



**THE KENNEL CLUB
DOG HEALTH**

Welsh Springer Spaniel

Pedigree Breed Health Survey

Forms were received representing 180 living dogs & 31 deceased dogs.

Mortality results

A total of 31 deaths were reported, representing 0.55% of all deaths reported in the Pedigree Breed Health survey. The median age for the Welsh Springer Spaniel was 12 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 most common causes of death/reasons for euthanasia (N = 31 deceased dogs).

Cause of death	Number of cases	Proportion (%)
Cancer - unspecified	8	25.81
Stroke	5	16.13
Old Age	3	9.68
Old Age combinations	2	6.45
Bone tumour	1	3.23
Brain tumour	1	3.23
Cardiomyopathy	1	3.23
Kidney Failure	1	3.23
Lymphoma	1	3.23
Mast cell tumour	1	3.23
Myasthenia Gravis	1	3.23
Pericardial effusion	1	3.23
Prostate tumour	1	3.23
Pyometra	1	3.23
Rectal tumour	1	3.23
Renal Dysplasia	1	3.23
Surgical complications	1	3.23

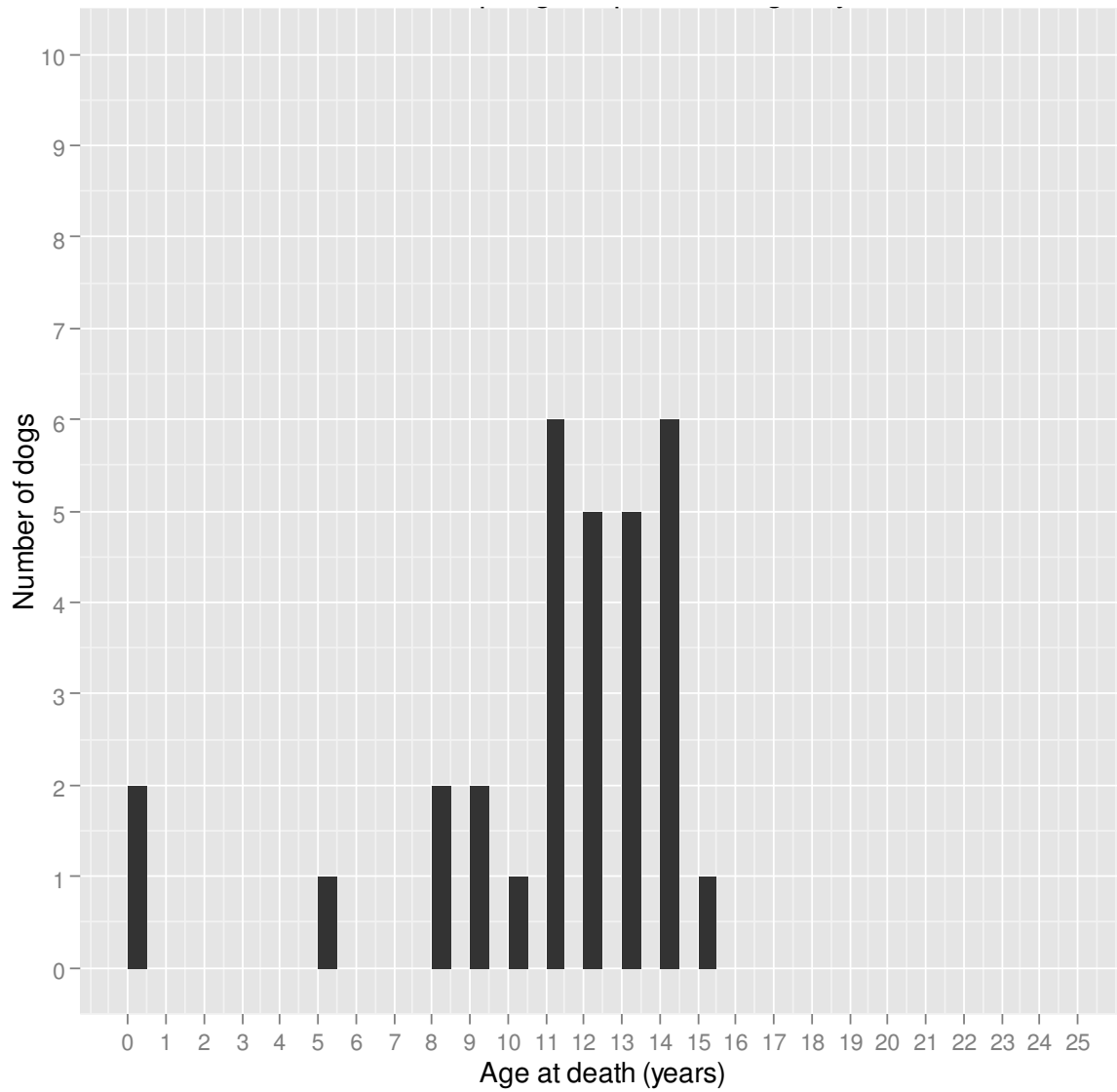


Figure 1: Histogram of the longevity for 31 reported deaths: overall median age at death was 12 years (minimum= 0 years, maximum= 15 years); mean age at death was 10.94 years

