



St. Bernard

Pedigree Breed Health Survey

Forms were received representing 65 living dogs & 12 deceased dogs.

Mortality results

A total of 12 deaths were reported, representing 0.21% of all deaths reported in the Pedigree Breed Health survey. The range of longevity for the St. Bernard was 3 years to 10 years. Table 1 shows the causes of death for the breed.

Table 1 The most common causes of death/reasons for euthanasia (N = 12 deceased dogs).

Cause of death
Unknown
Brain tumour
Cardiomyopathy
Epilepsy
Gastric dilation-volvulus syndrome GDV Bloat
Kidney Failure
Lymphangiomas
Lymphoma
Old Age combinations
Peritonitis
Seizure

Morbidity results

The 65 live St. Bernards represented 0.15% of total dogs in the survey. The median age of live dogs for the breed was 3 years (Table 2). Of the 65 St. Bernards which the survey covers, 32 had reported no conditions and 33 reported affected by at least one condition (min = 1 condition(s), max = 10 conditions), giving a total of 77 incidents of conditions.

The gender, neuter status and age of neutering summary statistics for St. Bernards are shown in Table 3. There were 57 dogs with responses for Body Condition displayed in Table 4.

The median age the dogs were first affected by a condition was 1.5 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 St. Bernard.

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

Number of Dogs	Mean age (years)	Median age (years)	Min age (years)	Max age (years)
65	4.03	3	0	12

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	15	2.47	2	0	9
Female	Not neutered	No	10	NA	NA	NA	NA
Female	Unknown	No	1	NA	NA	NA	NA
Male	Neutered	Yes	6	0.5	0	0	2
Male	Not neutered	No	32	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	1	6.00	6	6	6
Normal	54	3.24	3	0	9
Somewhat overweight	1	4.00	4	4	4
Somewhat underweight	1	7.00	7	7	7

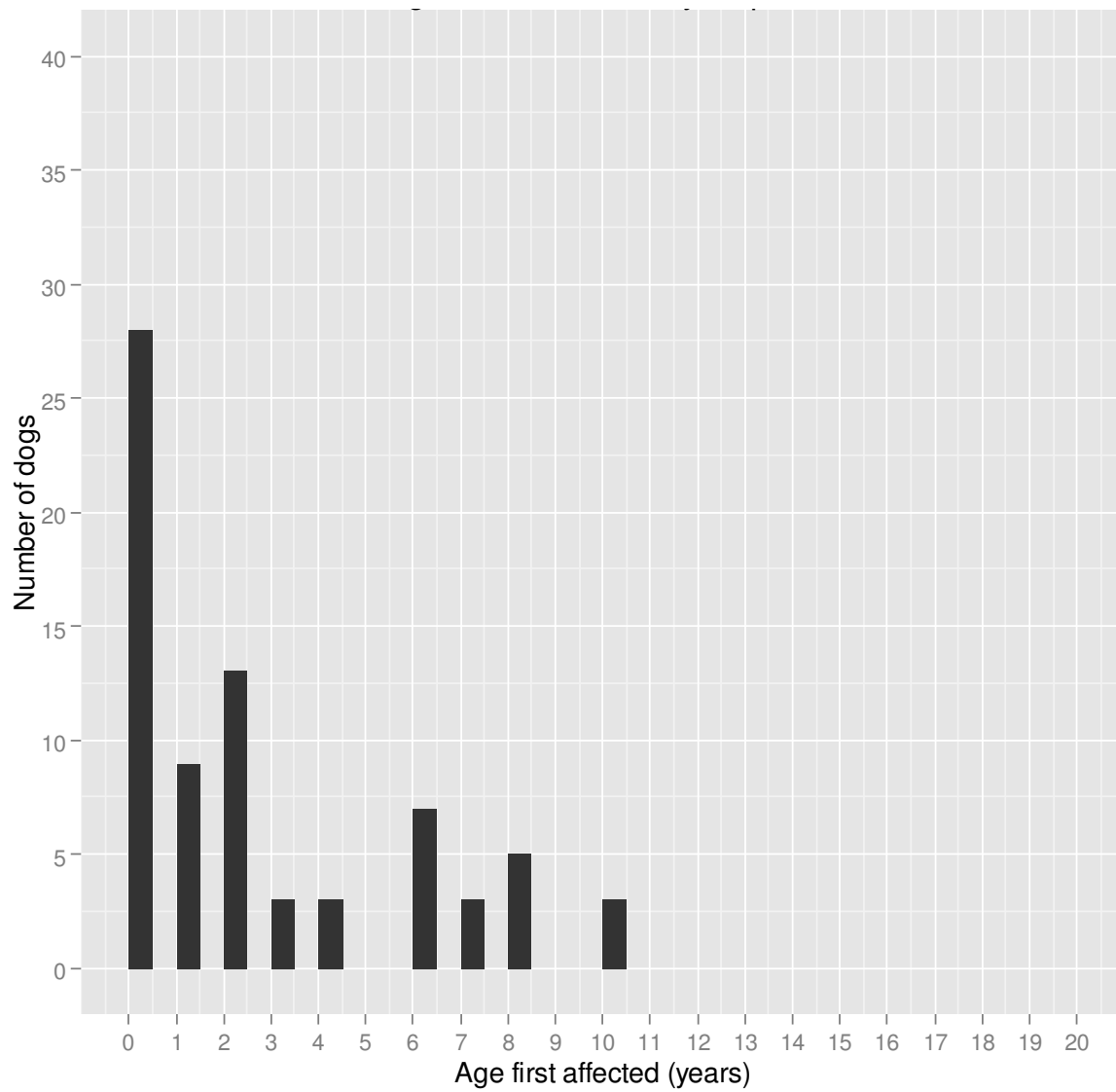


Figure 3: Histogram showing frequency of known age at diagnosis for the disease conditions reported

