



Maltese

Pedigree Breed Health Survey

Forms were received representing 68 living dogs & 2 deceased dogs.

Mortality results

A total of 2 deaths were reported, representing 0.04% of all deaths reported in the Pedigree Breed Health survey. The range of longevity for the Maltese was 11 years to 12 years. Table 1 shows the causes of death for the breed.

Table 1 The most common causes of death/reasons for euthanasia (N = 2 deceased dogs).

Cause of death
Cancer - unspecified

Morbidity results

The 68 live Maltese represented 0.16% of total dogs in the survey. The median age of live dogs for the breed was 2 years (Table 2). Of the 68 Maltese which the survey covers, 46 had reported no conditions and 22 reported affected by at least one condition (min = 1 condition(s), max = 5 conditions), giving a total of 34 incidents of conditions.

The gender, neuter status and age of neutering summary statistics for Maltese are shown in Table 3. There were 59 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= 10 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 Maltese.

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)
68	3.12	2	0	11

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	16	0.81	0	0	4

Female	Not neutered	No	17	NA	NA	NA	NA
Female	Unknown	No	1	NA	NA	NA	NA
Male	Neutered	Yes	20	1.00	0	0	6
Male	Not neutered	No	13	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

Body condition	Count	Mean age (years)	Median age (years)	Min age (years)	Max age (years)
No comment was made by vet	4	0.75	0.5	0	2
Normal	53	2.04	1	0	8
Somewhat overweight	2	1.00	1	0	2

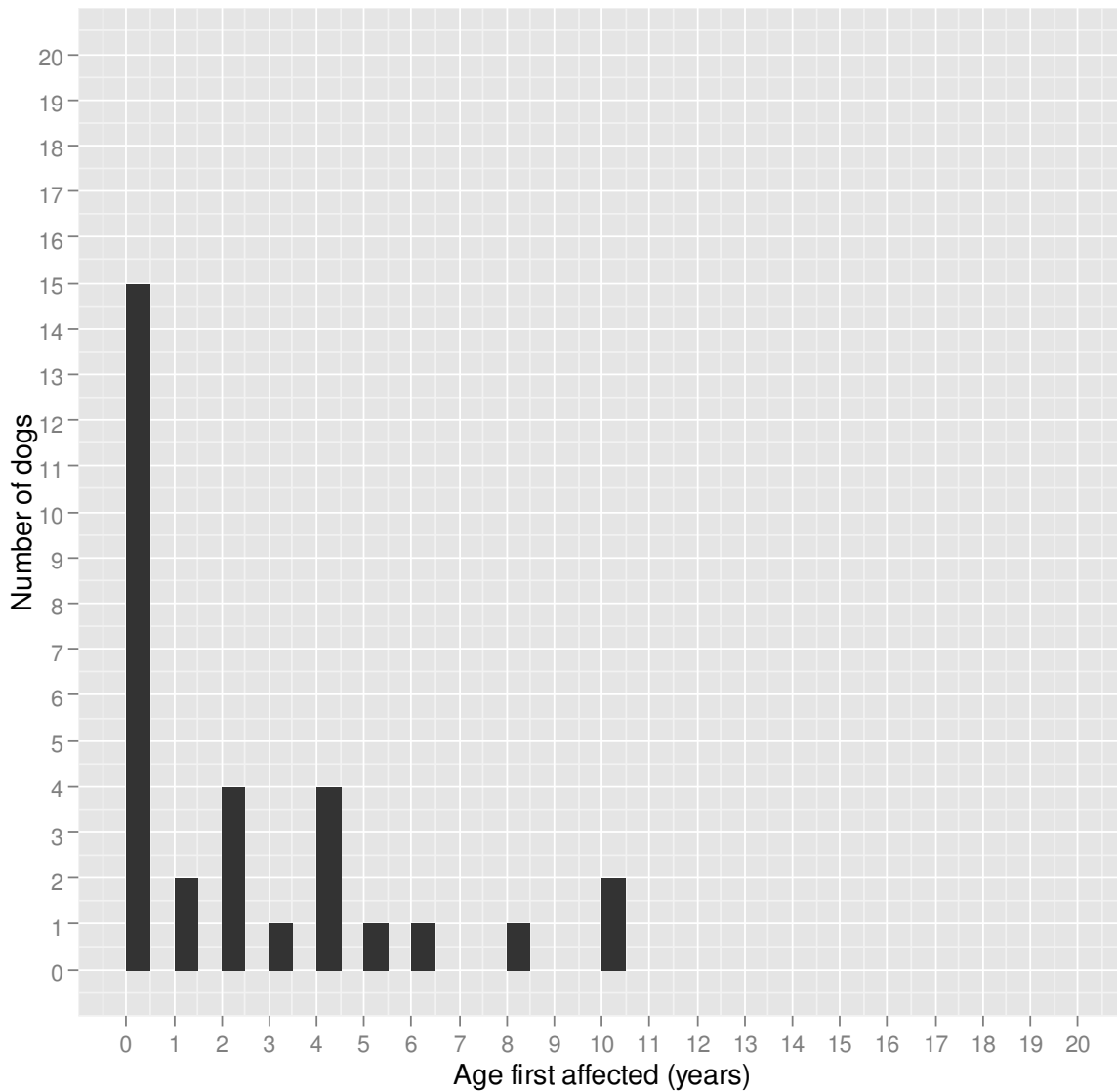


Figure 3: Histogram showing frequency of known age at diagnosis for the disease conditions reported

