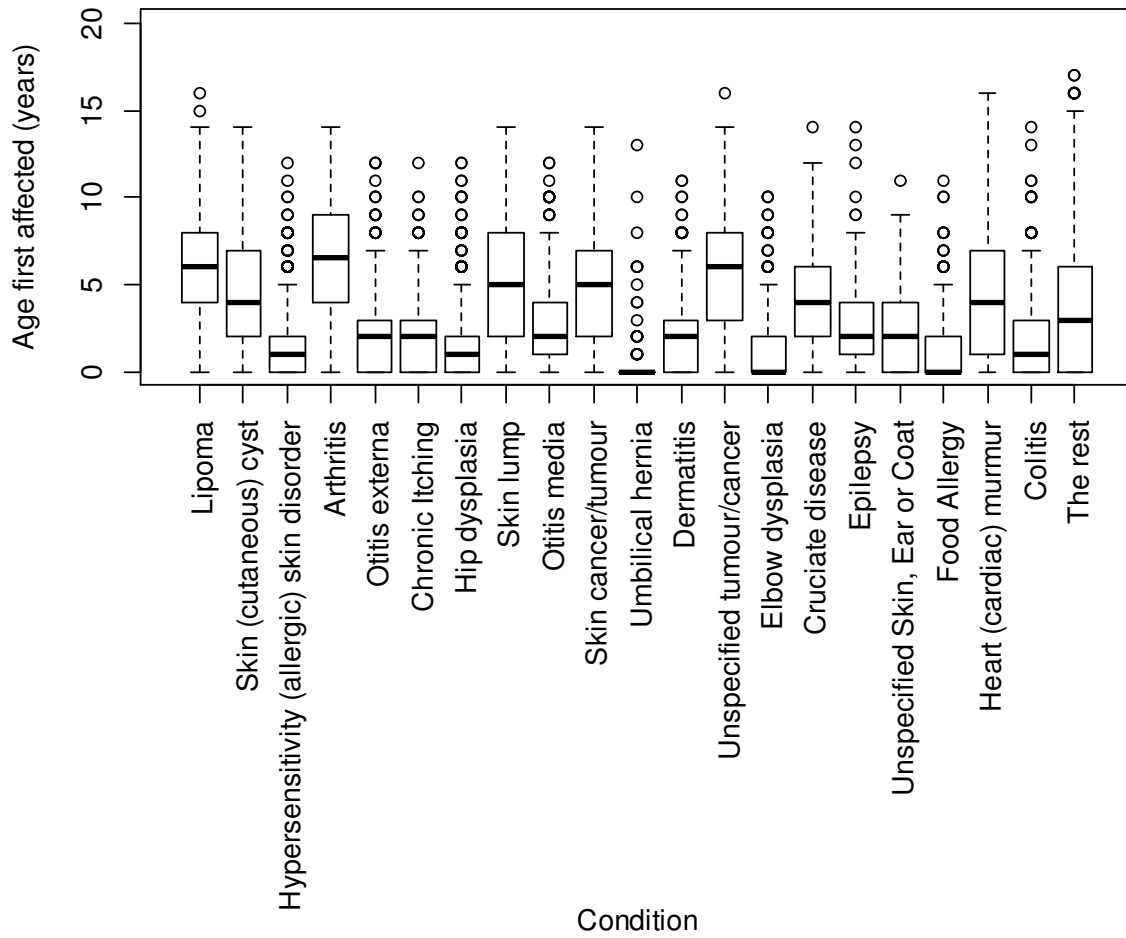
Sex	Neuter status	Age known	Count	Mean age neutered (years)	Median age neutered (years)	Min age neutered (years)	Max age neutered (years)
Female	Neutered	Known	12258	1.58	1	0	15
Female	Neutered	Not known	190	NA	NA	NA	NA
Female	Not neutered	Not known	7944	NA	NA	NA	NA
Female	Unknown	Not known	747	NA	NA	NA	NA
Male	Neutered	Known	10553	1.05	0	0	13
Male	Neutered	Not known	174	NA	NA	NA	NA
Male	Not neutered	Not known	10342	NA	NA	NA	NA
Male	Unknown	Not known	797	NA	NA	NA	NA

**Table 4:** The body condition comment and the age of the dog when this comment was made

Body condition	Count	Mean age comment made	Median age comment made	Min age comment made	Max age comment made
No comment was made by vet	2028	4.00	4	0	17
Normal	30918	3.78	3	0	17
Somewhat overweight	2829	5.15	5	0	15
Somewhat underweight	612	4.34	3	0	17
Very overweight	55	4.85	4	0	10
Very underweight	58	4.17	2	0	14



**Figure 3:** Histogram showing frequency of age at diagnosis for the 28,195 disease conditions reported



**Figure 4:** Box and whisker plot of age at diagnosis in years for the most common disease conditions in descending order. The solid line within each box represents the median age at diagnosis from the condition. The box represents 50% of the dogs and the whiskers represent 95% of the dogs for each condition. The circles (o) represent possible outliers

**Table 5:** The most commonly reported disease conditions in descending order for all breeds (N = 43,005 live dogs)

Condition	Number of cases of disease	Proportion (%)	Prevalence (%)
Lipoma	1859	6.88	4.32
Skin (cutaneous) cyst	1332	4.93	3.10
Hypersensitivity (allergic) skin disorder	1146	4.24	2.66
Arthritis	959	3.55	2.23
Otitis externa	629	2.33	1.46
Chronic Itching	610	2.26	1.42
Hip dysplasia	561	2.08	1.30
Skin lump	552	2.04	1.28
Otitis media	515	1.90	1.20
Skin cancer/tumour	501	1.85	1.16
Umbilical hernia	495	1.83	1.15
Dermatitis	468	1.73	1.09
Unspecified tumour/cancer	440	1.63	1.02
Elbow dysplasia	439	1.62	1.02
Epilepsy	436	1.61	1.01
Cruciate disease	401	1.48	0.93
Unspecified Skin Ear or Coat	388	1.44	0.90
Heart (cardiac) murmur	384	1.42	0.89
Food Allergy	370	1.37	0.86
Colitis	362	1.34	0.84

Proportion of morbidity as %= N/27,035 disease conditions, prevalence %= N/43,005 live dogs

### **Summary**

From the dogs surveyed most were not affected by a disease condition (65.04%). The most commonly reported disease condition in live dogs was lipoma. The most commonly reported cause of death was old age.