

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

Summary results of the  
Purebred Dog Health Survey  
for the Havanese 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 Havanese breed

A total of 50 forms were sent out and 11 were returned, representing 43 live dogs. This breed had a 22.0% response rate (11/50) and it represented 0.08% of all returns (11/13,741).

### Mortality data

A total of 3 deaths were reported and this represents 0.02% of all deaths reported in the survey (3/15,881). The median age at death for the Havanese breed was 10 years and 3 months (min = 4 years, max = 18 years and 2 months) and this was lower than the overall median of 11 years and 3 months (Figure 1). Table 1 shows the causes of death for the Havanese 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 Havanese breed.

Cause of death	N	%	Most common specific causes in descending order
1 Neurologic	1	33.3	Encephalitis
2 Old age	1	33.3	Old age
3 Trauma	1	33.3	Unspecified
Total	3	100.0	

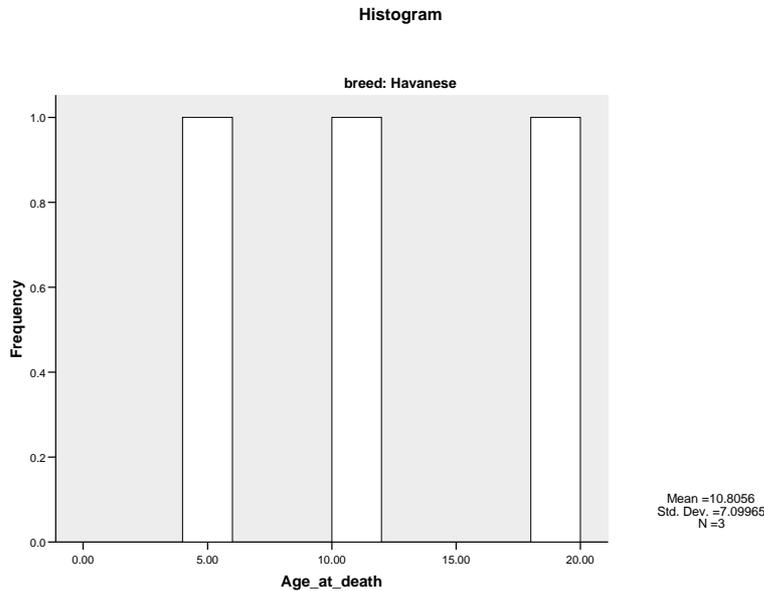


Figure 1. Histogram showing the frequency (as number of dogs) of age at death (in years) for the 3 Havanese deaths with age at death reported.

**Morbidity data**

The median current age of the 43 live dogs with a reported age was 4 years (min=7 months, max=11 years and 10 months, Figure 2). Health information was reported for 43 live dogs of which 29 (67%) were healthy and 14 (33%) had at least one reported health condition, resulting in a total of 15 reported conditions with a median of 1 condition/dog (min=1, max=2).

The median current age of all healthy dogs with a reported age (N=29) was 4 years and 2 months (min=7 months, max=11 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=14) was 3 years and 8 months (min=1 year and 4 months, max=10 years and 4 months). The median age at diagnosis for all disease occurrences with a reported age at diagnosis (N=15) was 1 year and 6 months (min= 3 months, max= 5 years and 3 months, Figure 3). Table 3 shows the disease conditions for the Havanese breed. Age at diagnosis is presented for the most common disease conditions (Figure 4).

Table 2. Distribution of gender and neuter status for the 43 Havanese breed with reported gender and neuter status.

Gender	Neuter status		Totals
	Intact	Neutered	
Female	17	7	24 (56%)
Male	16	3	19 (44%)
Totals	33 (77%)	10 (23%)	43 (100%)

There was no association between gender and neuter status (P=0.3025).

