

PBGV 2011 Short Form Survey

The PBGVCA Health Committee chaired by Helen Ingher organized a new health survey project in 2011 to collect general PBGV health information in a simple format. A "Short Form Health Survey" was widely distributed to PBGVCA members through blast emails and Saber Tails. Information about the survey was also posted on PBGV-L, a popular PBGV owner Listserv. Several follow up requests for participation in the survey were made. Lauren Kovaleff collected surveys submitted and entered data into a spreadsheet style database.

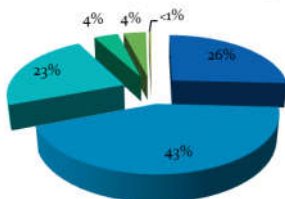
One hundred forty-four individuals provided health related information for 302 PBGVs. No health conditions were reported for 134 or 44.4% of the 302 PBGVs surveyed. Health conditions reported for the remaining dogs ranged from birth defects to health problems in our elderly dogs. Some conditions were life or quality of life threatening, while the majority were either relatively minor or were managed so that quality of life was well maintained.

Following is some aggregate information for your review:

Total dogs entered	302			Male	151	50%
# of owners providing data	144			Female	151	50%
Average dogs/owner	2.1					
				Neutered	167	55%
				Not neutered	126	42%
Breeder is a PBGVCA member	275	91%		Not identified	9	3%

Source

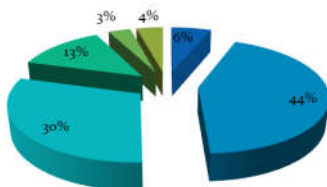
■ Own breeding
 ■ Regular breeder
 ■ Occasional breeder
■ Previous owner
 ■ PBGVCA Rescue
 ■ Not provided



No PBGVs entered were identified as coming from a "Pet Store" or a "Shelter".

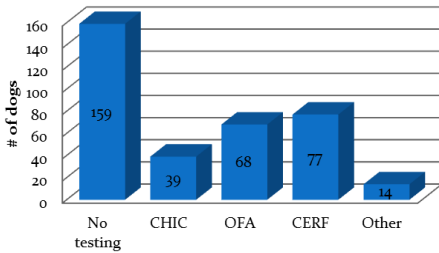
Age as of Survey Completion

■ < 1 yr
 ■ 1 - 5 yrs
 ■ 6 - 10 yrs
 ■ >10 yrs
 ■ Exp
 ■ Not provided



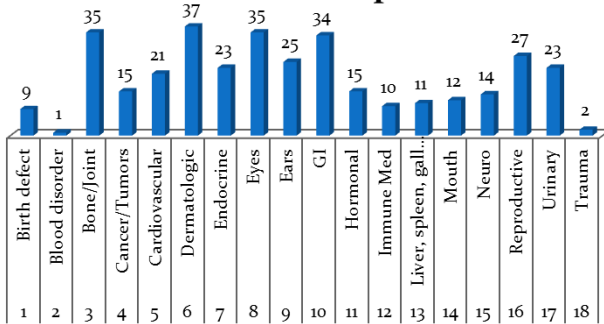
The survey did not request information on dogs that had expired, but surveys were submitted for 10 dogs that had died within the past year and survey information was corrected on surveys for 2 dogs that had died during the survey period.

Health Testing



No health testing was reported on 47% of surveyed dogs. Although info was not requested or collected, a number of responders reported that their dogs received medical care including eye and hip evaluations with no OFA or CERF registration.

Conditions Reported



"No Conditions" were noted for 134 or 44.4% of dogs reported. Category 18 "trauma" was added so that data for some orthopedic or other injuries could be noted, but were not confused with possible genetic conditions.

A major survey objective was to attempt to identify diseases or conditions that appeared most frequently in our current PBGV population in order to channel available financial resources to scientific research that would most benefit our breed. Survey responders were asked to identify any problems in one or more of 18 groups of health conditions, and to briefly describe each problem.

When reviewing the tables below, please keep in mind that in general it is much more common for individuals to respond to surveys when there are problems than when there are no problems, so although percentages are given in the tables below, the percentages would likely be much lower if we had received a health survey for every single currently living PBGV.

BIRTH DEFECTS		Birth defects were reported in 3.0% of dogs surveyed
Total reported 9		Note: Conditions listed were identified by responders as being birth defects. Conditions in other categories may be birth defects as well, but were not identified as such nor was date of onset requested.
Heart murmur (>1yr)	2	
Liver shunt	2	
Patent ductus arteriosus (PDA)	2	
Inguinal hernia	1	
Ventricular septal defect (VSD)	1	
Umbilical hernia	1	

BLOOD DISORDERS		Blood disorders were reported in <1% of dogs surveyed
Total reported 1		
Leukemia	1	

BONES & JOINTS		Bone/joint conditions were reported in 11.6% of dogs surveyed
Total reported 35		Note: The majority of arthritic PBGVs were over the age of 6 yrs.
Arthritis	17	
Patella luxation	11	
Joint dysplasia	4	
Other	3	

CANCER/TUMORS		Cancer or tumors were reported in 5.0% of dogs surveyed
Total reported 15		
Benign or fatty tumors	9	
Hemangiosarcoma	2	
Multiple tumor types	1	
Melanoma	1	
Lymphoma	1	
Other	1	

