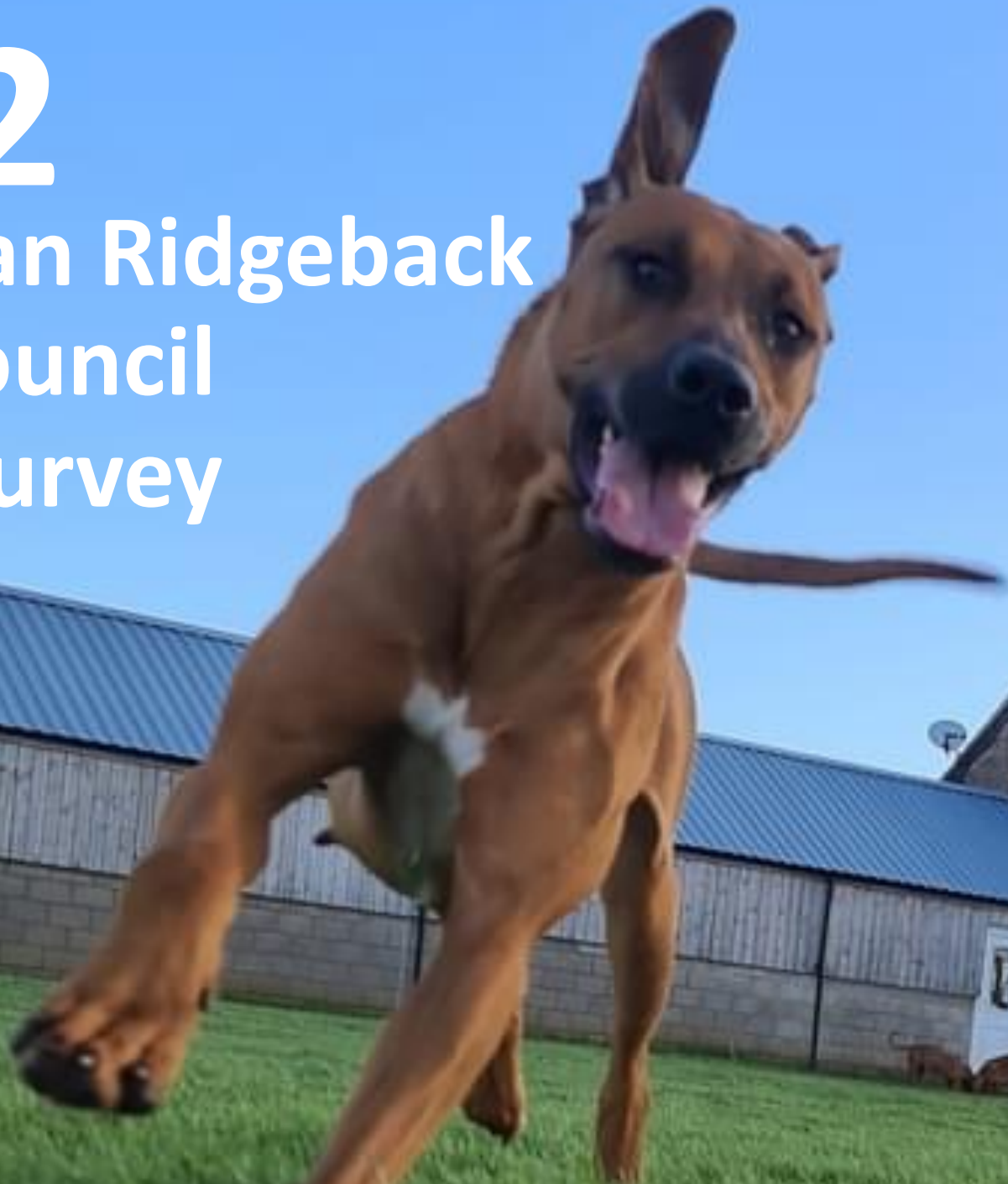# 2022
Rhodesian Ridgeback Breed Council Health Survey

# What was the aim of the Health Survey?

- To gather information about Rhodesian Ridgebacks in the UK which will assist and enable the formulation of future Health Plans.

- The statistical information can be, if required, supplied to the KC to help in the production of The Breed Health and Conservation Plan.

How successful was the Health Survey?

- A total of 734 responses were received for individual dogs.

