



**THE KENNEL CLUB  
DOG HEALTH**

**American Cocker Spaniel**

**Pedigree Breed Health Survey**

Forms were received representing 40 living dogs & 7 deceased dogs.

**Mortality results**

A total of 7 deaths were reported, representing 0.12% of all deaths reported in the Pedigree Breed Health survey. The range of longevity for American Cocker Spaniel was 7 years to 16 years. Table 1 shows the causes of death for the breed.

**Table 1** The causes of death/reasons for euthanasia (N = 7 deceased dogs)

<b>Cause of death</b>
Kidney Failure
Hepatopathy (liver) disorder
Mammary tumour
Old Age
Stroke
Unknown

### **Morbidity results**

The 40 live American Cocker Spaniels represented 0.09% of total dogs in the survey. The median age of live dogs for the breed was 3.5 years (Table 2). Of the 40 American Cocker Spaniel which the survey covers, 21 had reported no conditions and 19 reported affected by at least one condition(min = 1 condition(s), max = 6 conditions), giving a total of 42 incidents of conditions.

The gender, neuter status and age of neutering summary statistics for American Cocker Spaniel's are shown in Table 3. There were 30 dogs with responses for Body Condition displayed in Table 4.

The median age the dogs were first affected by a condition was 4 years (min = 0 years, max= 12 years). Table 5 shows the reported disease conditions for the American Cocker Spaniel.

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

<b>Number of Dogs</b>	<b>Mean age (years)</b>	<b>Median age (years)</b>	<b>Min age (years)</b>	<b>Max age (years)</b>
40	4.3	3.5	0	12

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

<b>Sex</b>	<b>Neuter status</b>	<b>Age known</b>	<b>Count</b>	<b>Mean age neutered (years)</b>	<b>Median age neutered (years)</b>	<b>Min age neutered (years)</b>	<b>Max age neutered (years)</b>
Female	Neutered	Yes	6	6.5	6.5	4	8
Female	Not neutered	No	7	NA	NA	NA	NA
Male	Neutered	Yes	9	0.67	0	0	4
Male	Not neutered	No	17	NA	NA	NA	NA
Male	Unknown	No	1	NA	NA	NA	NA

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

<b>Body condition</b>	<b>Count</b>	<b>Mean age (years)</b>	<b>Median age (years)</b>	<b>Min age (years)</b>	<b>Max age (years)</b>
Normal	25	3.52	3	0	12
Somewhat overweight	4	7.50	8	5	9
Somewhat underweight	1	12.00	12	12	12

**Table 5:** The most commonly reported disease conditions in descending order for the breed (N = 40 live dogs)

<b>Condition</b>
Chronic Itching
Cruciate disease
Keratoconjunctivitis sicca (KCS, Dry Eye)
Ear mite infestation
Lipoma
Prolapsed third eyelid gland (Cherry eye)
Acute moist dermatitis
Anaemia
Blindness
Colitis
Deafness - complete
Ear lump
Ectropion
Food Allergy
Hepatopathy
Hypothyroidism/Under-active thyroid
Immune Mediated Hemolytic Anaemia (IMHA)
Intervertebral disc disorder
Kennel Cough
Liver lump

### **Summary**

From the dogs surveyed, most American Cocker Spaniels were not affected by a disease condition (52.50%). There were three disease conditions that represented an equal proportion of affected live dogs; these conditions were chronic itching, cruciate disease, and keratoconjunctivitis sicca (KCS, Dry Eye). The most commonly reported cause of death was kidney failure.