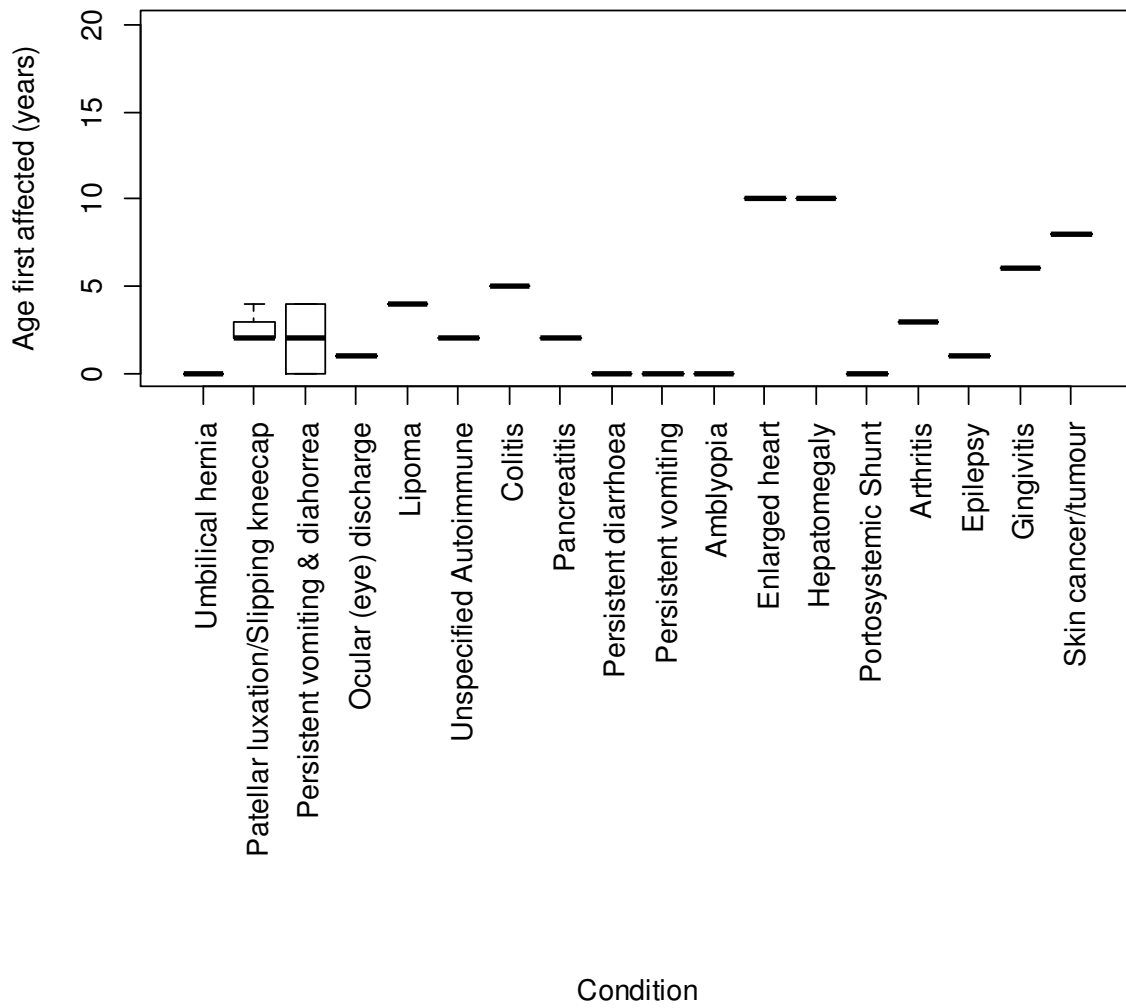


Figure 4: Box and whisker plot of age at diagnosis in years for the most common disease conditions in descending order. The solid line within each box represents the median age at diagnosis from the condition. The box represents 50% of the dogs and the whiskers represent 95% of the dogs for each condition.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

Table 5: The most commonly reported disease conditions in descending order for the breed (N = 68 live dogs)

Condition	Number of cases of disease	Proportion (%)	Prevalence (%)
Umbilical hernia	10	29.41	14.71
Patellar luxation/Slipping kneecap	3	8.82	4.41
Lipoma	2	5.88	2.94
Ocular (eye) discharge	2	5.88	2.94
Persistent vomiting & diahorrea	2	5.88	2.94
Amblyopia	1	2.94	1.47
Arthritis	1	2.94	1.47
Blocked tear ducts	1	2.94	1.47
Colitis	1	2.94	1.47
Enlarged heart	1	2.94	1.47
Epilepsy	1	2.94	1.47
Gingivitis	1	2.94	1.47
Hepatomegaly	1	2.94	1.47
Hiatus hernia	1	2.94	1.47
Pancreatitis	1	2.94	1.47
Persistent diarrhoea	1	2.94	1.47
Persistent vomiting	1	2.94	1.47
Portosystemic Shunt	1	2.94	1.47
Skin cancer/tumour	1	2.94	1.47
Unspecified Autoimmune	1	2.94	1.47

Proportion of morbidity as %= N/34 disease conditions, prevalence %= N/68 live dogs

Summary

From the dogs surveyed, most Maltese were not affected by a disease condition (67.65%). The most commonly reported disease condition in live dogs was umbilical hernia. There was only reported cause of death.