

BULLDOG HEALTH QUESTIONNAIRE



Study of Findings (October 2011)

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Illustrations Jacky BRETAEU

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CLUB DU
BULLDOG ANGLAIS



*We warmly thank the 196 bulldog owners who participated and returned the
Bulldog Health Questionnaire.*

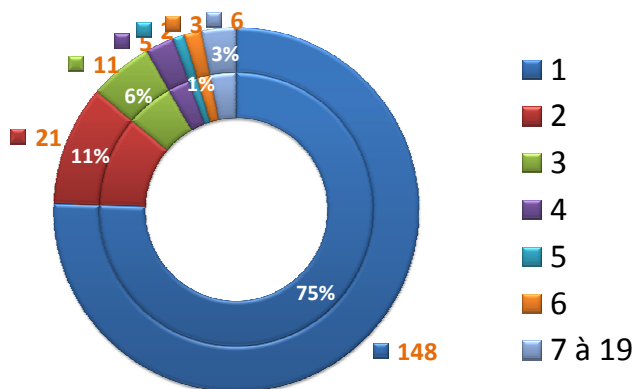
342 Questionnaires were returned (as of October 2011);

2 were not useable which left

340 to study and assess the findings.

Number of questionnaires per participant

Average : 1,73/participation



On initial appraisal we see an extremely high individual pet owner participation

- **Individual pet owners:** 160 (81.63%) Number of dogs: 195; Average of 1.2 dogs per person.
- **Breeders :** 36 (18.37%) Number of dogs: 147; Average of 4.08 dogs per breeder
- **Including breeder members of the Ethical Breeding Code:** 18 (half of the breeders that participated) Number of dogs: 107;

Average of **5.94** dogs per ethical code breeder member

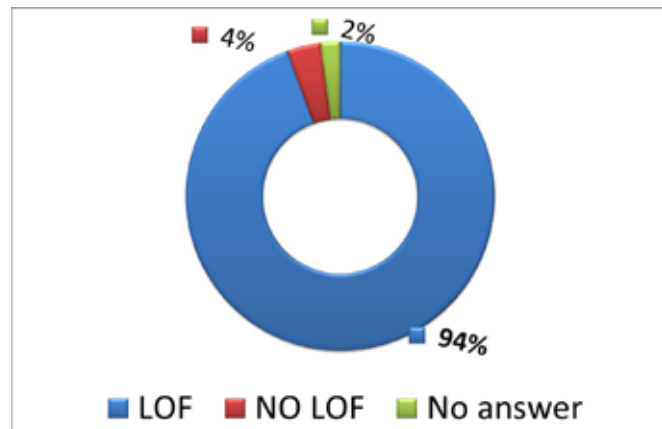
I) – Pedigree registered or non Pedigree registered. (LOF/NON LOF) :

The majority of dogs were Pedigree registered:

LOF : 94% !