- Approximately 430 individual owners responded to the Health Survey.

- Responses came from a mixture of Breeders and Pet Owners.

Is your Rhodesian Ridgeback a Dog or a Bitch?

734 responses
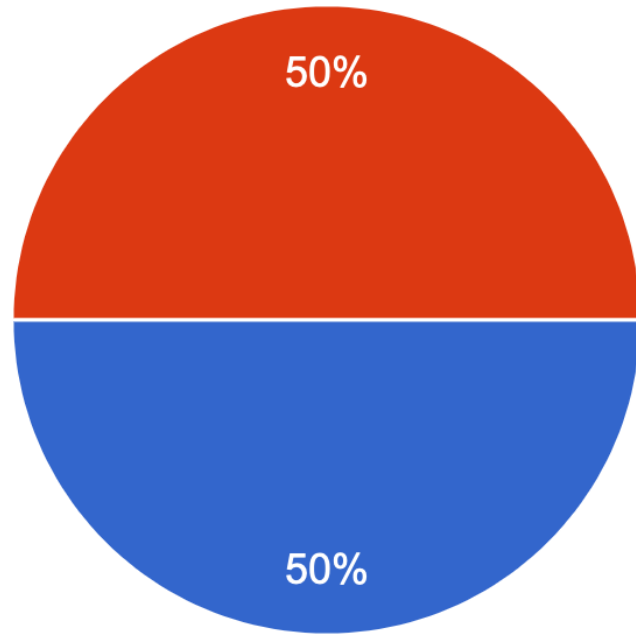
Has your Rhodesian Ridgeback been bred from?