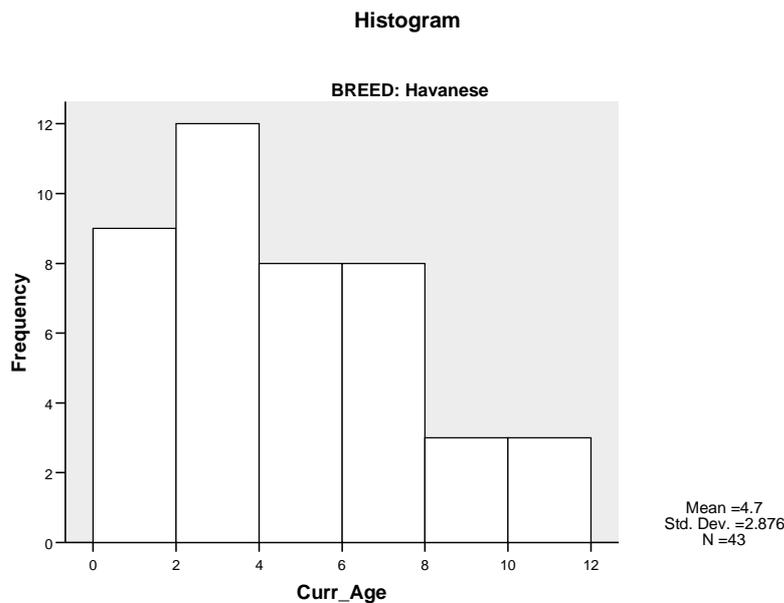


Figure 2. Histogram showing frequency of current age in years for the 43 live Havanese breed with age reported.

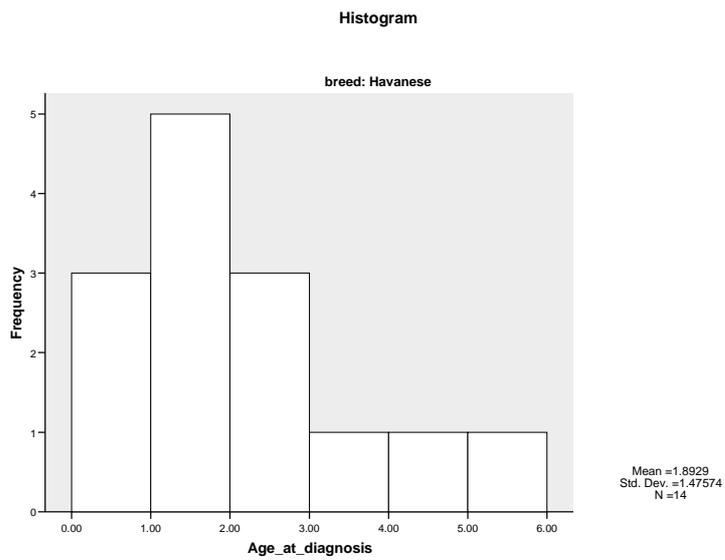


Figure 3. Histogram showing frequency of age at diagnosis for the 14 Havanese breed with one or more disease conditions, using the youngest age at which a disease condition was first reported for those dogs with more than one disease condition or episode.