CARDIOVASCULAR		Cardiovascular problems were reported in 7.0% of dogs surveyed
Total reported 21		Notes: 1) Cardiovascular birth defects are identified in Birth Defect Table. 2) Based on information requested, heart murmurs could not be differentiated in most cases as mild or severe, although few were identified as currently life threatening.
Heart murmur (no specifics)	15	
Heart failure	2	
Mitral valve disease	4	

DERMATOLOGIC		Dermatologic problems were reported in 12.3% of dogs surveyed
Total reported 37		Note: This table is probably not that meaningful as information is so generic that "causes" and "effects" are mixed together. e.g., itching, hot spots and skin infections could be caused by allergies, but unable to differentiate.
Allergies	14	
Itching	6	
Hot spots	3	
Infections	3	
Skin tags	2	
Sebaceous cysts	2	
Warts	2	
Other	4	

ENDOCRINE		Endocrine problems were reported in 7.6% of dogs surveyed
Total reported 23		Note: For a more complete picture of "Endocrine" problems, include the 16 cases of Cushing's from the "Hormonal" section. There is also some thought by experts that diabetes and hypothyroidism may also be immune mediated
Hypothyroid	18	
Diabetes	4	
Other	1	

EYES		Eye problems were reported in 11.6% of dogs surveyed
Total reported 35		Notes: 1) Essentially all cases of cataracts were in dogs >6yrs. 2) Two of the 4 cases of glaucoma were identified as POAG and the other 2 were not identified as to cause.
Cataracts	13	
Primary pupillary membranes (PPMs)	12	
Glaucoma	4	
Lens luxation	2	
Glaucoma carrier (possible)	1	

EARS		Ear problems were reported in 8.3% of dogs surveyed
Total reported 25		Note: If a cause was given, yeast ear infections were most often mentioned.
Chronic infections	18	
Hearing loss	4	
Deaf	3	

GASTROINTESTINAL (GI)		Problems in GI tract were reported in 11.3% of dogs surveyed
Total reported 34		Notes: "General" includes chronic diarrhea (3), colitis/gastroenteritis (6). At least 2 of the cases of gastroenteritis were single episodes of hemorrhagic gastroenteritis.
General (see Notes)	9	
Pancreatitis	9	
Inflammatory Bowel Disease (IBD)	7	
Anal gland problems	7	
Obesity	2	

HORMONAL		Hormonal problems were reported in 5.3% of dogs surveyed
Total reported 16		Note: Hormonal conditions belong in the Endocrine system table.
Cushing's (hyperadrenalemia)	16	

IMMUNE MEDIATED		Immune mediated problems were reported in 3.3% of dogs surveyed
Total reported		10
Juvenile pain syndrome	3	Note: Aseptic meningitis is also known as immune mediated or steroid responsive meningitis. In past PBGV Health Surveys, the term aseptic meningitis refers to a case where all other causes of neck pain have been ruled out by x-ray/lab/spinal tap. The term Juvenile Pain Syndrome is used when all rule-out testing has not been done, but neck pain in a young PBGV is resolved with corticosteroid treatment. The term Neck Pain Syndrome is used to describe a dog with neck pain when the age or treatment or specific cause of pain is not known. Neck pain and Juvenile pain syndromes may or may not be aseptic meningitis; however successful treatment with corticosteroids is a good clue.
Aseptic meningitis	2	
Neck pain	2	
Spinal myelitis	1	
Polymyocitis	1	
Other	1	

LIVER, SPLEEN, GALL BLADDER		Liver, spleen and or gall bladder problems were reported in 3.6% of dogs surveyed
Total reported		11
Gall bladder disease	3	
Liver enzyme elevation	3	
Hepatitis	2	
Liver disease (non-specific)	2	
Splenic problem	1	

MOUTH		Mouth problems were reported in 4.0% of dogs surveyed
Total reported		12
Dental (unspecific)	5	
Gingivitis	3	
Extraction/lost teeth	2	
Undershot jaw	1	
Other	1	

NEUROLOGIC		Neurologic problems were reported in 4.3% of dogs surveyed
Total reported		13
Multiple seizures (type unspecified)	5	Note: More information is needed about the individual seizures listed to divide in a more meaningful way.
Stress related seizures	2	
Partial or psychomotor seizures	2	
Epilepsy	1	
Seizure following trauma	1	
Isolated seizure	1	

REPRODUCTION		Reproductive problems were reported in 8.9% of dogs surveyed
Total reported		27
C-section required	10	
Fertility problems	6	
Pyometra	3	
Undescended testicle (bilateral)	4	
Single testicle	1	
False pregnancy	1	
Other	1	

URINARY TRACT		Urinary tract problems were reported in 7.6% of dogs surveyed
Total reported		23
Bladder infections	7	Note: Urinary tract infections include infections in any part of the urinary tract including kidneys, bladder, ureters, etc. with most common being bladder infections.
Urinary tract infections (unspecified)	6	
Urinary crystals	3	
Kidney disease	3	
Bladder stones	2	
Kidney stones	1	
Other	1	

November 13, 2012