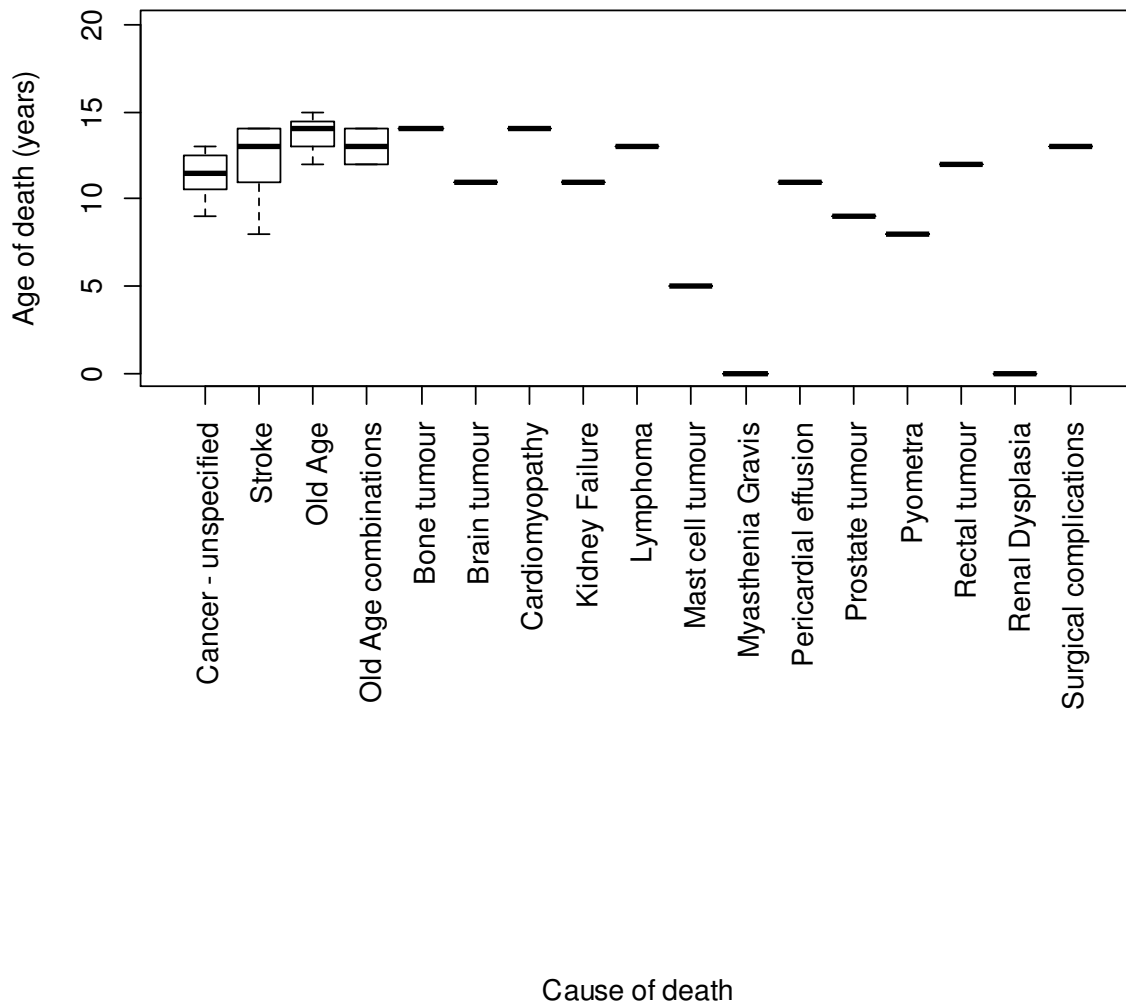


Figure 2: Box and whisker plot of age at death in years for the most common causes of death (N=31). The solid line within each box represents the median age of death from the condition. The box represents 50% of the dogs and the whiskers represent 95% of the dogs for each condition. The circles (o) represent possible outliers

Morbidity results

The 180 live Welsh Springer Spaniels represented 0.42% of total dogs in the survey. The median age of live dogs for the breed was 4 years (Table 2). Of the 180 Welsh Springer Spaniel which the survey covers, 116 had reported no conditions and 64 reported affected by at least one condition (min = 1 condition(s), max = 6 conditions), giving a total of 116 incidents of conditions.

The gender, neuter status and age of neutering summary statistics for Welsh Springer Spaniels are shown in Table 3. There were 154 dogs with responses for Body Condition displayed in Table 4.

The median age the dogs were first affected by a condition was 2 years (min = 0 years, max= 13 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 Welsh Springer Spaniel.

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)
180	4.56	4	0	16

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	34	1.18	0	0	8
Female	Neutered	No	1	NA	NA	NA	NA
Female	Not neutered	No	45	NA	NA	NA	NA
Female	Unknown	No	5	NA	NA	NA	NA
Male	Neutered	Yes	34	1.471	1	0	10
Male	Not neutered	No	61	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	20	5.85	6	0	12
Normal	128	3.70	3	0	13
Somewhat overweight	4	5.25	5.5	2	8
Somewhat underweight	2	0.50	0.5	0	1

