



THE KENNEL CLUB DOG HEALTH

Chow Chow

Pedigree Breed Health Survey

Forms were received representing 79 living dogs & 19 deceased dogs.

Mortality results

A total of 19 deaths were reported, representing 0.34% of all deaths reported in the Pedigree Breed Health survey. The range of longevity for the Chow Chow was 1 year to 14 years. Table 1 shows the causes of death for the breed.

Table 1 The most common causes of death/reasons for euthanasia (N = 19 deceased dogs).

Cause of death
Brain tumour
Cancer - unspecified
Hepatic liver tumour
Old Age
Stroke
Addison's disease primary hypoadrenocorticism
Attacked by a dog
Cardiomyopathy
Gastric dilation-volvulus syndrome GDV Bloat
Kidney Failure
Old Age combinations
Pancreatic disorder - unspecified
Post operative complication
Surgical complications

Morbidity results

The 79 live Chow Chows represented 0.19% of total dogs in the survey. The median age of live dogs for the breed was 4 years (Table 2). Of the 79 Chow Chows which the survey covers, 31 had reported no conditions and 48 reported affected by at least one condition (min = 1 condition(s), max = 5 conditions), giving a total of 108 incidents of conditions.

The gender, neuter status and age of neutering summary statistics for Chow Chows are shown in Table 3. There were 64 dogs with responses for Body Condition displayed in Table 4.

The median age the dogs were first affected by a condition was 1 years (min = 0 years, max= 14 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 for the Chow Chow.

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

Number of Dogs	Mean age (years)	Median age (years)	Min age (years)	Max age (years)
80	4.78	4	0	18

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	Yes	27	2.15	2	0	8
Female	Not neutered	No	16	NA	NA	NA	NA
Male	Neutered	Yes	10	1.20	1	0	4
Male	Not neutered	No	25	NA	NA	NA	NA
Male	Unknown	No	2	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 (years)	Median age (years)	Min age (years)	Max age (years)
No comment was made by vet	6	4.50	6	0	7
Normal	54	3.70	4	0	12
Somewhat overweight	3	5.33	5	5	6
Somewhat underweight	1	14.00	14	14	14

