



## Irish Water Spaniel

### Pedigree Breed Health Survey

Forms were received representing 49 living dogs & 8 deceased dogs.

#### Mortality results

A total of 8 deaths were reported, representing 0.14% of all deaths reported in the Pedigree Breed Health survey. The range of longevity for Irish Water Spaniel was 1 year to 12 years. Table 1 shows the causes of death for the breed.

**Table 1** The causes of death/reasons for euthanasia (N = 8 deceased dogs).

<b>Cause of death</b>
Cancer - unspecified
Gastric tumour
Hepatic liver tumour
Mast cell tumour
Renal Dysplasia
Skin tumour
Splenic tumour
Testicular tumour

#### Morbidity results

The 49 live Irish Water Spaniels represented 0.11% of total dogs in the survey. The median age of live dogs for the breed was 5 years (Table 2). Of the 49 Irish Water Spaniels which the survey covers, 23 had reported no conditions and 26 reported affected by at least one condition (min = 1 condition(s), max = 7 conditions), giving a total of 52 incidents of conditions.

The gender, neuter status and age of neutering summary statistics for Irish Water Spaniels are shown in Table 3. There were 44 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= 10 years, Figure 3). The ages for the most common conditions is displayed in Figure 4. Table 5 shows the frequency of occurrence of the most commonly reported disease conditions for the Irish Water 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>
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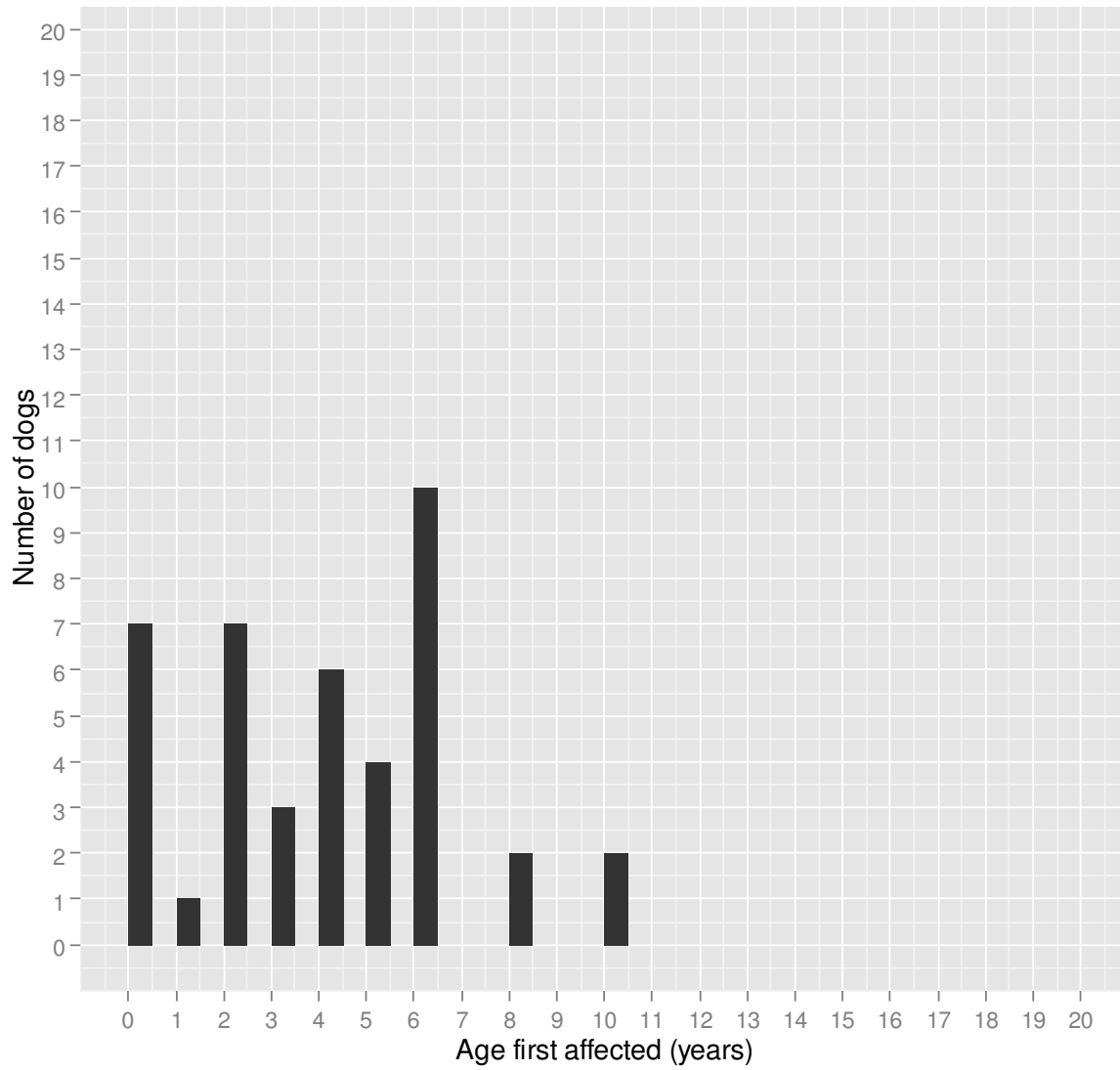
49	5.04	5	0	13
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**Table 3:** Gender, neuter status and age summary statistics for dogs where gender and neuter status was reported