734 responses
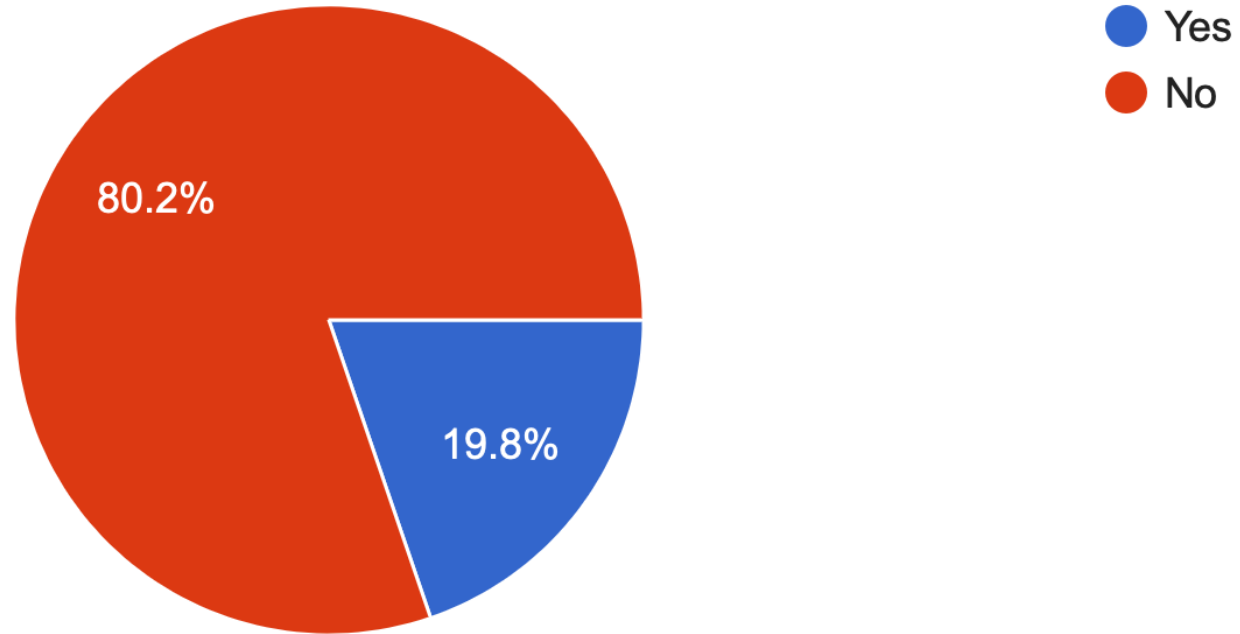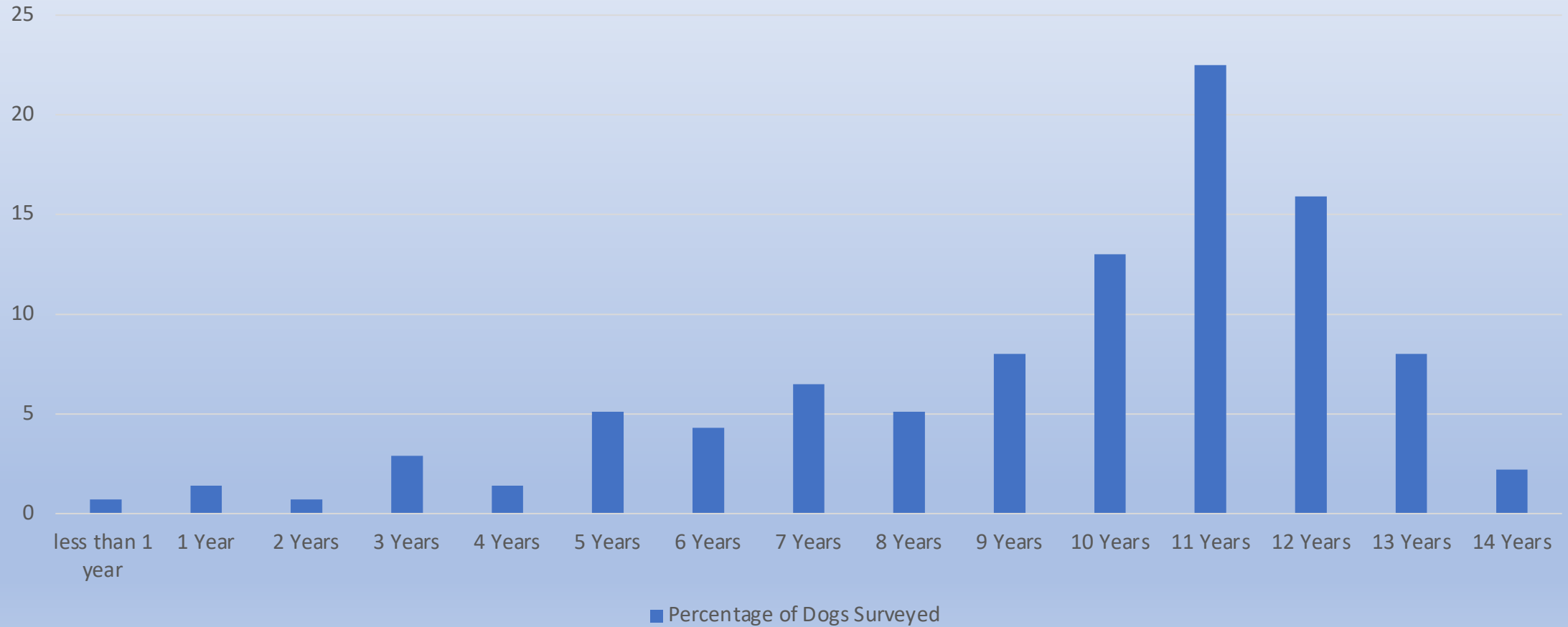
Which of the following would best describe your Rhodesian Ridgebacks Ridge?

732 responses

- Correct Ridge (Breed Standard)
- No Ridge
- Short Ridge
- Offset Crowns
- Multiple Crowns