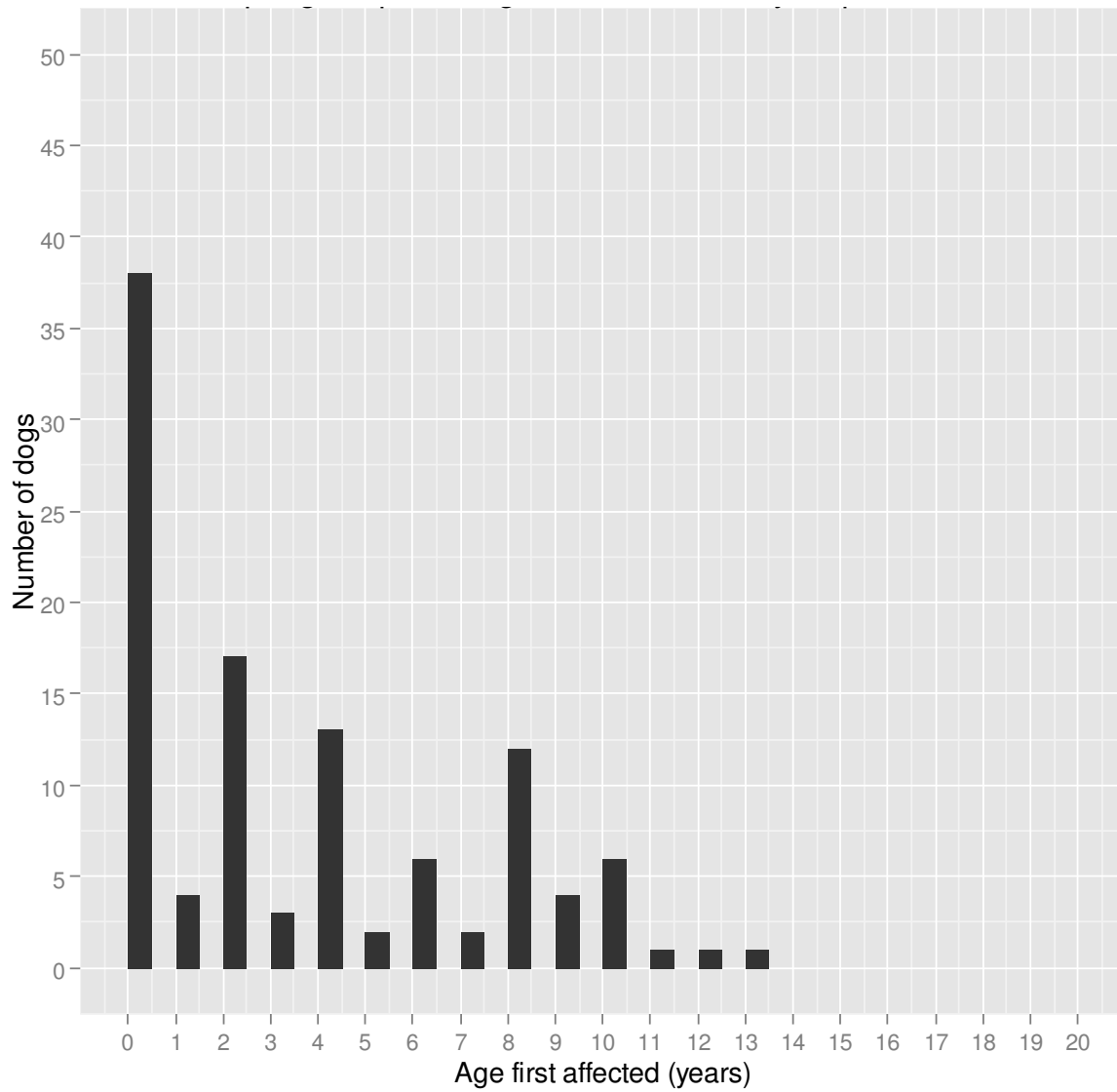


Figure 3: Histogram showing frequency of known age at diagnosis for the disease conditions reported