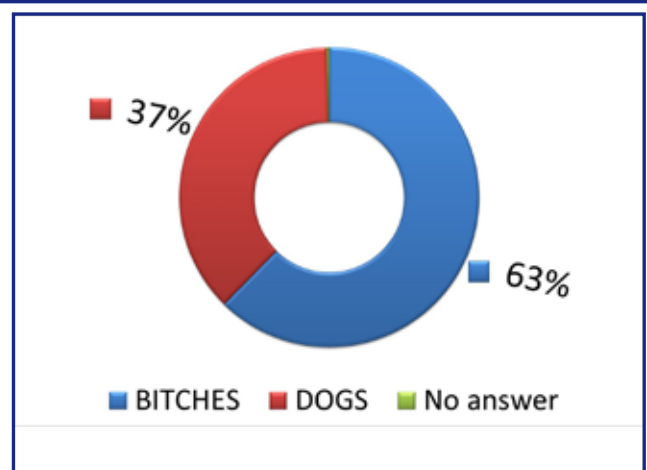
NON LOF 4%

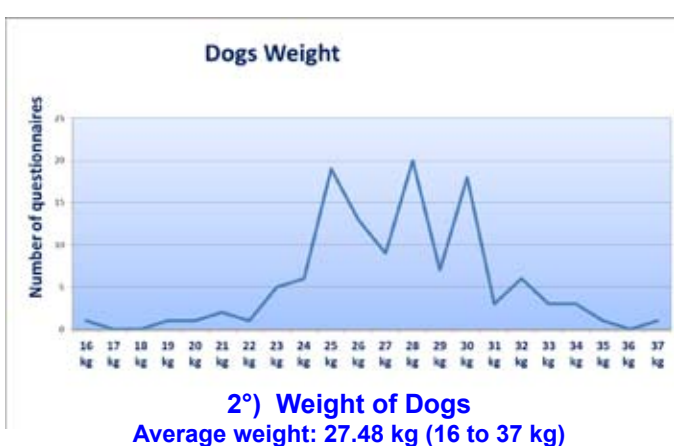
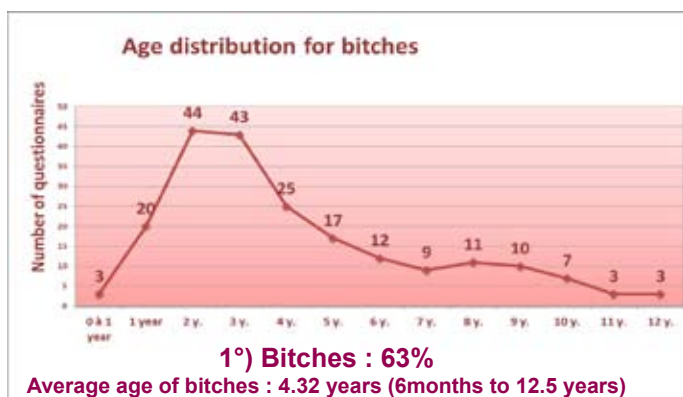
Some participants, and members of the Bulldog Club of France, who read our Bulldogger magazine and consult our Internet site, own non-registered bulldogs (non LOF). We are pleased to welcome them, even though the first priority of the Bulldog Club is to promote pedigree bulldogs, the Club is open to everyone who is a lover of the bulldog regardless of the background and origins of their pet. soit l'origine ou l'histoire de leur compagnon bulldog, et même si la vocation première d'un Club est la promotion du chien de race



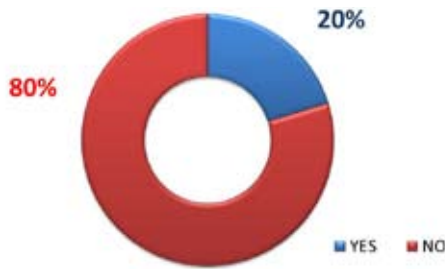
II) - Breakdown by Age and Sex :

The majority of questionnaires concerned "**Bitches**" with a large age scale covering all lifespan periods from 6 months to 14 years.





I – ABSENCE OF ILLNESS



YES : 69 (20%) NO : 271 (80%)

One bulldog in 5 declared to be in perfect health, no medical illness!



II - MUSCULOSKELETAL SYSTEM ILLNESS

1°) Bone Disease:

YES : 11 (3%) NO : 319 NO ANSWER : 10

Average weight : 26.18 kg

Average age : 5 years (1 to 10 years)

5 dogs; 6 bitches

4 cases of bone fracture and 1 bone tumor.

2°) Joint Conditions:

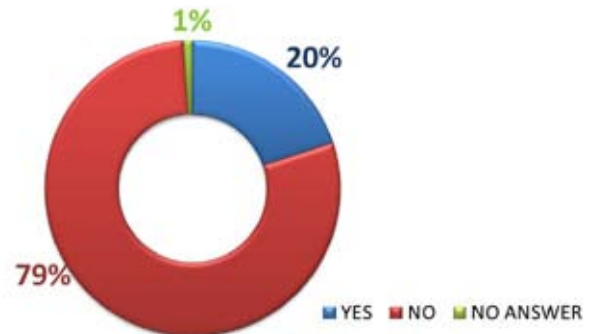
YES : 68 (20%) NO : 269 NO ANSWER : 3

Average weight 25.86 kg

Average Age 6.03 years (1 to 12 years)

15 bitches; 53 dogs

64 Pedigree; 4 Not Pedigree Registered



Joint Conditions

PATHOLOGY		NUMBER		%		TOTAL POPULATION	
Accident		1		1.41		0.29	
Lameness	front	1	16	1.41	22.53	0.29	4.7
	Rear	8		11.26		2.35	
	Growth related	2		2.82		0.59	
	Various causes	5		7.04		1.47	
Spinal defects, bone spurs, hemivertebrae		5		7.04		1.47	
Arthritis		18		25.35		5.29	
Cruciate Ligament Injury		17	23	23.94	32.4	5	6.76
Patella Laxity		3		4.23		0.88	
Patella Luxation		3		4.23		0.88	
Hip Dysplasia		1		1.41		0.29	
Various Sprains		7		9.86		2.06	
TOTAL :						20.86	

Skeletal (bone) pathology signaled in 20% of the questionnaires concerned a high majority of dogs rather than bitches (41.4% of the dogs studied).

Almost 5% of the total study population presented some form of lameness.

The principal skeletal problems are signs of arthritis, knee infections, and in particular Cruciate Ligament Injury.

3°) Muscular Pathology :

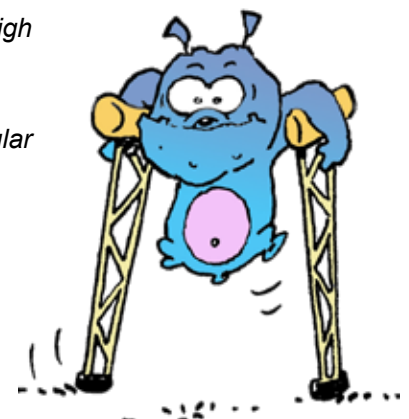
YES: 6(2%) NO: 325 NO ANSWER: 9

Average weight 26.33 kg

Average age 4.16 years (3 to 6 years)

4 bitches, 2 dogs

All Pedigree



III - CARDIOVASCULAR DISEASE

1°) Heart and Blood Vessels:

YES: 7(2%) NO: 329 NO ANSWER: 4

- Average weight 26.7 kg
- Average age 6.3 years
- 2 bitches (0.94% of the bitches)
- 5 dogs (3.9% of the dogs)
- 6 Pedigree; 1 not pedigree registered
- 5 having heart treatment
- 2 taking diuretic medication

Very few cardiovascular pathology declared!