85.8%
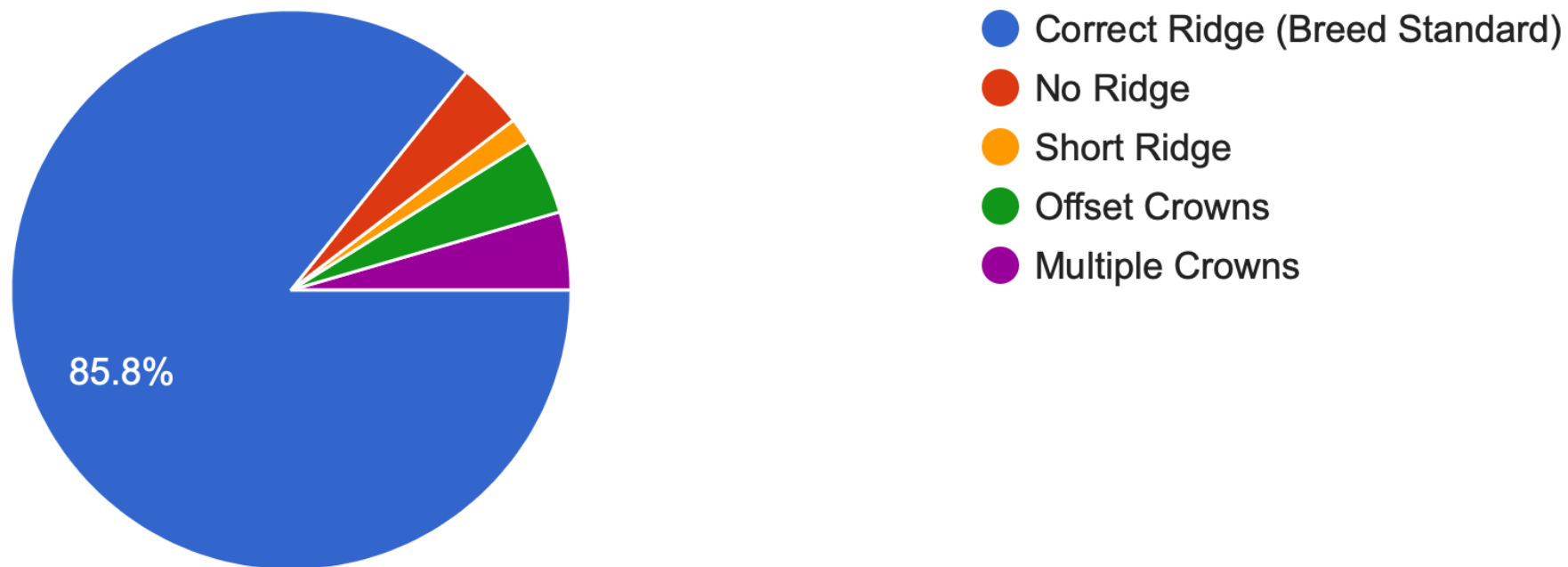
Has your Rhodesian Ridgeback had a Dermoid Sinus?

727 responses
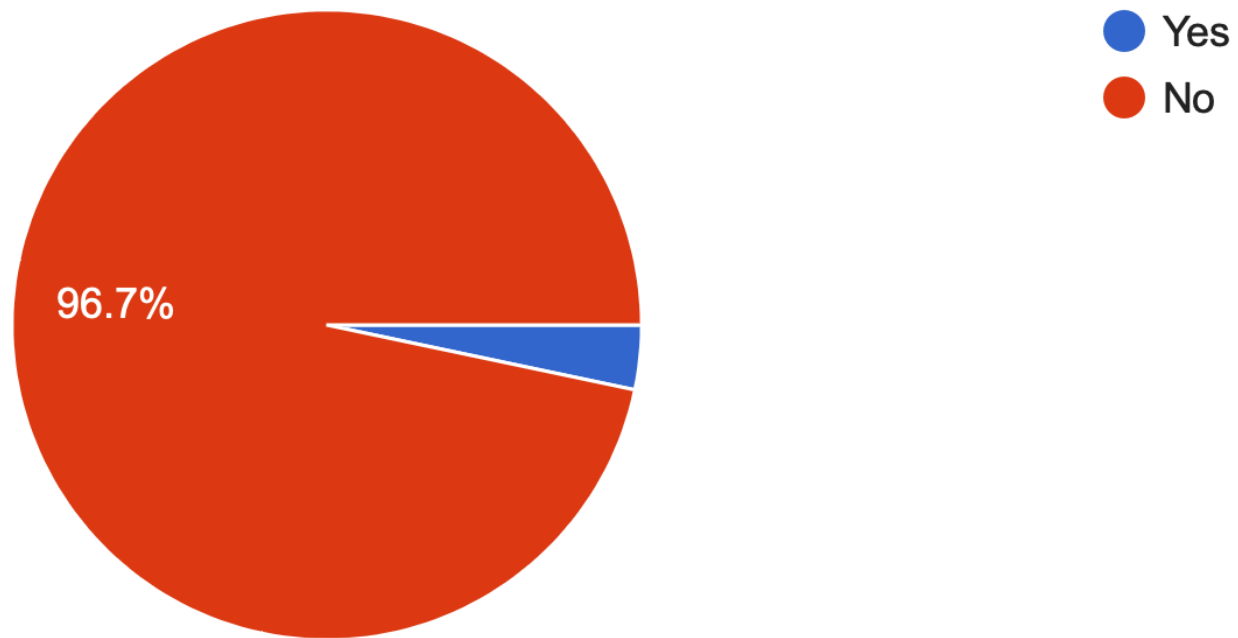
Dermoid Sinus

Age at Diagnosis

Which Health/DNA Tests has your Rhodesian Ridgeback had?