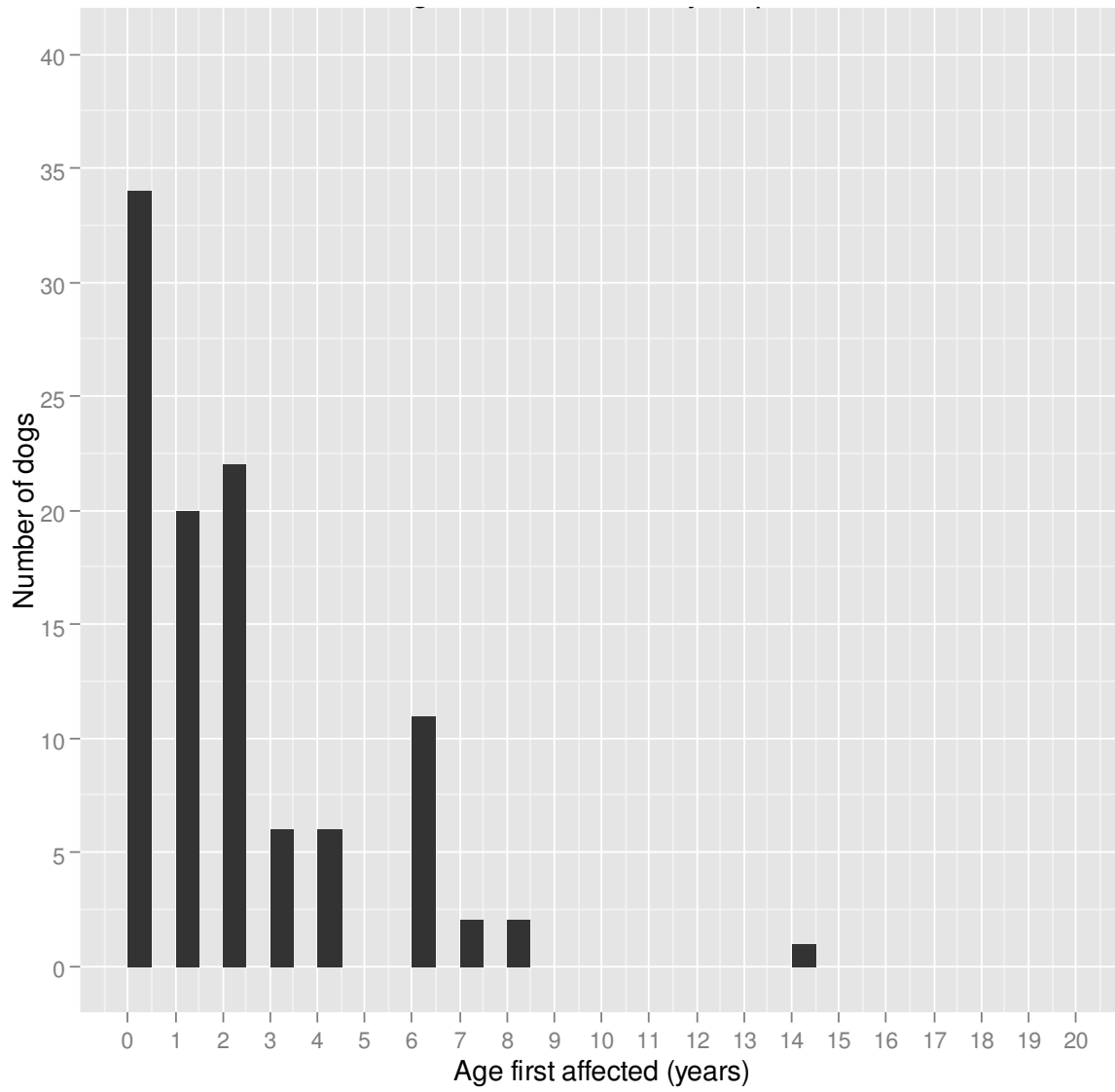


Figure 3: Histogram showing frequency of known age at diagnosis for the disease conditions reported

