

Report from the Kennel Club/
British Small Animal Veterinary Association
Scientific Committee

Summary results of the
Purebred Dog Health Survey
for the Welsh Corgi Pembroke breed

Warning: The results of this survey and particularly the breed-specific analyses should be interpreted with caution. The overall response rate was only 24% with breed-specific response rates from 4.5% to 64.7%.

The Welsh Corgi breeds

A total of 416 forms were sent out and 95 were returned, representing 312 live dogs. These breeds had a 22.8% combined response rate (95/416) and represented 0.69% of all returns (95/13,741).

The Welsh Corgi Pembroke breed

Mortality data

A total of 116 deaths were reported and this represents 0.73% of all deaths reported in the survey (116/15,881). The median age at death for the Welsh Corgi Pembroke breed was 12 years and 3 months (min = 4 years and 1 month, max = 16 years and 6 months) and this was higher than the overall median of 11 years and 3 months (Figure 1). Table 1 shows the causes of death for the Welsh Corgi Pembroke breed. Age at death is presented for the most common causes of death (Figure 2).

Table 1. Causes of death by organ system/category for the Welsh Corgi Pembroke breed.

Cause of death	N	%	Most common specific causes in descending order
1 Cancer	33	28.5	Unspecified; type unspec (mammary; prostate; liver)
2 Old age	26	22.4	Old age and age combinations
3 Urologic	10	8.6	Kidney failure (chronic>acute); urethral obstruction
4 Cardiac	9	7.7	Heart attack; heart failure; disease (unspecified)
5 Neurologic	9	7.7	Spinal paralysis; seizures; meningitis
6 Other	6	5.2	Uncodeable
7 Cerebrovascular	5	4.3	Stroke or cerebral vascular accident
8 Trauma	3	2.6	RTA; spinal injury
9 Perioperative	3	2.6	Post-operative
10 Combinations	2	1.7	Blindness & renal failure; cancer (stomach & kidneys)
11 Hepatic	2	1.7	Liver disease (unspecified); chronic liver failure
12 Gastrointestinal	2	1.7	Gastric dilatation/volvulus; unspecified
13 Immune mediated	2	1.7	MMM; autoimmune (unspecified)
14 Respiratory	1	0.9	Pneumonia
15 Collapse	1	0.9	
16 Infection	1	0.9	Kidney infection
17 Internal bleeding	1	0.9	
Total	116	100.0	

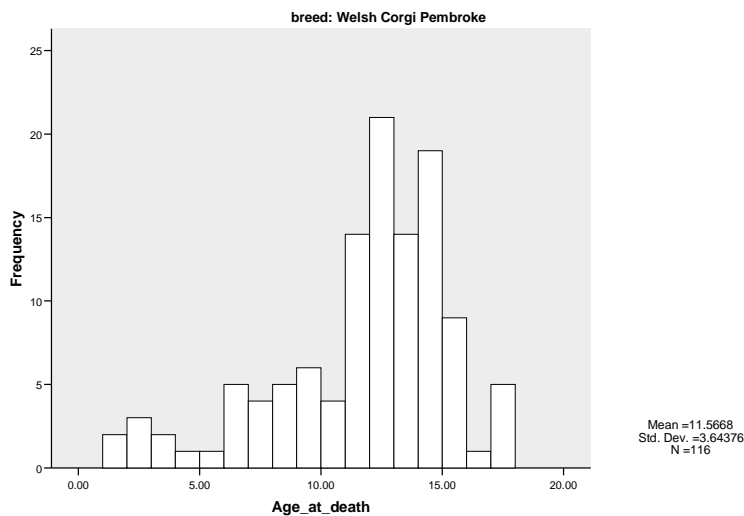


Figure 1. Histogram showing the frequency (as number of dogs) of age at death (in years) for the 116 Welsh Corgi Pembroke deaths with age at death reported.