734 responses

Category	Value
B-Locus bd, bc, bs (Brown Coa…	78 (10.6%)
D-Locus D1(Dilution)	93 (12.7%)
DM (Degenerative Myelopathy)	177 (24.1%)
Elbow Scoring	295 (40.2%)
Haemophillia B	89 (12.1%)
Hip Scoring	353 (48.1%)
JME (Juvenile Myoclonic Epile…	230 (31.3%)
Ridge Gene	32 (4.4%)
None	352 (48%)
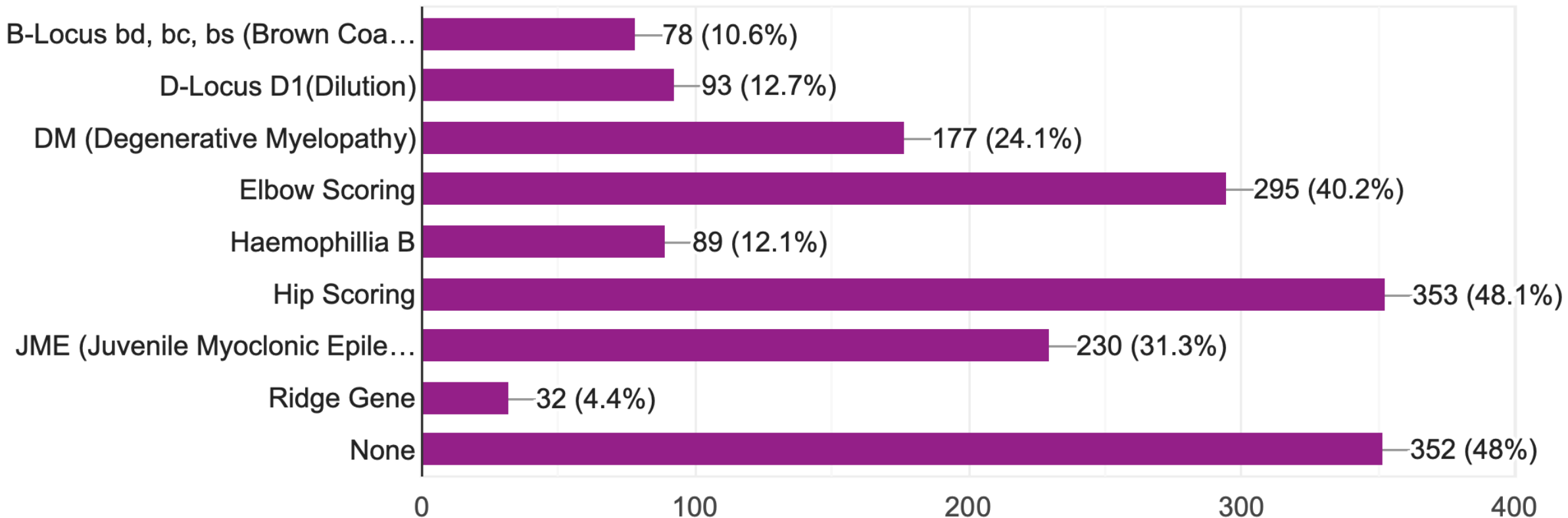
Which Health Categories had most cases?

