



Summary results of the Saluki Health Survey 2013

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Report on the health of the saluki

165 questionnaires were sent by post to SGHC members of which 27 were returned, representing 65 live salukis. 177 e-mails were sent by the Kennel Club, with a link to the on-line forms on the SGHC website. 12 forms were returned, representing 25 live salukis. There were 90 live salukis in total.

The response rate was approximately 23 %. The approximate figure is due to the fact that there was a considerable overlap between the two forms of distribution. In comparison, the overall response rate for all dogs in the 2004 KC / BSAVA survey was 24%, whereas that for the saluki breed was 31.9%. Due to the low response rate, the results of this survey should be interpreted with caution.

Mortality data of adult salukis that have died in the last 10 years

In total 61 deaths were reported with a median age at death of 11 years 3 months (min = 1 year 6 months, max = 16 years 11 months). Age at death for the most common reported causes is represented below. The median age at death in this sample is slightly lower than that of the 2004 survey (12 years).

Table1 Causes of death by organ system/ category

Cause of death	N	%	Most common specific cause in descending order	Mean age at death
Cancer	22	36.6	Type unspecified, lymphoma, liver, lung, heart/spleen	12 years (min = 3y4m, max = 14y3m)
Cardiac	8	13.25	DCM, heart attack, mitral valve disease, heart failure	11 years 1 months (min = 4y3m, Max = 16y7m)
Old age	6	10	Old age and age combinations	15 years 6 months (min =14y6m, max = 16y11m)
Neurologic	5	8.25	Stroke, viral meningitis, epilepsy, dementia	9 years (min = 3y6m max = 15y)
Trauma	4	6.6	Road traffic accident, ran away,	6y 3m (min = 1y6m, max = 14y9m)
Combinations	4	6.6		12y 7m (min = 11y2m, max = 12y6m)
Liver	3	5	Liver virus, unspecified	3y 11m (min = 4 y, max=15y11m)
Unknown	3	5		9y 7m (min = 6y6m, max = 13y7m)
Endocrine	2	3.25	Cushings syndrome	14y, 12y 1m
Urologic	2	3.25	Kidney disease, kidney failure	12y 8m, 13y
Musculo skeletal	1	1.6	Arthritis, lame back end	12y 5m
Other	1	1.6	Suspected reaction to vaccination	6y
Total	61	100		

Morbidity data of salukis currently owned

The median current age of the 90 live salukis with a reported age was 5 years 8 months (min = 4 months, max = 13 years 1 month).

Health information was reported for 90 dogs, of which 59 (60%) were healthy and 31 (34%) for which at least one condition was reported. This resulted in a total of 49 conditions, with the majority of dogs having had one condition (min = 1, max =3). Most conditions were reported as resolved, while a minority was ongoing.

Table 2 Most frequently reported conditions in descending order

Organ system	Main conditions	Number
Reproductive	false pregnancy (7), pyometra (3), long season (1)	10
Dermatologic	ear mites (3), sarcoptic (1), demodectic mange (1), seb.dermatitis, otitis(2), dustmite allergy(1),	9
Cancers/ Tumours	Mammary (6 of which 2 confirmed), testicular (1), seminoma, Leydig cell tumour (1)	8
Respiratory	Kennel cough (4), one side collapsed windpipe (1)	5
Cardiac	heart murmur	5
Endocrine	diabetes1, anal gland problems 1, Cushings syndrome 1	3
Gastrointestinal	chronic diarrhoea, 1, infection 1	2
Musculo skeletal	arthritis hind leg, rheumatism	2
Ocular	sensitive eyes1, excess lachrimation 1	2
Urological	Kidney infection 1, Cystitis 1	2
Hematologic	Haemolytic Anaemia	1
Other	Very nervous	1

Gender distribution

The distribution of gender and neuter status is summarised in the table below. According to the survey, the main reason for spaying appears to be false pregnancies or very frequent seasons.

Table 3: Neuter Status

Gender	Intact	Neutered	Totals
Female	38	17	55 (61%)
Male	29	4	33 (37%)
Unknown	2	0	2 (2%)
Totals	69 (77%)	21(23%)	90 (100%)

Breeding History

Table 4. Salukis owned and bred in the past 10 years

How many of your female dogs have ever had a litter?	28
How many litters have your female dogs had in total?	31
How many litters were delivered without surgery?	27
How many litters were delivered by Caesarean Section?	4
How many puppies were born in total (dead or alive)?	190
How many puppies were born alive?	183
How many puppies were alive but died in the first week of life?	2

Birth defects and conditions affecting puppies in the first weeks of life

One puppy was reported to have been born with a deformed tail.