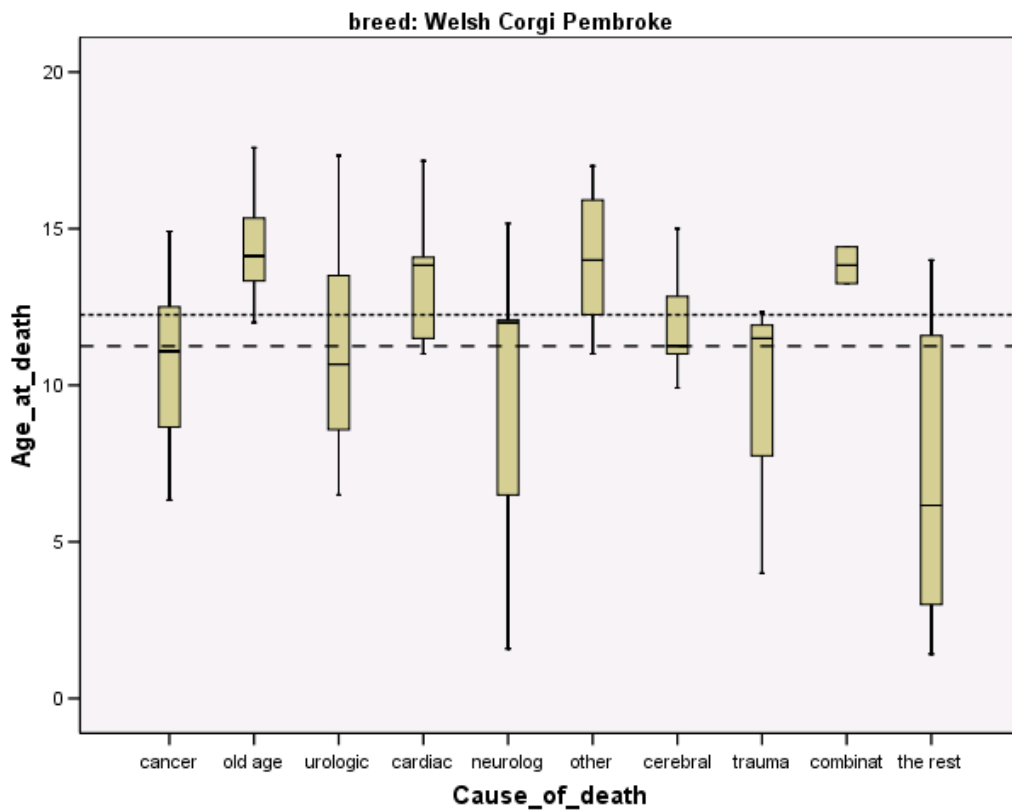


Figure 2. Box and whisker plot of age at death in years for the most common causes of death in the Welsh Corgi Pembroke breed (N=116). The dashed line (---) is the overall median age at death for all dogs in the survey and the dotted line (----) is the overall median age of death for the Welsh Corgi Pembroke breed. The solid line within each grey box represents the median age at death from the condition.

Morbidity data

The median current age of the 218 live dogs with a reported age was 4 years and 3 months (min=1 month, max=16 years and 10 months, Figure 3). Health information was reported for 220 live dogs of which 147 (67%) were healthy and 73 (33%) had at least one reported health condition, resulting in a total of 95 reported conditions with a median of 1 condition/dog (min=1, max=4).

The median current age of all healthy dogs with a reported age (N=147) was 3 years and 2 months (min=3 months, max=16 years and 10 months). The distribution of gender and neuter status is shown in Table 2.

The median current age of all dogs with one or more disease conditions and a reported age (N=71) was 6 years (min=1 month, max=16 years). The median age at diagnosis for all disease occurrences with a reported age at diagnosis (N=91) was 4 years (min= 1 month, max= 15 years, Figure 4). Table 3 shows the disease conditions for the Welsh Corgi Pembroke breed. Age at diagnosis is presented for the most common disease conditions (Figure 5).

Table 2. Distribution of gender and neuter status for the 220 Welsh Corgi Pembroke breed with reported gender and neuter status.

Gender	Neuter status		Totals
	Intact	Neutered	
Female	115	34	149 (68%)
Male	59	12	71 (32%)
Totals	174 (79%)	46 (21%)	220 (100%)

There was no association between gender and neuter status (P=0.3130).