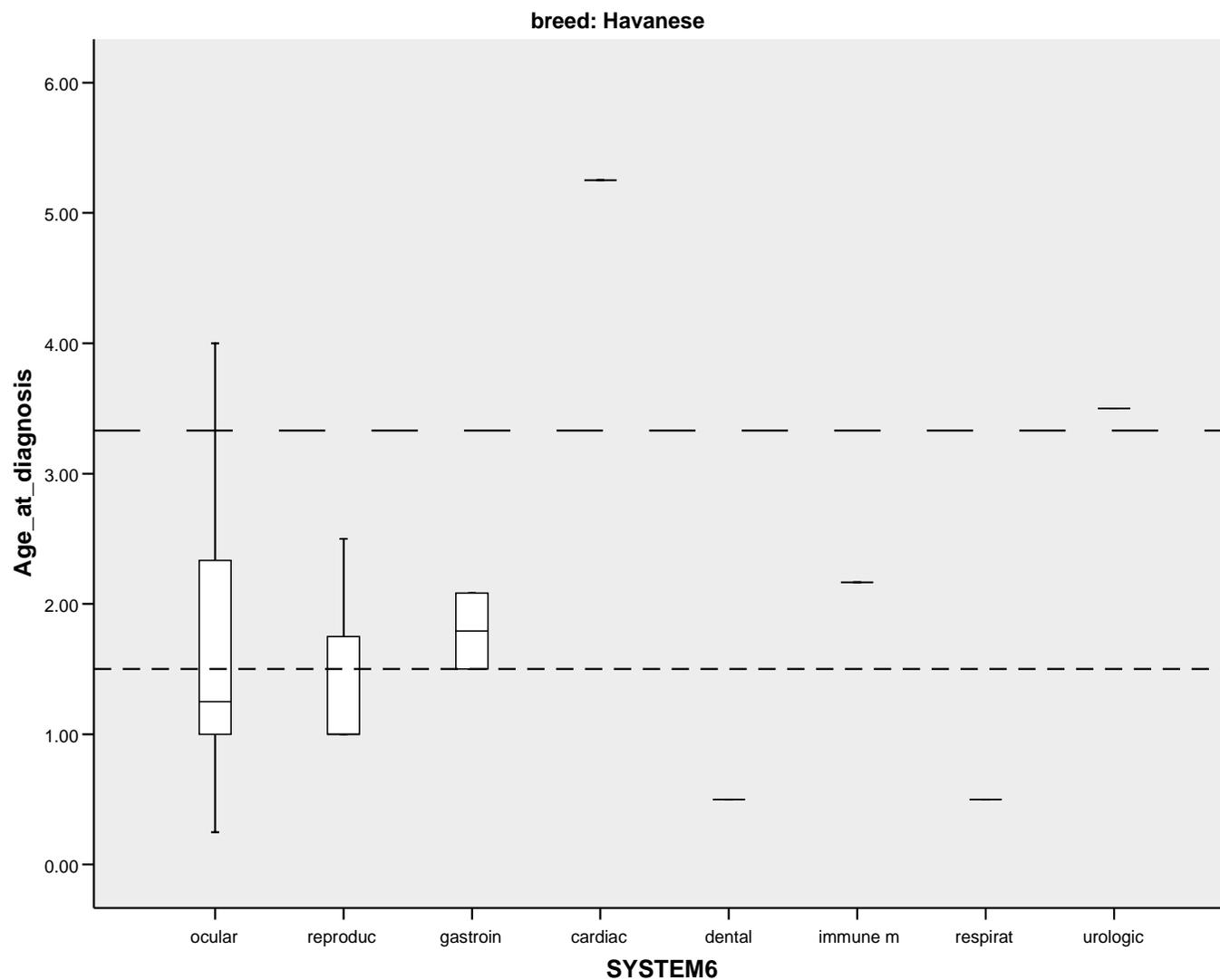


Figure 4. Box and whisker plot of age at diagnosis in years for the most common disease conditions in descending order for the Havanese breed (N=14 dogs with 15 conditions with age reported). The dashed line (---) is the overall median age at diagnosis for all dogs in the survey and the dotted line (----) is the overall median age at diagnosis for the Havanese 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 Havanese breed.

Disease condition	All conditions		Most common specific conditions in descending order
	N	%	
1 Ocular	5	33.3	Cataracts; cherry eye; epiphora; red eye
2 Reproductive	3	20.0	Cryptorchid; fading puppy; infertility
3 Gastrointestinal	2	13.3	Diarrhoea
4 Cardiac	1	6.7	Heart murmur (unspecified)
5 Dental	1	6.7	Defect other than extra teeth
6 Immune mediated	1	6.7	Allergy other (unspecified)
7 Respiratory	1	6.7	Long soft palate
8 Urologic	1	6.7	Cystitis
Total	15	100.0	