



Cocker Spaniel

Pedigree Breed Health Survey

Forms were received representing 3,723 living dogs & 268 deceased dogs.

Mortality results

A total of 268 deaths were reported, representing 4.78% of all deaths reported in the Pedigree Breed Health survey. The median longevity for the Cocker Spaniel was 11 years (Figure 1). Table 1 shows the causes of death for the breed. 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 (N = 268 deceased dogs).

| Cause of death | Number of cases | Proportion (%) |
|----------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| Cancer - unspecified | 28 | 10.45 |
| Old Age | 24 | 8.96 |
| Kidney Failure | 21 | 7.84 |
| Unknown | 18 | 6.72 |
| Cardiac heart Failure | 12 | 4.48 |
| Road Traffic Accident | 12 | 4.48 |
| Aggression | 11 | 4.10 |
| Old Age combinations | 11 | 4.10 |
| Cardiomyopathy | 8 | 2.99 |
| Liver Failure | 7 | 2.61 |
| Pancreatitis | 7 | 2.61 |
| Lymphoma | 6 | 2.24 |
| Stroke | 6 | 2.24 |
| Hepatic liver tumour | 5 | 1.87 |
| Brain tumour | 4 | 1.49 |
| Diabetes | 4 | 1.49 |
| Hepatopathy liver disorder | 4 | 1.49 |
| Kidney disease | 4 | 1.49 |
| Oral mouth tumour | 4 | 1.49 |
| Pancreatic tumour | 4 | 1.49 |