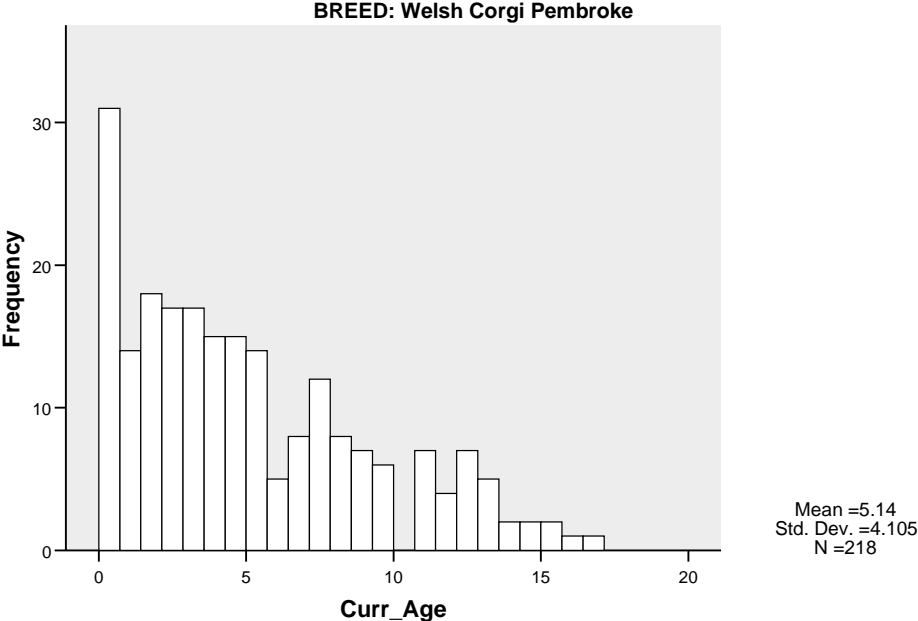


Figure 3. Histogram showing frequency of current age in years for the 220 live Welsh Corgi Pembroke breed with age reported.

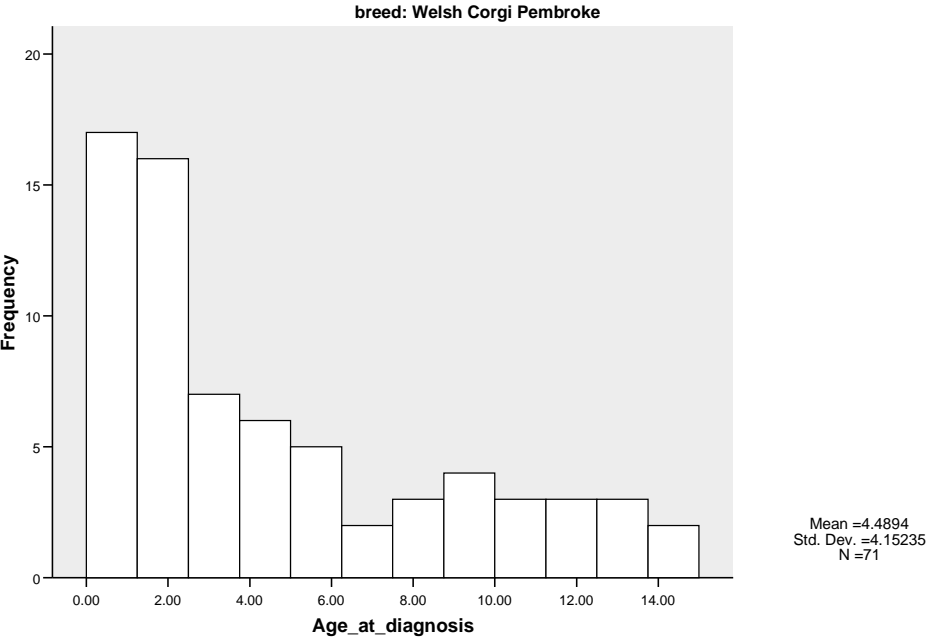


Figure 4. Histogram showing frequency of age at diagnosis for the 71 Welsh Corgi Pembroke breed with one or more disease conditions, using the youngest age at which a disease condition was first reported for those dogs with more than one disease condition or episode.