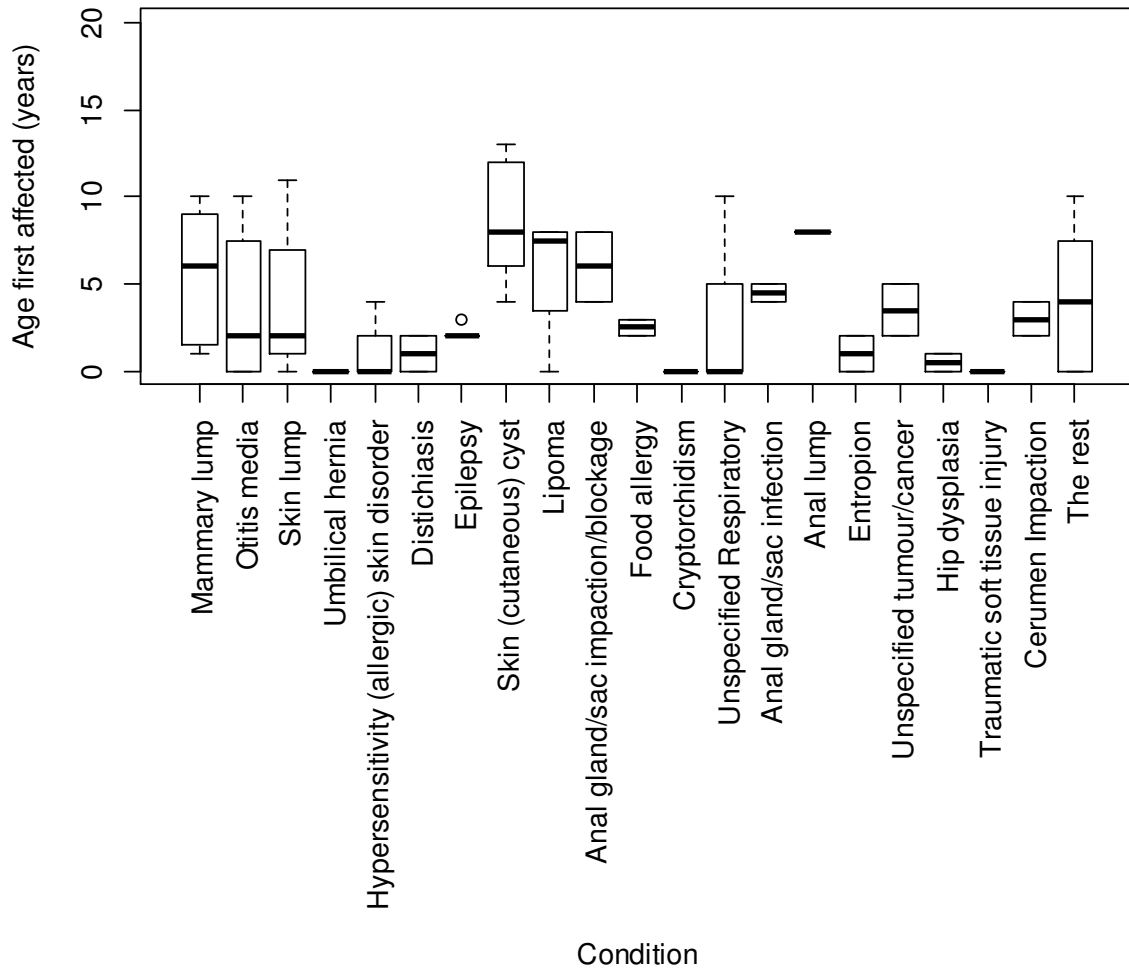


Figure 4: Box and whisker plot of age at diagnosis in years for the most common disease conditions in descending order. The solid line within each box represents the median age at diagnosis from the condition. The box represents 50% of the dogs and the whiskers represent 95% of the dogs for each condition.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

Table 5: The most commonly reported disease conditions in descending order for the breed (N = 180 live dogs)

Condition	Number of cases of disease	Proportion (%)	Prevalence (%)
Mammary lump	7	6.03	3.89
Otitis media	7	6.03	3.89
Skin lump	7	6.03	3.89
Hypersensitivity (allergic) skin disorder	6	5.17	3.33
Umbilical hernia	6	5.17	3.33
Distichiasis	5	4.31	2.78
Epilepsy	5	4.31	2.78
Skin (cutaneous) cyst	5	4.31	2.78
Lipoma	4	3.45	2.22
Anal gland/sac impaction/blockage	3	2.59	1.67
Cryptorchidism	3	2.59	1.67
Food Allergy	3	2.59	1.67
Unspecified Respiratory	3	2.59	1.67
Anal gland/sac infection	2	1.72	1.11
Anal lump	2	1.72	1.11
Cerumen Impaction	2	1.72	1.11
Chronic Itching	2	1.72	1.11
Entropion	2	1.72	1.11
Hip dysplasia	2	1.72	1.11
Skin cancer/tumour	2	1.72	1.11

Proportion of morbidity as %= N/116 disease conditions, prevalence %= N/180 live dogs

Summary

From the dogs surveyed most Welsh Springer Spaniels were not affected by a disease condition (63.74%). There were three reported disease conditions that represented an equal proportion of affected live dogs; these conditions were mammary lump, otitis media, and skin lump. The most commonly reported cause of death was cancer (unspecified).