- No health issues   45%
- Cancers & Tumours   11.3%
- Dermatologic (Skin)   8.17%
- Aural (Ears)   7.36%
- Muscles Bones & Joints   5.3%
- Gastro-intestinal (Stomach)   5.18%
- Cardiac (Heart)   2.86%
- Neurologic (Spinal & Non-Spinal)   2.2%
- Ocular (Eyes)   2%

Cancers & Tumours (Most Common)

- Osteosarcoma   13 Dogs
- Spleen   11 Dogs
- Lymphoma   9 Dogs
- Mast Cell Tumour   7 Dogs
- Lung   5 Dogs
- Stomach   5 Dogs
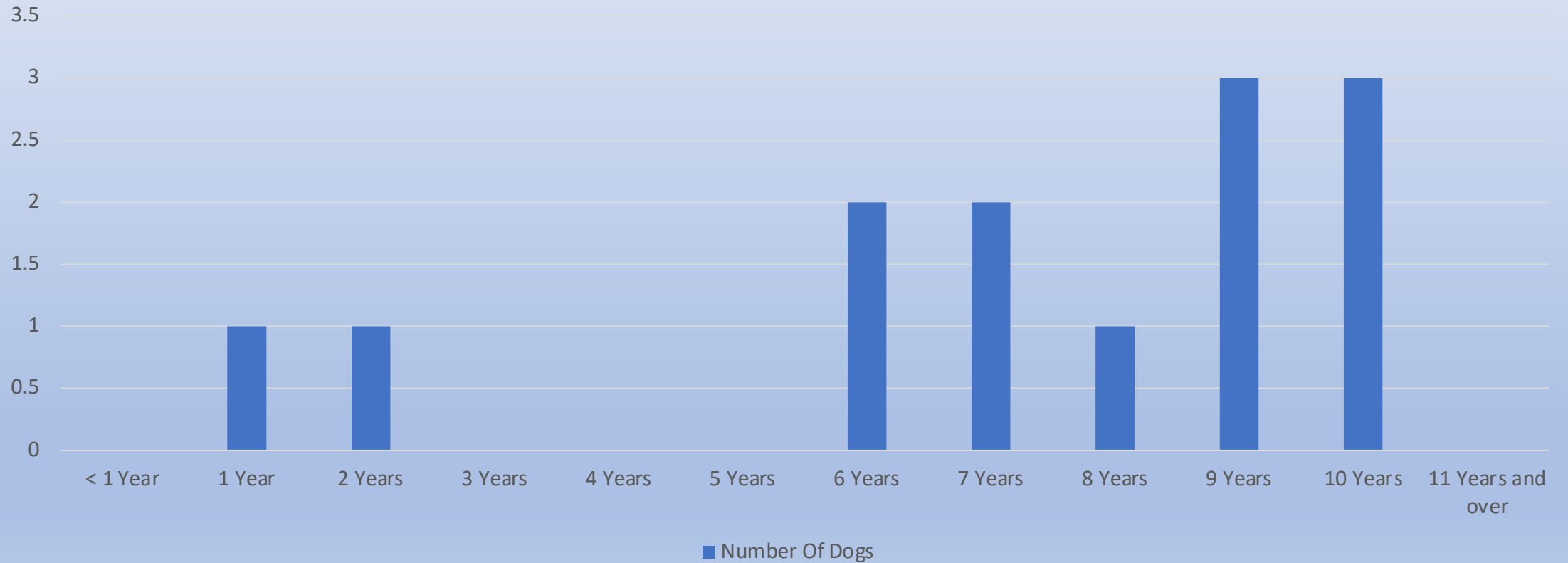- Bladder   3 Dogs
- Mammary   2 Dogs

Osteosarcoma

Age at Diagnosis

Number Of Dogs

Osteosarcoma

Age of Diagnosis	Number of Dogs	% of Survey Population
< 1	Nil	
2	1	0.14%
3	Nil	
4	Nil	
5	Nil	
6	2	0.27%
7	2	0.27%
8	1	0.14%
9	3	0.41%
10	3	0.41%
11 and over	Nil	

Other Cancers and Tumours   70 Dogs

Age of Diagnosis	Number of Dogs	% of Survey Population
< 1	Nil	
1	1	0.14%
4	1	0.14%
5	3	0.41%
6	7	0.95%
7	13	1.77%
8	10	1.36%
9	11	1.50%
10	3	0.41%
11	12	1.63%
12 and over	7	0.95%

Dermatological Conditions (Most Common)

- Dermatitis   25 Dogs
- Skin Allergies   22 Dogs
- Pyoderma (Painful sores / ulcers)   6 Dogs
- Alopecia   5 Dogs
- Food Allergies   2 Dogs

Aural – Ear Conditions (Most Common)

- Infection   36 Dogs
- Allergies   7 Dogs
- Excessive Wax   6 Dogs
- Split Ears   5 Dogs