Mentioned: heart liver disease, heart murmur, stenosis (type not communicated) and adrenal tumors.

2°) Respiratory system:

a) Lung Disease:

YES: 8(2%) NO: 328

NO ANSWER: 4

- Average weight 24.75 kg
- Average age 3.9 years
- 5 bitches, 3 dogs
- All pedigree

Illness associated with Brachycephalic syndrome mentioned in 1 out of 8 cases.

Illness associated following heatstroke mentioned in 2 out of 8 cases.

Only 8 cases of Pulmonary disease mentioned including 2 acute pulmonary oedema and 1 tracheal hypoplasia.

b) Nasal and sinus illness:

YES: 12 (4%) NO: 320 NO ANSWER: 8

- Average weight 25.83% kg
- Average age 4.9 years
- 5 bitches (2.35% of the bitches)
- 7 dogs (5.46% of the dogs)
- 10 pedigree; 1 not pedigree registered; 1 unknown

12 cases including 6 soft palate (1.76% PT) et/or 5 stenotic nares (1.47% PT) and 2 infections.



10%

8%

Brachycephalic syndrome

82%



c) Brachycephalic syndrome:

YES: 27(8%) NO: 280 NO ANSWER: 33

- Average weight 26.67 kg
- Average age 4.06 years
- 9 bitches (4.24 of the bitches)
- 18 dogs (14% of the dogs)
- 26 pedigree; 1 not pedigree registered

Immediately, and surprisingly, we can observe the important number of 'NO ANSWER'S'. Should we deduce that this is due to a lack of knowledge in regard to the Brachycephalic syndrome. It is highly probable that the percentage of 8% is underestimated and in reality is surely nearer 12 or 13% of the total study population.

In 8 cases (30%) including recovery from heatstroke

0% association with cardiovascular disease

29% association with joint conditions

Problems multiplied by 3 in dogs.

d) Heatstroke

YES: 37(11%) NO: 269 NO ANSWER: 34

No Answer: 6 breeders out of 29 questionnaires

- Average weight 25.6 kg
- Average age 5.3 years
- 20 dogs (15.6% of the dogs)
- 17 bitches (8% of the bitches)
- 34 pedigree, 2 not pedigree registered, 1 unknown



Same observation as above concerning the number of 'NO ANSWER'S'. The true percentage is more than likely higher than (16% ?)

- 32% association with joint conditions
- 5% association with cardiovascular disease.

Dogs are twice more likely than bitches to suffer from heatstroke.

10%

11%

Heatstroke

79%



IV - SKIN PROBLEMS :

1° Infection:

Bacterial pyoderma is mentioned 13 times, 3.82% of the questionnaires

2° Allergies

YES: 44(13%) NO: 292 NO ANSWER 4

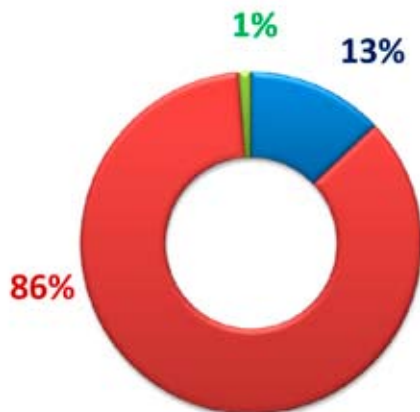
Average weight 26.9%

Average age 4.76 years

18 bitches (8.5% of the bitches)

26 dogs (20.3% of the dogs)

39 pedigree, 3 not pedigree registered, 2 unknown



PATHOLOGY	NUMBER	%	% TOTAL Population
Various, undetermined	22	50	6.47
Diet	6	13.63	1.76
Mites	4	9.09	1.18
Flea allergy dermatitis	4	9.09	1.18
Chiggers	2	4.55	0.59
Hot spots	2	4.55	0.59
Grass	2	4.55	0.59
Atopic	1	2.27	0.29
Medication	1	2.27	0.29
TOTAL :			12.94

50% of allergies are of unknown origins for breeders and individual pet owners alike. We can however note that allergic reactions are often associated with the presence of skin parasites (20.4%), dermatological infections (22.7%), nose roll infection (34%), ocular problems (47.7%), joint problems (38.6%).

Over representation of dogs.

- 20.4% of individual pet owners dogs were neutered/spayed, 18% had reproduced.
- 61.3% had consulted their veterinary surgeon in the past year.

