

Vestibular Disease in dogs: "Old Dog Syndrome"

HEALTH STUDY RESULTS

Vestibular disease (often known as "old dog syndrome") more commonly affects aging dogs and results in loss of balance.

Number of dogs in study

905,544

Number of vestibular disease cases identified

759

Average age at diagnosis

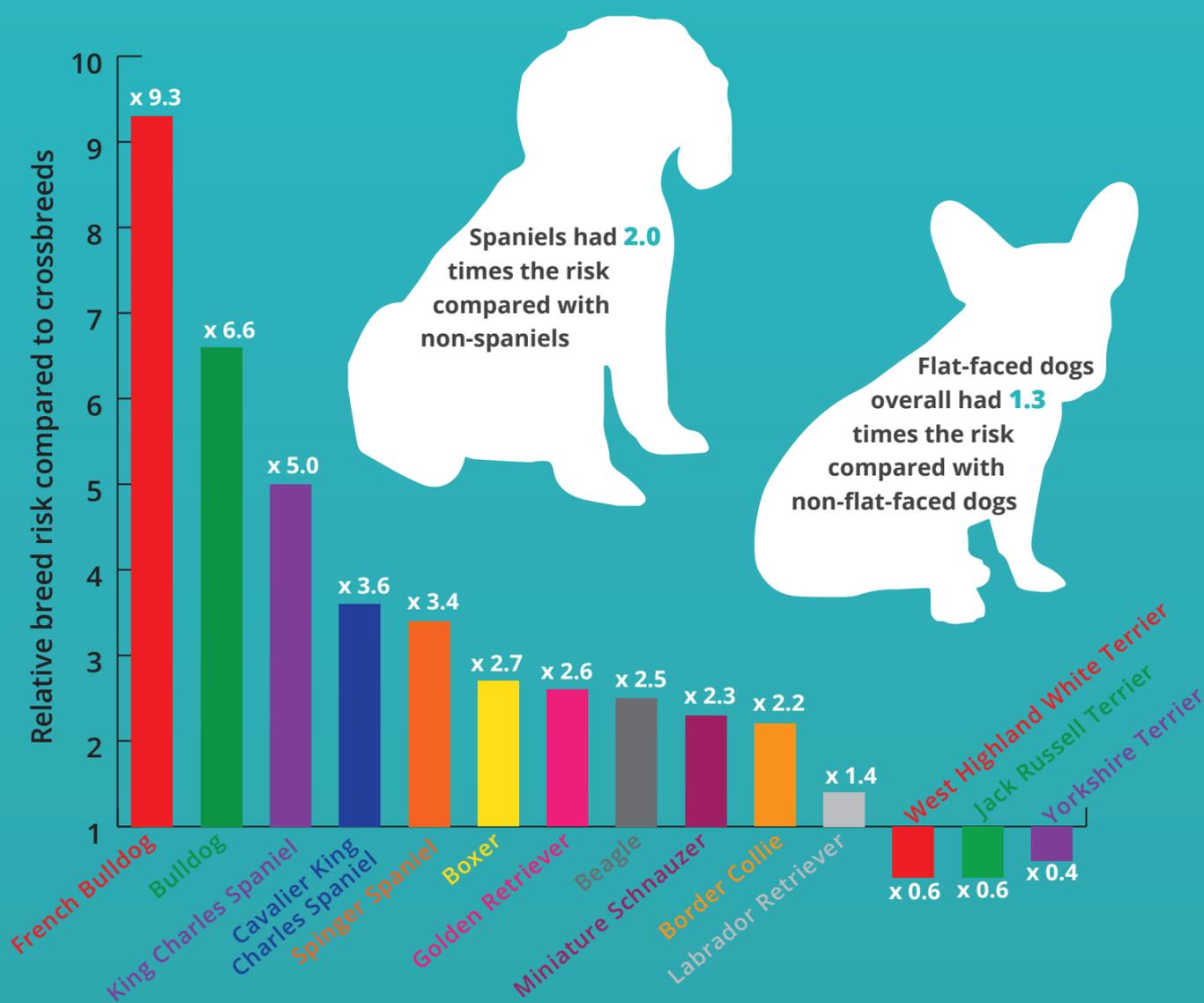
12.7 years

Most common signs of vestibular disease

Head tilt (70%)
Flickering of the eyes from side to side (68%)
Incoordination (64%)



Which breeds are most at risk?



What were the clinical outcomes?

41.8% of cases improved after an average of 4 days

18.3% of cases were hospitalised for treatment

3.6% of cases were referred to speciality centres

9.0% of cases still had a head tilt after one month

11.6% of cases were euthanased on first veterinary presentation

CONCLUSIONS:

French Bulldogs and Bulldogs are at high risk of vestibular disease. Owners of these breeds should be alert for typical signs as their dog ages.

Although vestibular disease may look very alarming, the outcomes may not be as bad as first feared. Four in ten cases were much improved after 4 days on average.

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