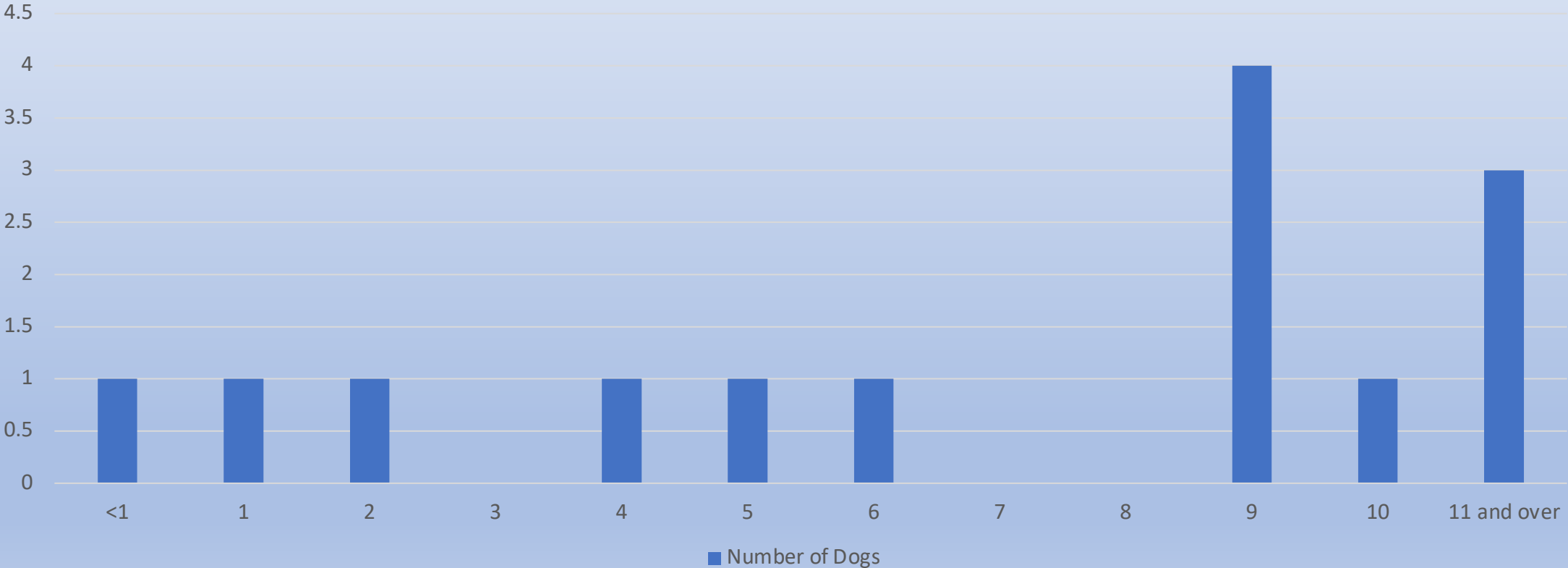# Muscles Bones & Joints Conditions (Most Common)

- Arthritis   14 Dogs
- Hip Dysplasia   6 Dogs
- Elbow Dysplasia   6 Dogs
- Patella Luxation   2 Dogs

Arthritis   14 Dogs

Age of Diagnosis	Number of Dogs	% of Survey Population
< 1	1	0.14%
1	1	0.14%
2	1	0.14%
4	1	0.14%
5	1	0.14%
6	1	0.14%
7	Nil	
8	Nil	
9	4	0.54%
10	1	0.14%
11 and over	3	0.41%

Other Muscles Bones & Joints   34 Dogs

Age of Diagnosis	Number of Dogs	% of Survey Population
< 1	12	1.63%
1	4	0.54%
2	3	0.41%
3	5	0.68%
4	2	0.27%
5	2	0.27%
6	2	0.27%
7	Nil	
8	1	0.14%
9	2	0.27%
10	1	0.14%
11 and over	Nil	

Gastro-Intestinal Conditions (Most Common)

- Gastric Torsion (Bloat)   17 Dogs
- Colitis/IBD (Inflammation of lower digestive system)   14 Dogs
- Sensitive Stomach   5 Dogs
- Twisted Spleen   2 Dogs

Gastric Torsion (Bloat)

Age of Diagnosis	Number of Dogs	% of Survey Population
< 1	Nil	
1	1	0.14%
2	Nil	
3	1	0.14%
4	2	0.27%
5	4	0.54%
6	1	0.14%
7	3	0.41%
8	2	0.27%
9	1	0.14%
10	1	0.14%
11 and over	1	0.14%

Cardiac – Heart Conditions (Most Common)

- Heart Murmur   9 Dogs
- DCM (Dilated Cardiomyopathy)   7 Dogs
- Heart Rhythm Disorder   3 Dogs
- Pericardial Effusion   2 Dogs

Heart Murmur.