3° Parasitoses

YES: 26(8%) NO: 311 NO ANSWER: 3

Average weight 26.57 kg

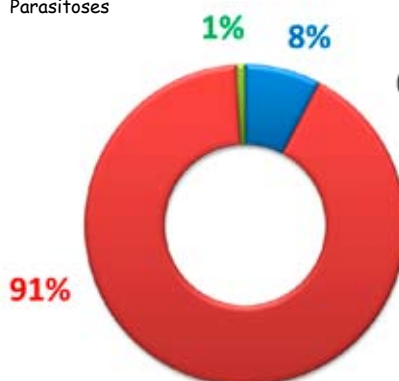
Average age 3.6 years

13 bitches (6.13% of the bitches)

13 dogs (10.15% of the dogs)

23 pedigree, 1 not pedigree registered, 2 unknown

Parasitoses



PATHOLOGY	NUMBER	%	% Total Population
Demodicosis	9	50	2.65
Scabies	5	27.8	1.47
Piroplasmosis	1	5.55	
Ringworm	1	5.55	
Fleas	1	5.55	
Roundworm!!!	1	5.55	
TOTAL :			5.29

Demodicosis accounts for 50% of the number of declared cases (which represents, with the number of scab cases, demodex skin mite based, more than 4% of the total population).

- Association with nose roll infections: 38.5%
- Association with ocular infection: 42.3%
- 30.8% of the dogs had been neutered/spayed (1 dog and 7 bitches)
- 61.5% had consulted their veterinary surgeon on average 6 times in the year

4° Nose roll infection

YES: 71(21%) NO 257 NO ANSWER 12

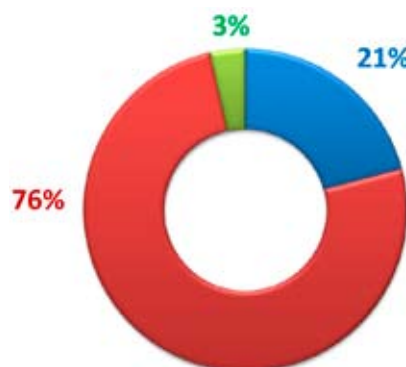
Average weight 25.6 kg

Average age 5.12 years

43 bitches (20.28% of the bitches)

28 dogs (21.8% of the dogs)

69 pedigree, 2 not pedigree registered



21% of the questionnaires indicate that infection of the nose roll remains a serious health problem associated with the bulldog. For once, dogs and bitches are equally affected.

- Association with joint conditions: 29.6%
- Association with Brachycephalic syndrome: 9.8%
- Dogs having suffered from heatstroke: 18.3%
- Association with ocular problems: 28.2%
- Association with ear infections: 26.8%
- Neutered/spayed dogs: 28.16% (3 dogs, 17 bitches)
- 38% had reproduced
- 59% had consulted their veterinary surgeon on average 3.3 times in the year.

PATHOLOGY	NUMBER	%	% Total Population
Inter digital cysts	28	40	8.23
Nose roll pyoderma	22	31.43	6.47
Inverted tails	20	28.57	5.88
TOTAL :			20.58

V - OCULAR PATHOLOGY :

YES: 98(29%) NO: 239 NO ANSWER: 3

Average weight 25.37 kg

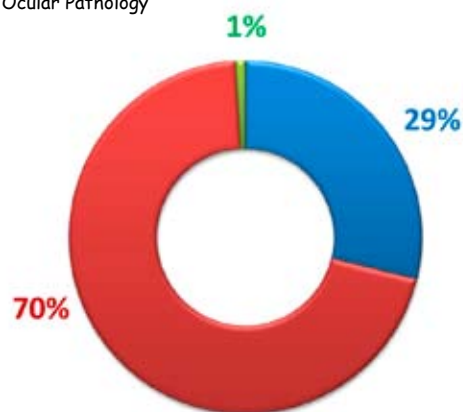
Average age 4.6 years

58 bitches (27.35% of the bitches)

40 dogs (31.25% of the dogs)

90 pedigree, 4 not pedigree registered, 4 unknown

Ocular Pathology



PATHOLOGY	NUMBER	%	Total Population
Cherry eye	34	33	10
Entropion	18	17.49	5.29
Ectopic cilia	13	12.62	3.82
Conjunctivitis	13	12.62	3.82
Ulcerated cornea	12	11.65	3.53
Keratitis (cloudy eye)	7	6.8	2.05
Abscess	1	0.97	
Allergy	1	0.97	
Blocked tear duct	1	0.97	
Ectropion	1	0.97	
Cataract	1	0.97	
Palpebral Tumor	1	0.97	
TOTAL :			29

- Association with joint conditions: 23.5%
- Association with Brachycephalic syndrome: 14.3%
- Dogs having suffered from heatstroke: 11.2%
- Association with an allergy: 21.4%
- Association with nose roll infections: 20.4%
- Association with ear infections: 26.5%
- 29.6% had been spayed/neutered (21 bitches, 8 dogs)
- 38.8% had reproduced (6 dogs, 33 bitches)
- 57% had consulted their veterinary surgeon on average 3.6 times in the year

Here we see the biggest surprise of the health questionnaire. The particularly high number of ocular infections occurring in practically 1/3 of the bulldogs. Essentially, palpebral infections and prolapse of the nictitating membrane, dry eye often associated with Cherry Eye as well as other associated conditions (conjunctivitis, ulcerated cornea, keratitis). It is obvious that the facial structure of the bulldog, the short nose in conjunction with heavy skin wrinkles is one of the factors behind these problems. Cases are almost identical in dogs and bitches alike.