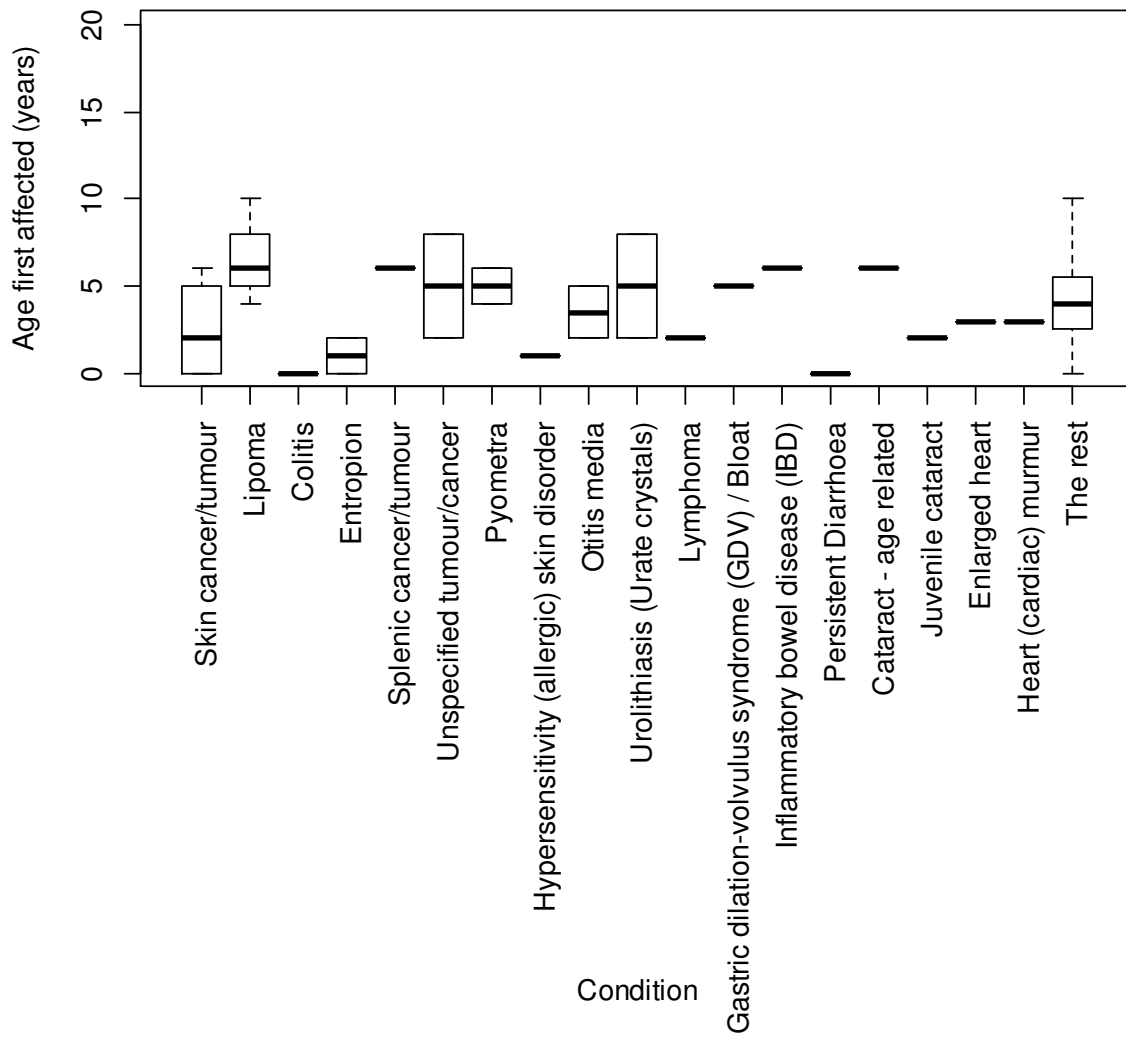
Sex	Neuter status	Age known	Count	Mean age neutered (years)	Median age neutered (years)	Min age neutered (years)	Max age neutered (years)
Female	Neutered	Yes	12	3.25	3	0	8
Female	Not neutered	No	11	NA	NA	NA	NA
Female	Unknown	No	1	NA	NA	NA	NA
Male	Neutered	Yes	10	2.90	2	0	8
Male	Neutered	No	1	NA	NA	NA	NA
Male	Not neutered	No	14	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	6.67	6	3	11
Normal	36	3.53	3.5	0	10
Somewhat overweight	2	2.00	2	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 = 49 live dogs)

Condition	Number of cases of disease	Proportion (%)	Prevalence (%)
Skin cancer/tumour	5	9.62	10.20
Lipoma	4	7.69	8.16
Colitis	3	5.77	6.12
Entropion	3	5.77	6.12
Hypersensitivity (allergic) skin disorder	2	3.85	4.08
Nail/Claw injury	2	3.85	4.08
Otitis media	2	3.85	4.08
Pyometra	2	3.85	4.08
Splenic cancer/tumour	2	3.85	4.08
Unspecified Skin, Ear or Coat	2	3.85	4.08
Unspecified tumour/cancer	2	3.85	4.08
Urolithiasis (Urate crystals)	2	3.85	4.08
Cataract - age related	1	1.92	2.04
Chronic Itching	1	1.92	2.04
Cryptorchidism	1	1.92	2.04
Ear mite infestation	1	1.92	2.04
Enlarged heart	1	1.92	2.04
Epilepsy	1	1.92	2.04
Foetal death/natural abortion	1	1.92	2.04
Gastric dilation-volvulus syndrome (GDV) / Bloat	1	1.92	2.04

Proportion of morbidity as %= N/52 disease conditions, prevalence %= N/49 live dogs

### **Summary**

From the dogs surveyed, most Irish Water Spaniels were affected by a disease condition (53.06%). The most commonly reported disease condition in live dogs was skin cancer/tumour. All reported causes of death represented an equal proportion of the reported deaths.