Age of Diagnosis	Number of Dogs	% of Survey Population
< 1	4	0.54%
1	Nil	
2	Nil	
3	Nil	
4	1	0.14%
5	1	0.14%
6	1	0.14%
7	Nil	
8	2	0.27%
9	1	0.14%
10	1	0.14%
11 and over	1	0.14%

Dilated Cardiomyopathy   7 Dogs

Age of Diagnosis	Number of Dogs	% of Survey Population
< 1	Nil	
1	1	0.14%
2	2	0.27%
3	Nil	
4	Nil	
5	Nil	
6	1	0.14%
7	1	0.14%
8	Nil	
9	Nil	
10	2	0.27%
11 and over	Nil	

Neurologic Conditions Spinal and Non-Spinal (Most Common)

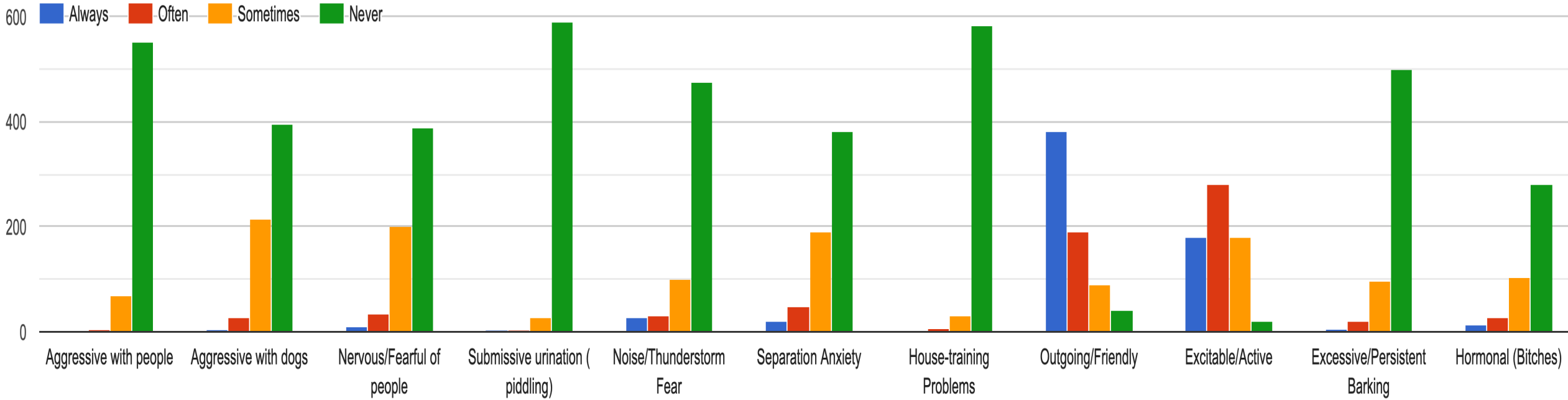- DM (Degenerative Myelopathy)   8 Dogs
- Epilepsy   7 Dogs (1 JME)

Ocular – Eye Conditions (Most Common)

- Entropion   7 Dogs

Behaviour and Temperament

Notes

- It is important to note that dogs of all ages where included in the survey. Whilst there are exceptions to the rule in most cases the age of the dog had a marked impact on the number of dogs affected.

- Some of the 734 dogs reported more than one condition so will appear more than once in the results.

- The average age of death reported was 9 ½ years.

- The survey indicates that overall Rhodesian Ridgebacks are a healthy Breed.

- Over 45% of dogs never having any reported health issues and many more with only minor non breed specific health issues.

- The biggest areas of concern was Cancers and Tumours with 11.3% of dogs in the survey affected during their lifetime.

THANK YOU!