VI- EAR INFECTIONS :

YES: 60(18%) NO: 274 NO ANSWER: 6

Average weight 26.38 kg

Average age 5.83 years

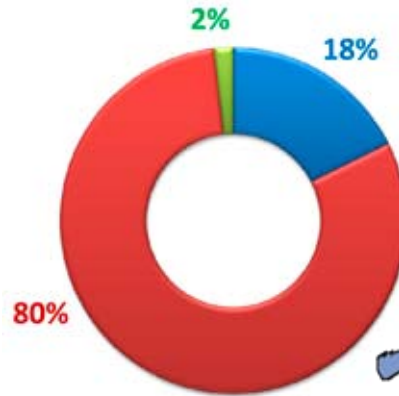
29 bitches (13.68% of the bitches)

31 dogs (24.21% of the dogs)

54 pedigree, 4 not pedigree registered, 2 unknown

PATHOLOGY	NUMBER	%	% Total Population
Otitis	47	84	13.82
Congenital Deafness	4	7	1.17
Other: ear hematoma, age related deafness, Allergy, dermatitis	5	9	1.47
TOTAL			16.46

Ear infections



Again, a surprise that ear infections are, in general, so frequent notably otitis particularly associated with parasite infection such as ear mange. Dogs are twice more likely to suffer than bitches.

Note the non-negligible percentage of congenital deafness (more than 1%).

- Association with joint conditions: 35%
- Dogs having suffered from heatstroke: 18.3%
- Association with an allergy: 28.3%
- Association with skin parasites: 11.6%
- Association with a dermatological infection: 15%
- Association with nose roll infections: 31.6%
- Association with ocular problems: 43.3%
- Association with neurological infections: 11.6%
- 26.6% had been spayed/neutered (11 bitches, 5 dogs)
- 63.3% had consulted their veterinary surgeon on average 3.4 times in the year

VII- HORMONAL OR METABOLIC DISORDERS :

YES 6 (2%) NO 327 NO ANSWER 7

Average weight 22.33 kg

Average age 4.7 years

100% bitches

5 pedigree, 1 not pedigree registered

Practically absent, Cushing Disease and hormonal alopecia.

VIII- PATHOLOGY OF THE NEUROLOGICAL SYSTEM – BEHAVIOUR PROBLEMS :

1°) Nervous system :

YES 15 (4%) NO 319

NO ANSWER 6

Average weight 25.87 kg

Average age 4.21 years

Bitches 8 (3.77 % of the bitches)

Dogs 7 (5.47 % of the dogs)

13 pedigree

2 not pedigree registered



PATHOLOGY	NUMBER	%	% Total Population
Trembling	11	78.5	3.23
Epilepsy	3	21.5	0.88
TOTAL :			4.11

Illnesses touching the nervous system are only mentioned in 4% of the health questionnaires however it is interesting to notice the number of trembling cases of unknown origin. Often benign, they can however worry owners who are unaware. They manifest primarily as head tremors during rest periods.

- Association with joint conditions: 46.6%
- Association with an allergy: 33.3%
- Association with ocular problems: 46.6%
- Association with ear infections: 46.6%
- 38.8% had reproduced
- 53.3% had consulted their veterinary surgeon on average 7.5 times in the year



2°) Behaviour problems :

YES 17 (5%) NO 317 NO ANSWER 6

Average weight 25.51 kg

Average age 4.26 years

11 bitches (5.18 % of bitches) 6 dogs 4.68 % of dogs)

100% pedigree

- Association with joint conditions: 29.4%
- Association with nose roll infections: 29.4%
- Association with ocular problems: 41.2%
- Association with ear infections: 29.4%
- 23.5% had been spayed/neutered (3 bitches, 1 dog)
- 41.17% had reproduced (5 bitches, 2 dogs)
- 47% had consulted their veterinary surgeon on average 3.4 times in the year

PATHOLOGY	NUMBER	%	% Total Population
Aggression	7	43.75	2.05
Hypersensitivity	3	18.75	0.88
Coprophagy	2	12.5	0.58
Territorial issues	1	6.25	
Hyperactivity	1	6.25	
Sociopathy	1	6.25	
Deprivation syndrome	1	6.25	
TOTAL :			4.7



Nearly 5% of bulldogs presented some form of behaviour problems, such as 2% aggression when in contact with other dogs.

Other issues were anecdotal in nature.