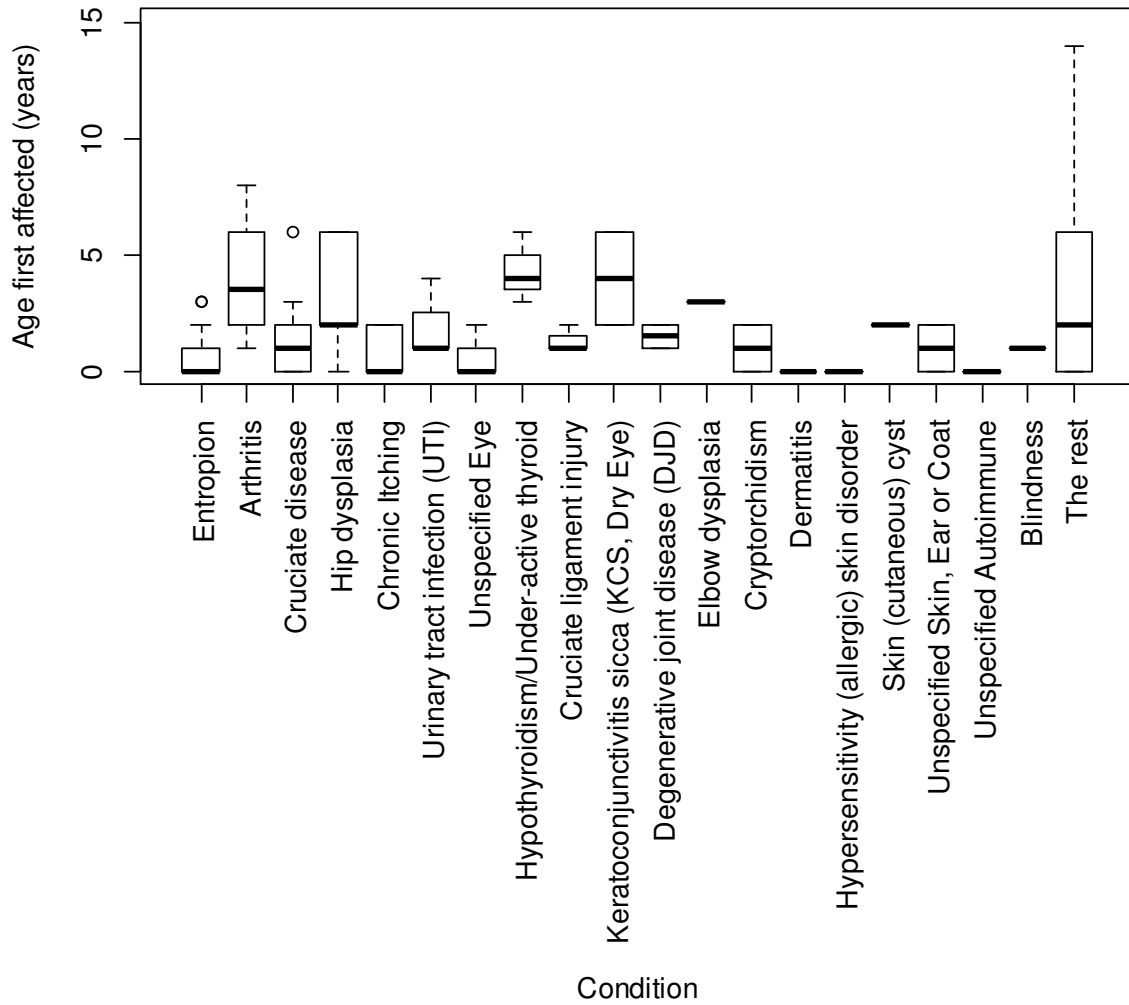


Figure 4: Box and whisker plot of age at diagnosis in years for the most common disease conditions in descending order. The solid line within each box represents the median age at diagnosis from the condition. The box represents 50% of the dogs and the whiskers represent 95% of the dogs for each condition.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

Table 5: The most commonly reported disease conditions in descending order for the breed (N = 79 live dogs)

Condition	Number of cases of disease	Proportion (%)	Prevalence (%)
Entropion	20	18.52	25.32
Arthritis	14	12.96	17.72
Cruciate disease	13	12.04	16.46
Chronic Itching	5	4.63	6.33
Hip dysplasia	5	4.63	6.33
Urinary tract infection (UTI)	4	3.70	5.06
Cruciate ligament injury	3	2.78	3.80
Hypothyroidism/Under-active thyroid	3	2.78	3.80
Unspecified Eye	3	2.78	3.80
Cryptorchidism	2	1.85	2.53
Degenerative joint disease (DJD) (Osteoarthritis)	2	1.85	2.53
Dermatitis	2	1.85	2.53
Elbow dysplasia	2	1.85	2.53
Hypersensitivity (allergic) skin disorder	2	1.85	2.53
Keratoconjunctivitis sicca (KCS, Dry Eye)	2	1.85	2.53
Skin (cutaneous) cyst	2	1.85	2.53
Unspecified Skin, Ear or Coat	2	1.85	2.53
Alopecia/Baldness	1	0.93	1.27
Blindness	1	0.93	1.27
BOAS	1	0.93	1.27

Proportion of morbidity as %= N/108 disease conditions, prevalence %= N/79 live dogs

Summary

From the dogs surveyed, most Chow Chows were affected by a disease condition (60.76%). The most commonly reported disease condition in live dogs was entropion. There were five causes of death which represented an equal proportion of the reported deaths as the most commonly reported causes of death; these were brain tumour, unspecified cancer, hepatic liver tumour, old age and stroke.