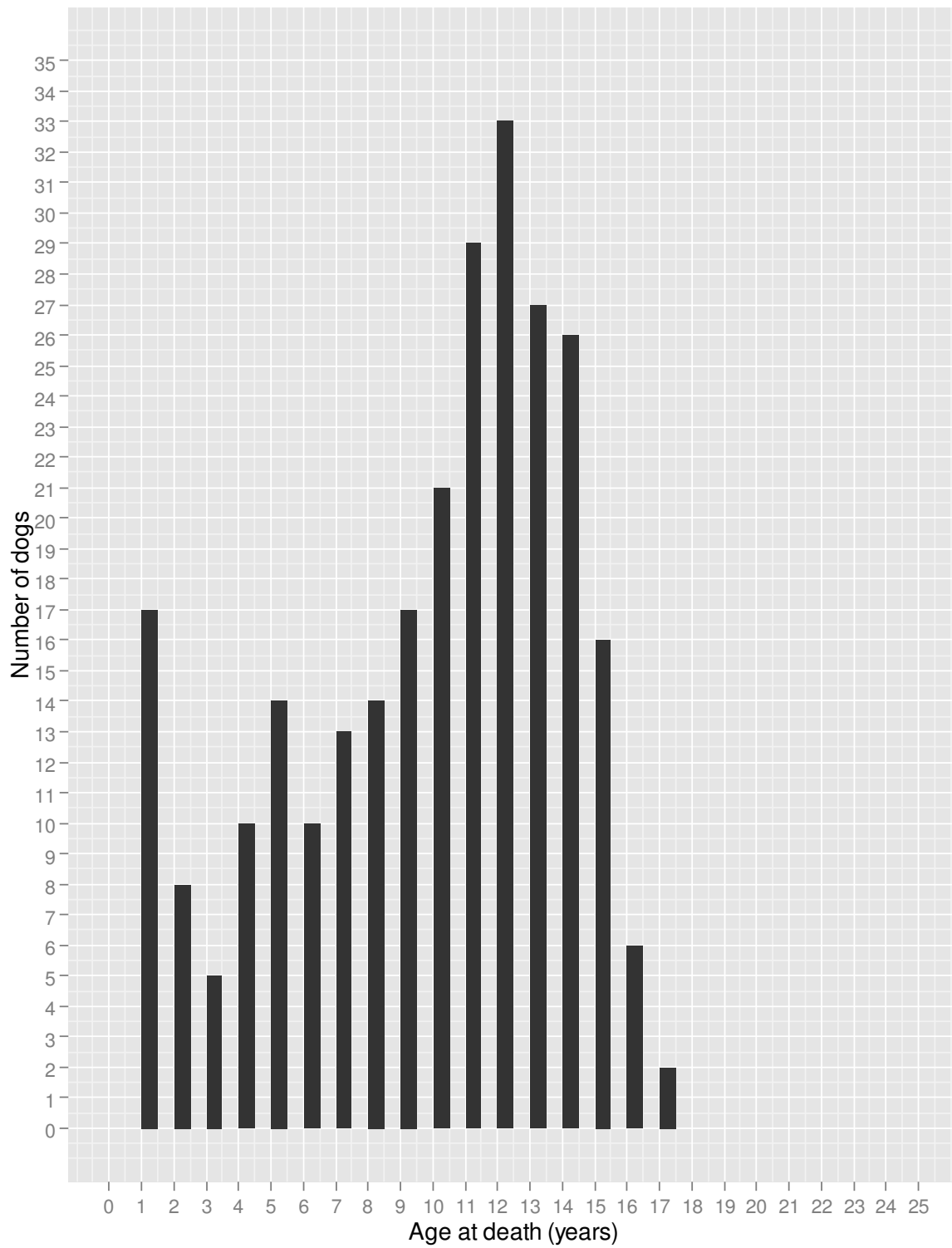


Figure 1: Histogram of the longevity for 268 reported deaths: overall median age at death was 11 years (minimum= 1 years, maximum= 17 years); mean age at death was 9.64 years