Curiously the findings concern dogs and bitches, with a slight increase for the bitches.

IX- PATHOLOGY OF THE DIGESTIVE SYSTEM :

1°) Mouth – Teeth :

YES 11 (3 %) NO 322 NO ANSWER 7

Average weight 24.24 kg

Average age 8.18 years

8 bitches (3.77 % of bitches)

3 dogs (2.34 % of dogs)

10 pedigree, 1 not pedigree registered

- 63.63% had consulted their veterinary surgeon on average 3.8 times in the year

1/3 of the cases of oral problems were tumors in very old individual pet owned dogs.

2°) Esophagus – Stomach :

YES 10 (3 %) NO 323 NO ANSWER 7

Average weight 26.1 kg

Average age 3.54 years

3 bitches (1.41 % of bitches)

7 dogs (5.46 % of dogs)

100% pedigree

4 cases of gastritis; 3 chronic cases of sickness; 1 case of twisted gut.

The study has shown a relation between the Brachycephalic syndrome and inflammations of the esophagus and the stomach. Nevertheless, the study, of 340 bulldogs, does not allow us to give a frequency to this pathology.

- Association with nose roll infections: 30%
- Association with joint conditions: 30%
- Association with ocular problems: 30%
- Association with ear infections: 40%
- Association with an intestinal illness: 30%
- 41.17% had reproduced
- 80% had consulted their veterinary surgeon on average 1.9 times in the year

3°) Intestines – Anal glands :

YES 15 (4 %) NO 319 NO ANSWER 6

Average weight 25.86 kg

Average age 4.56 years

5 bitches (2.35 % of bitches)

10 dogs (7.81 % of dogs)

14 pedigree 1 not pedigree registered

4°) Diseases affecting organs and glands associated with the digestive tract: liver, pancreas, gall bladder

PATHOLOGY	NUMBER	%	% Total Population
Anal gland abscess	5	35.71	1.47
Chronic diarrhea	7	50	2.06
Problems associated with age	2	14.29	0.59
TOTAL :			4.12

Only 1 not detailed case was reported (organ unknown).

X- HAEMATOLOGY – BLOOD DISORDERS :

1°) Anaemia :

1 case reported (problems with coagulation).
Bitch of 9 years weighing 19 kg

2°) Cancers of the blood :

no case reported.

3°) Disease of the spleen :

2 cases – 2 removals, 1 after twisted gut.

XI- PATHOLOG OF THE URINARY SYSTEM :

1°) Kidney :

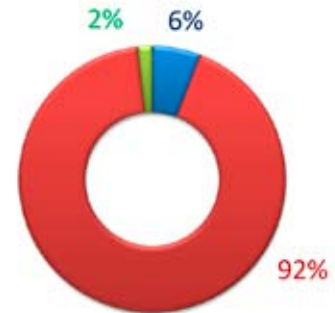
Only 3 cases reported (0.88%) one being renal cancer
Age – 1 to 10.5 years old!
2 dogs, 1 bitch
Average weight 22.25 kg
Pedigree

2°) Bladder :

YES 20 (6 %) NO 314 NO ANSWER 6

Average weight 25.95 kg
Average age : 4.95 years
12 bitches (5.66 % of bitches)
8 dogs (6.25 % of dogs)
19 pedigree, 1 not pedigree registered

Bladder Pathology



PATHOLOGY	NUMBER	%	% Total Population
Stones	8	30.77	2.35
Cystitis	8	30.77	2.35
Incontinence	9	34.61	2.65
Polyps	1	3.85	0.3

Bladder infections, in particular the presence of urinary stones (sadly the nature was not indicated) are relatively frequent.

Can this be associated with hyperuricosuria, metabolic problems which create excessive amounts of uric acid in urine and blood. The age is compatible (3 to 6 years). This autosomal recessive disorder, according to certain study findings, is carried by 35% of bulldogs. Our study shows a frequency of symptoms at around 5%. (Genetic tests exist, proposed by various laboratories, which detect the dogs predisposed before onset of symptoms, also confirm the presence in dogs already showing symptoms and eventual treatment or suitable dietary recommendations in cases of high risk).

It is recommended not to use carriers for breeding.

- Association with joint conditions: 25%
- Association with ocular problems: 35%
- Association with ear infections: 20%
- 30% had been spayed/neutered (4 bitches, 2 dogs)
- 35% had reproduced (6 bitches, 1 dog)
- 65% had consulted their veterinary surgeon on average 3 times in the year



XII- PATHOLOGY OF REPRODUCTIVE SYSTEMS

1°) Dogs :