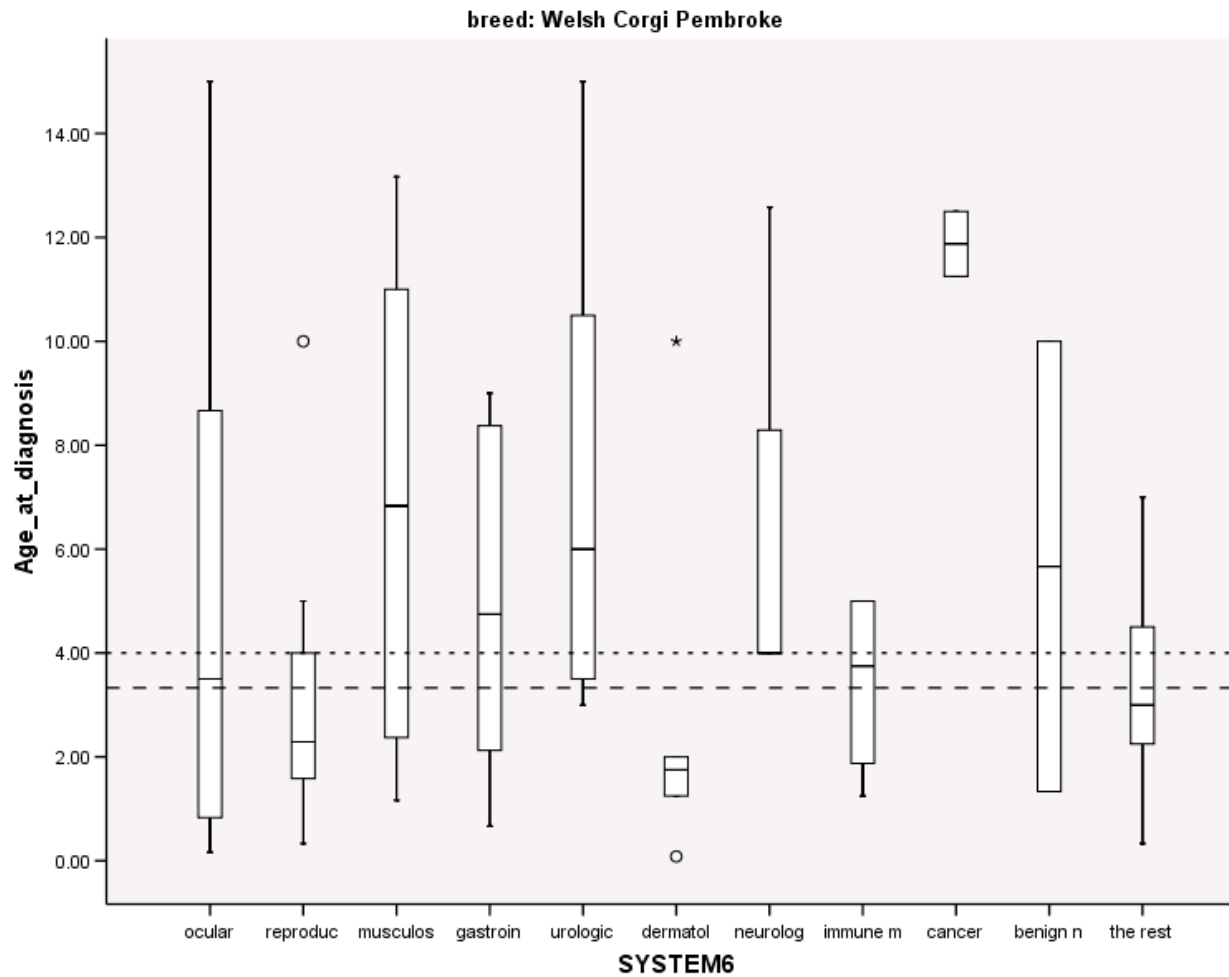


Figure 5. Box and whisker plot of age at diagnosis in years for the most common disease conditions in descending order for the Welsh Corgi Pembroke breed (N=71 dogs with 91 conditions with age reported). The dashed line (---) is the overall median age at diagnosis for all dogs in the survey and the dotted line (----) is the overall median age at diagnosis for the Welsh Corgi Pembroke breed. The solid line within each grey box represents the median age at diagnosis from the condition.

Table 3. Disease conditions by organ system/category for the Welsh Corgi Pembroke breed.

Disease condition	All conditions		Most common specific conditions in descending order
	N	%	
1 Ocular	25	26.6	Epiphora; corneal ulcer; blocked tear duct; cataracts; conjunctivitis; trichiasis
2 Reproductive	18	19.1	Irregular heat cycles; cryptorchid; infertility; pyometra
3 Musculoskeletal	11	11.7	Arthritis (hindlimb=shoulder>forelimb=other); lameness; CLR; CHD; fracture (forelimb)
4 Gastrointestinal	8	8.5	Colitis; bacterial overgrowth; campylobacter; diarrhoea; E. coli infection; IBD; vomiting
5 Urologic	7	7.4	Cystouroliths (unspecified>struvite); cystitis; incontinence
6 Dermatologic	6	6.4	Pyotraumatic dermatitis; mites (cheyletiella); sebaceous cyst; dermatitis
7 Neurologic	4	4.3	Seizures
8 Immune mediated	4	4.3	Dust mite allergy; food allergy; gluten-sensitive enteropathy; other (unspecified)
9 Cardiac	2	2.1	Heart murmur (unspecified); persistent ductus areriosus (PDA)
10 Respiratory	2	2.1	Long soft palate; noisy breathing
11 Cancer	2	2.1	Carcinoma (throat); MCT (rib cage)
12 Benign neoplasia	2	2.1	Lipoma; cyst (neck)
13 Trauma	1	1.1	Unspecified
14 Anal gland	1	1.1	Anal sacculitis
15 Unknown	1	1.1	Undiagnosed illness
Total	94	100.0	