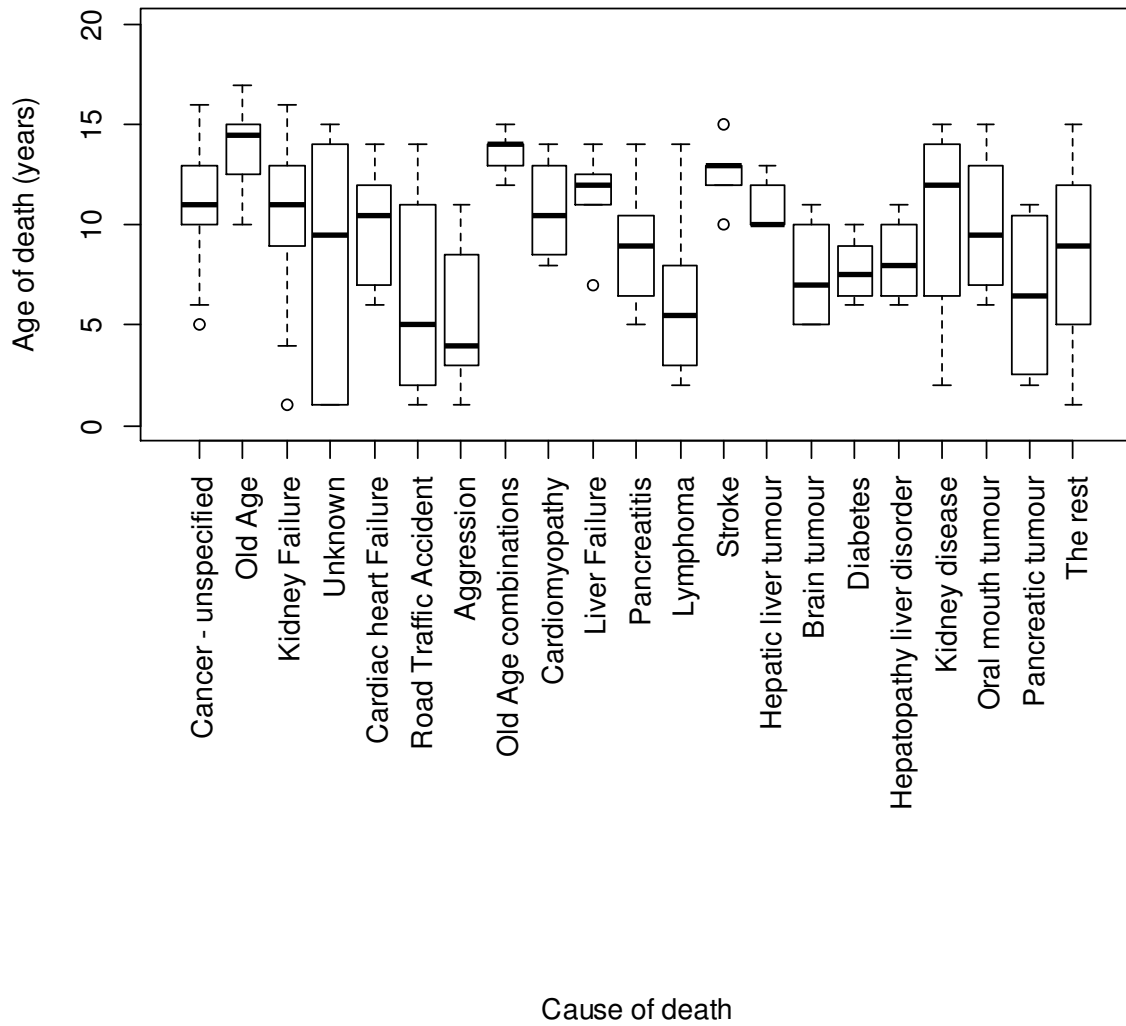


Figure 2: Box and whisker plot of age at death in years for the most twenty common causes of death (N=268). The solid line within each box represents the median age of death from the condition. The box represents 50% of the dogs and the whiskers represent 95% of the dogs for each condition. The circles (o) represent possible outliers

Morbidity results

The 3,723 live Cocker Spaniels represented 8.64% of total dogs in the survey. The median age of live dogs for the breed was 3 years (Table 2). Of the 3,723 Cocker Spaniels which the survey covers, 2,756 had reported no conditions and 967 reported affected by at least one condition (min = 1 condition(s), max = 13 conditions), giving a total of 1,767 incidents of conditions.

The gender, neuter status and age of neutering summary statistics for Cocker Spaniels are shown in Table 3. There were 3,252 dogs with responses for Body Condition displayed in Table 4.

The median age the dogs were first affected by a condition was 3 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 Cocker Spaniel.

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) |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| 3723 | 3.97 | 3 | 0 | 24 |

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 | 1025 | 1.24 | 0 | 0 | 12 |
| Female | Neutered | No | 15 | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| Female | Not neutered | No | 622 | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| Female | Unknown | No | 75 | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| Male | Neutered | Yes | 973 | 0.85 | 0 | 0 | 10 |
| Male | Neutered | No | 17 | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| Male | Not neutered | No | 925 | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| Male | Unknown | No | 71 | 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 (years) | Median age comment made (years) | Min age comment made (years) | Max age comment made (years) |
|----------------------------|--------------|--------------------------------------|--|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| No comment was made by vet | 160 | 3.75 | 3 | 0 | 14 |
| Normal | 2765 | 3.30 | 3 | 0 | 15 |
| Somewhat overweight | 271 | 4.71 | 4 | 0 | 12 |
| Somewhat underweight | 47 | 3.30 | 2 | 0 | 11 |
| very overweight | 6 | 3.00 | 3 | 0 | 6 |
| Very underweight | 3 | 1.33 | 0 | 0 | 4 |