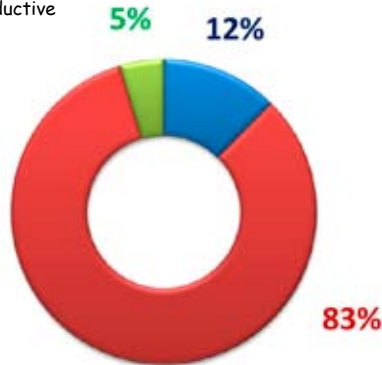
YES 16 (12 %) NO 107 NO ANSWER 6

Average weight 25.43 kg

Average age 4.34 ans

113 pedigree, 2 not pedigree registered, 1 unknown

Pathology
of dog reproductive
system



- Association with ocular problems: 42.8%
- Association with allergy: 28.6%
- Association with ear infections: 28.6%
- 57% had been neutered
- None had reproduced
- 42.9% had consulted their veterinary surgeon on average 2.4 times in the year

PATHOLOGY	NUMBER	%	% Total Population (127 Dogs)
Monorchids	7	44	5.51
Cancer	3	18.75	2.36
Cryptorchids	2	12.5	1.57
Prostate	2	12.5	1.57
Prostatic hyperplasia	1	6.25	0.78
Genital prolapse	1	6.25	0.78
TOTAL :	16		12.57



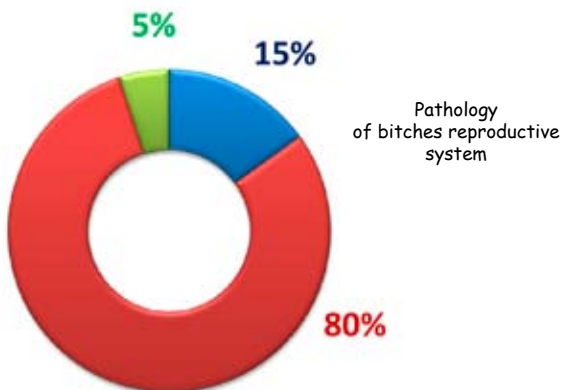
2°) Bitches :

YES 33 (15 %) NO 175 NO ANSWER 11

Average weight 24.53 kg

Average age 6 ans

32 pedigree, 1 not pedigree registered



PATHOLOGY	NUMBER	%	% Total Population (212 bitches)
Metritis	11	39.29	5.19
Virginity	8	28.57	3.77
Mammary tumors	3	10.72	1.41
Phantom pregnancy	2	7.14	0.94
Mastitis	2	7.14	0.94
Pyometra	2	7.14	0.94
TOTAL :			13.19

If we ignore Caesarean sections, virtually systematic in the bulldog breed, the principal illnesses in bitches, (mainly metritis and vaginitis) appear relatively late (average 6 years old).

- Association with joint conditions: 36.4%
- Association with ocular problems: 45.4%
- Association with ear infections: 30.3%
- 54.5% had been spayed
- 57.6% had reproduced
- 60.6% had consulted their veterinary surgeon on average 1.9 times in the year

XIII- NEUTERING/SPAYING :

YES 76 (22%) NO 258 NO ANSWER 6

Average weight 24.68 %

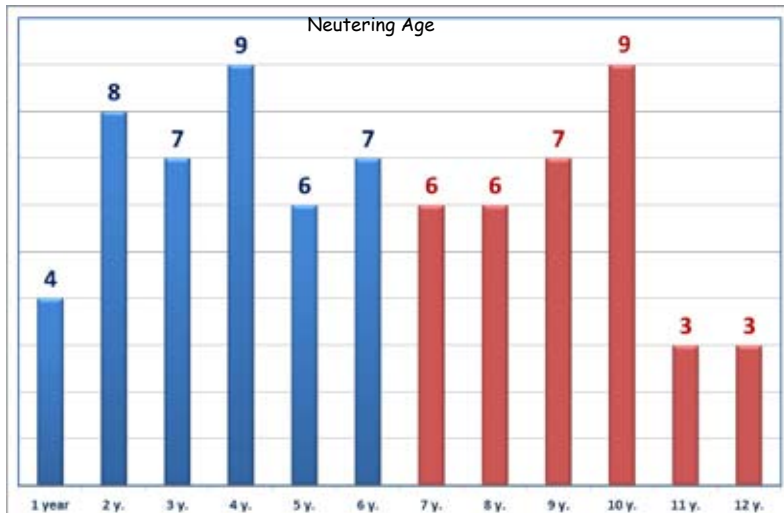
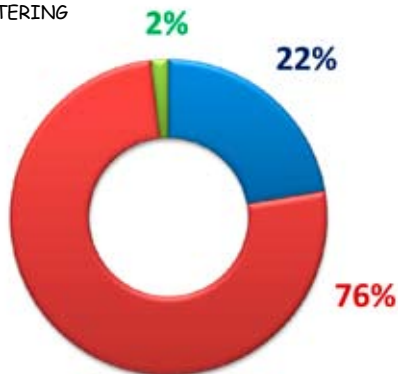
Average age 6.24 years

61 bitches 15 dogs

69 pedigree, 5 not pedigree registered,
2 unknown

52.6% had consulted their veterinary surgeon on
average 3 times in the year.

NEUTERING



More than 20% of the bulldogs in this study had been either neutered or spayed (34.2% after having reproduced, all bitches).