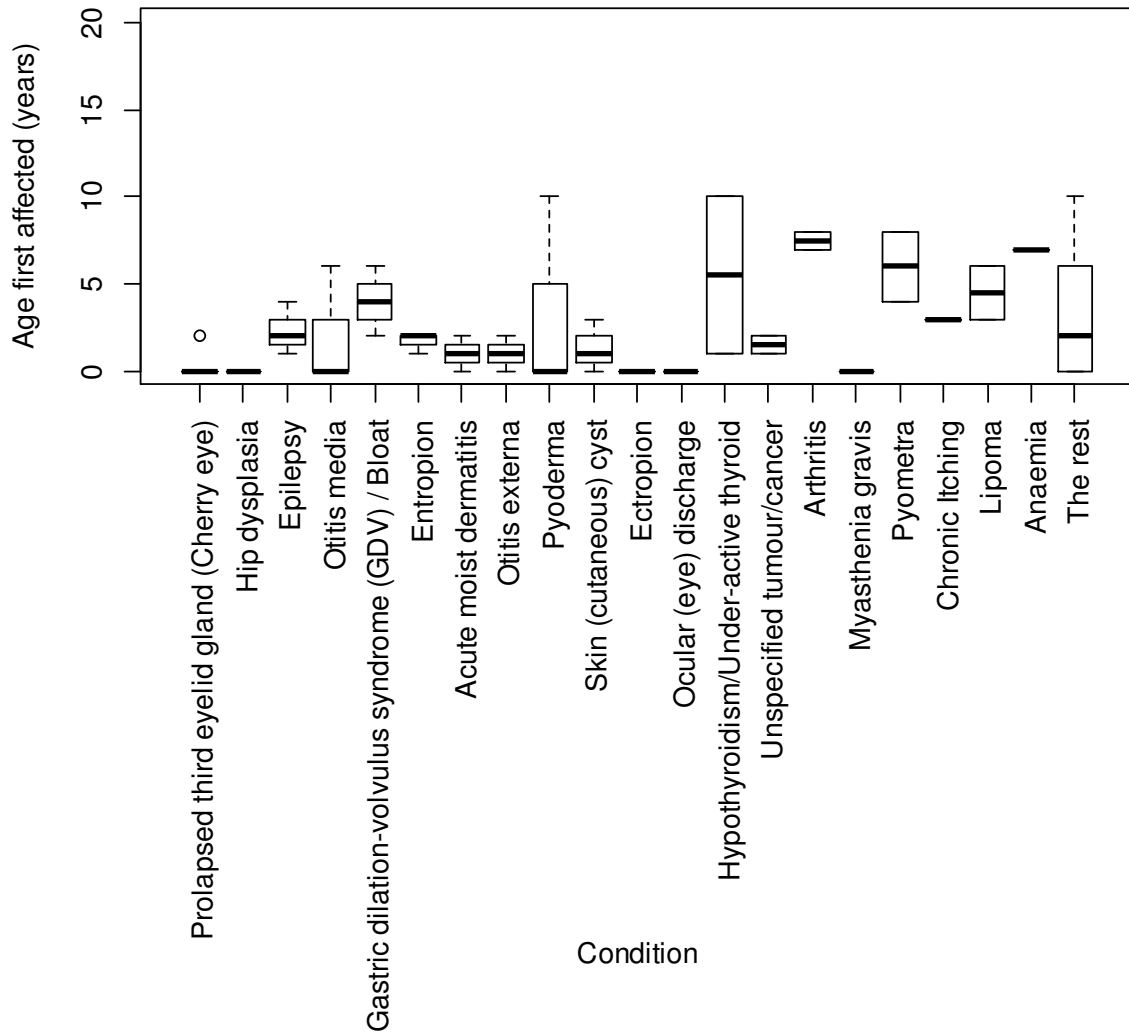


Figure 4: Box and whisker plot of age at diagnosis in years for the most common disease conditions in descending order. The solid line within each box represents the median age at diagnosis from the condition. The box represents 50% of the dogs and the whiskers represent 95% of the dogs for each condition.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

Table 5: The most commonly reported disease conditions in descending order for the breed (N = 65 live dogs)

Condition	Number of cases of disease	Proportion (%)	Prevalence (%)
Prolapsed third eyelid gland (Cherry eye)	5	6.49	7.69
Epilepsy	4	5.19	6.15
Hip dysplasia	4	5.19	6.15
Otitis media	4	5.19	6.15
Acute moist dermatitis	3	3.90	4.62
Entropion	3	3.90	4.62
Gastric dilation-volvulus syndrome (GDV) / Bloat	3	3.90	4.62
Otitis externa	3	3.90	4.62
Pyoderma	3	3.90	4.62
Skin (cutaneous) cyst	3	3.90	4.62
Arthritis	2	2.60	3.08
Chronic Itching	2	2.60	3.08
Ectropion	2	2.60	3.08
Hypothyroidism/Under-active thyroid	2	2.60	3.08
Lipoma	2	2.60	3.08
Myasthenia gravis	2	2.60	3.08
Ocular (eye) discharge	2	2.60	3.08
Pyometra	2	2.60	3.08
Unspecified tumour/cancer	2	2.60	3.08
Anaemia	1	1.30	1.54

Proportion of morbidity as %= N/77 disease conditions, prevalence %= N/65 live dogs

Summary

From the dogs surveyed most St. Bernards were affected by a disease condition (50.77 %). The most commonly reported disease condition in live dogs was prolapsed third eyelid gland (cherry eye). The most commonly reported cause of death was unknown conditions.