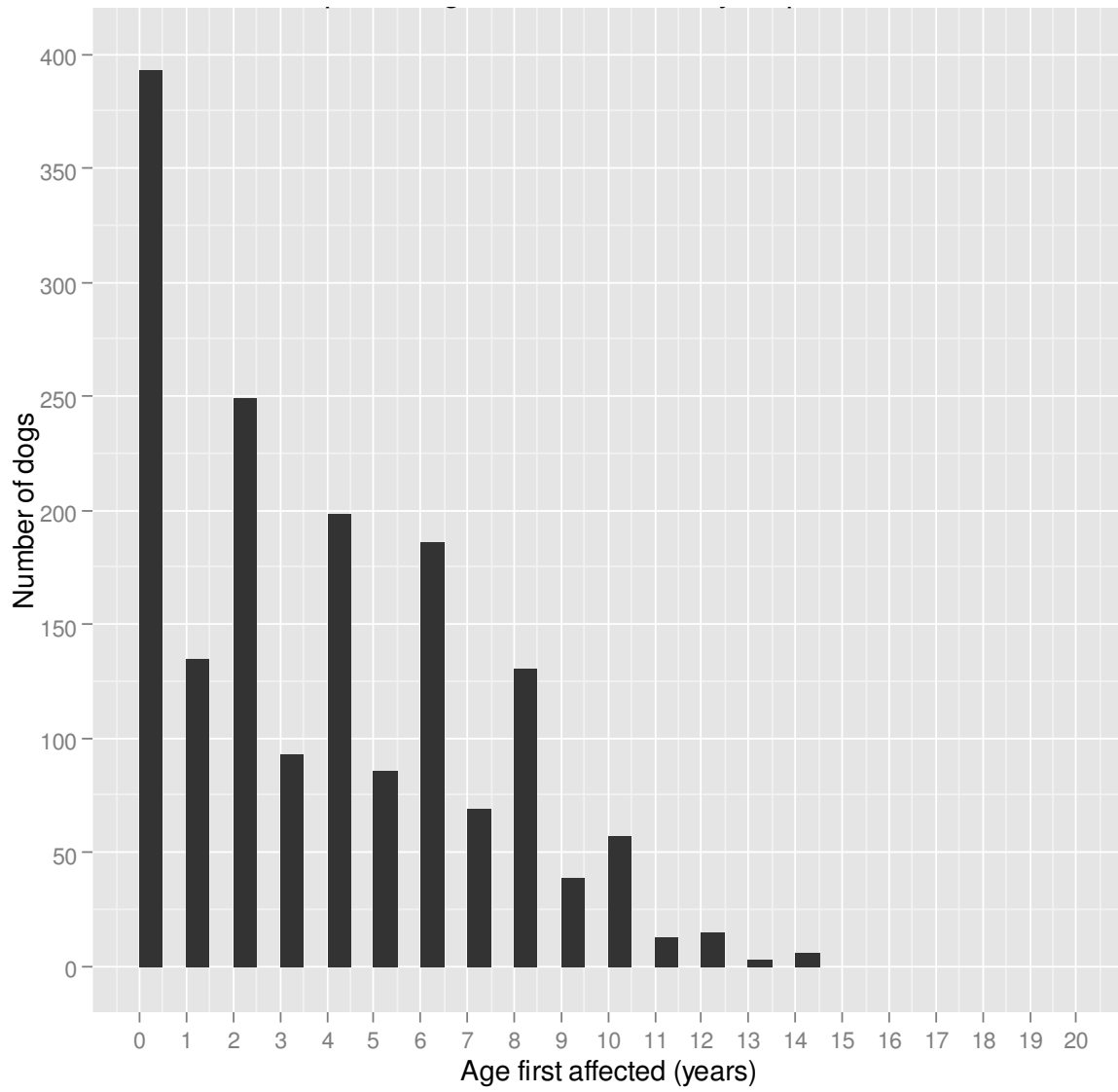


Figure 3: Histogram showing frequency of known age at diagnosis for the disease conditions reported