XIV-REPRODUCTION :

YES 138 (41%) NO 179 NO ANSWER 23

Average weight 25 kg

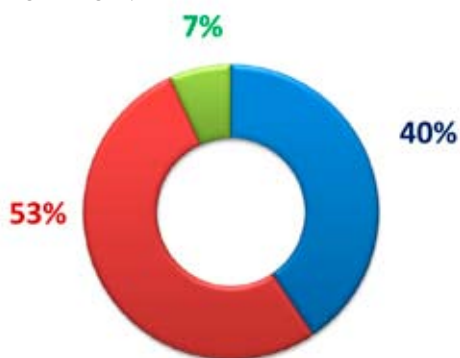
Dogs 36 (28.12 % of dogs)

Bitches 102 (48.11 % of bitches)

135 pedigree, 1 not pedigree registered, 2 unknown

Out of the dogs that had reproduced, 847 (25.6%) belonged to breeders of which 67 (19.7%) had signed the ethical breeding code.

Dogs having reproduced



- Association with joint conditions : 18.8%
- Association with Brachycephalic syndrome: 3.6%
- Dogs having suffered from heatstroke: 11.6%
- Association with an allergy: 5.8%
- Association with nose roll infections: 19.6%
- Association with ocular problems: 27.5%
- Association with ear infections: 14.5%
- Association with behavior problems: 5%
- 31.9% had consulted their veterinary surgeon on average 2.3 times in the year

VI- VETERINARY VISITS (other than for vaccinations)

YES 140 (42%) NO 134 NO ANSWER 66

Average weight 25.6 kg

Average age 4.35 years

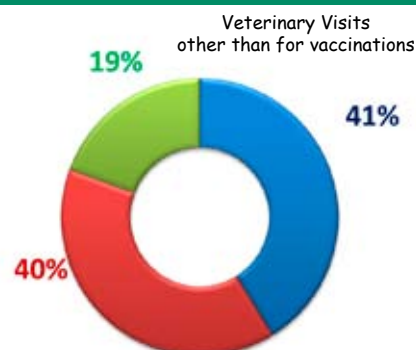
78 bitches (36.8 % of the bitches)

62 dogs (48.4 % of the dogs)

128 pedigree, 8 not pedigree registered, 4 unknown

20.71 of the owners were breeders.

Average of 2.88 visits in the year



EVALUATION AND FINDINGS :

The following graph summarizes the illnesses and their frequency :

Pathology		%	
Dermatology	Nose roll infections	21	46
	Parasites	8	
	Allergies	13	
	Infections	4	
Eyes		29	
Respiratory and Cardio Vascular	Heatstroke	11	27
	Brachycephalic syndrome	8	
	Nasal and sinus	4	
	Lungs	2	
	Heart and blood vessels	2	
Musculoskeletal system	Muscular		
	Joints	20	
	Skeletal		
Ears		18	
Reproductive system	Bitches	15	
	Dogs	11	
Digestive System	Bowels and anal glands	4	10
	Esophagus – Stomach	3	
	Mouth and teeth	3	
Neurological system and Behaviour Problems	Behaviour	5	9
	Nervous system	4	
Urinary System	Bladder	6	7
	Kidney	1	
Hormonal and metabolic disorders		2	

To sum up, the Bulldog Health Questionnaire sent out in 2011 by the Bulldog Club of France and completed by 196 people, 36 of who were breeders, for a total of 340 study cases, permits us to outline the relative importance of certain illnesses :

- Skin problems : nearly one out of two bulldogs had some form of skin infection, particularly nose roll infection or allergy.
- Ocular problems : one out of six bulldogs had cherry eye problems. Entropion, Ectopic cilia and the damage on the cornea such as ulcers and cloudy eye are also often mentioned.
- Cardio-vascular and respiratory problems : appear to be related to cases of heatstroke, severe anoxic spells not necessarily associated with high temperatures. Curiously, many bulldog owners, including some breeders, did not reply to the questions concerning the Brachycephalic syndrome and heatstroke.
- Skeletal problems : largely dominated by cases of arthritis and knee instability with or without cruciate ligament injury.
- Ear problems : 14% of the case study bulldogs had suffered from ear inflammation, often chronic.

Other organs do not present significantly abnormal pathologies perhaps apart from urinary stones with are relatively frequent (6%) and merit further more in depth analyses, as do undiagnosed head tremors (3%) and some aggressive behavior issues (5%).

This study, thanks to the exceptional participation of those passionate about the bulldog, provides an overview into the health of the bulldog that we love so much. The study shows that we still have work to do with regards the selection of a healthy breeding stock, in informing and educating individual pet owners and breeders alike and in the prevention of the principal illnesses. The tools to do this are in place (the Bulldogger magazine, the Club internet site, the TAN tests (aptitude and fitness test), Breeders Commission, Veterinary Studies and Research etc). As well this current study indicates that we have an important population of bulldogs in good health and that is very encouraging!

Huge thanks to all who participated.

Sylvine VENETZ



The Brachycephalic syndrome



CLUB DU BULLDOG ANGLAIS