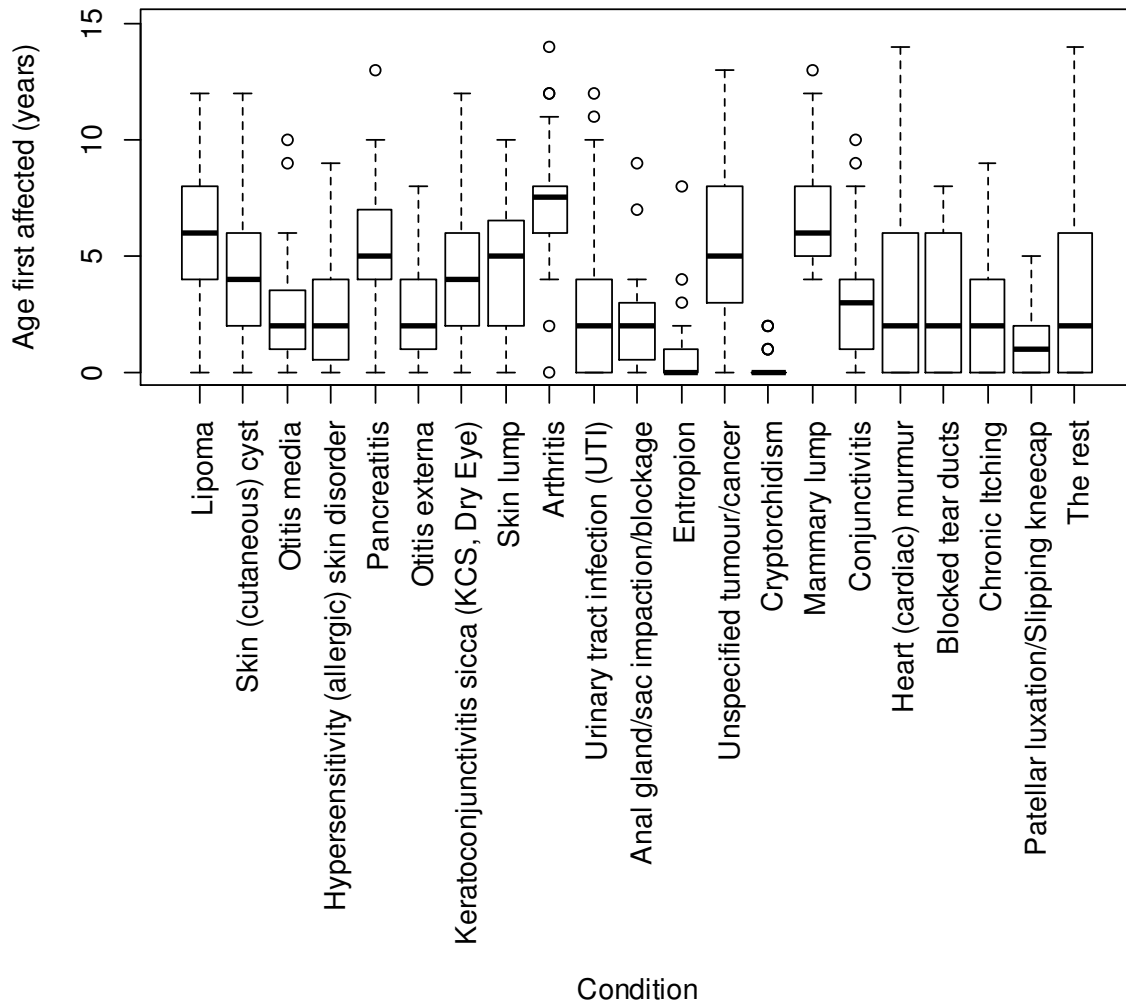


Figure 4: Box and whisker plot of age at diagnosis in years for the most common disease conditions in descending order. The solid line within each box represents the median age at diagnosis from the condition. The box represents 50% of the dogs and the whiskers represent 95% of the dogs for each condition.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

Table 5: The most commonly reported disease conditions in descending order for the breed (N = 3,723 live dogs)

| Condition | Number of cases of disease | Proportion (%) | Prevalence (%) |
|---|----------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Lipoma | 177 | 10.02 | 4.75 |
| Skin (cutaneous) cyst | 102 | 5.77 | 2.74 |
| Otitis media | 56 | 3.17 | 1.50 |
| Hypersensitivity (allergic) skin disorder | 50 | 2.83 | 1.34 |
| Otitis externa | 47 | 2.66 | 1.26 |
| Pancreatitis | 47 | 2.66 | 1.26 |
| Keratoconjunctivitis sicca (KCS, Dry Eye) | 46 | 2.60 | 1.24 |
| Skin lump | 43 | 2.43 | 1.15 |
| Arthritis | 35 | 1.98 | 0.94 |
| Urinary tract infection (UTI) | 35 | 1.98 | 0.94 |
| Anal gland/sac impaction/blockage | 34 | 1.92 | 0.91 |
| Cryptorchidism | 34 | 1.92 | 0.91 |
| Entropion | 34 | 1.92 | 0.91 |
| Unspecified tumour/cancer | 34 | 1.92 | 0.91 |
| Mammary lump | 29 | 1.64 | 0.78 |
| Conjunctivitis | 27 | 1.53 | 0.73 |
| Heart (cardiac) murmur | 26 | 1.47 | 0.70 |
| Blocked tear ducts | 25 | 1.41 | 0.67 |
| Chronic Itching | 25 | 1.41 | 0.67 |
| Food Allergy | 24 | 1.36 | 0.64 |

Proportion of morbidity as %= N/1,767 disease conditions, prevalence %= N/3,723 live dogs

Summary

From the dogs surveyed, most Cocker Spaniels were not affected by a disease condition (74.02%). The most commonly reported disease condition in live dogs was lipoma. The most commonly reported cause of death was unspecified cancer.