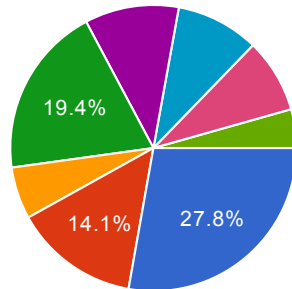


# 806 responses

[View all responses](#)

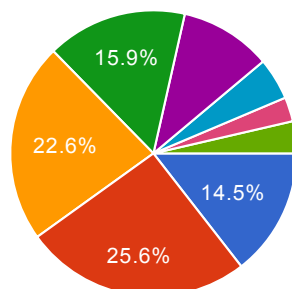
## Summary

### Where do you live?



Northern England	<b>222</b>	27.8%
Midlands	<b>113</b>	14.1%
Eastern England	<b>47</b>	5.9%
South East England	<b>155</b>	19.4%
South West England	<b>85</b>	10.6%
Scotland	<b>75</b>	9.4%
Wales	<b>67</b>	8.4%
Northern Ireland	<b>35</b>	4.4%

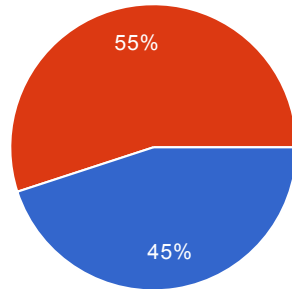
### How old is your bichon?



0 - 12 months	<b>116</b>	14.5%
1 - 2 years	<b>205</b>	25.6%
3 - 4 years	<b>181</b>	22.6%
5 - 6 years	<b>127</b>	15.9%
7 - 8 years	<b>83</b>	10.4%
9 - 10 years	<b>38</b>	4.7%

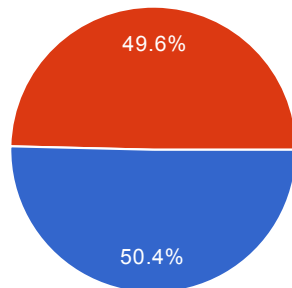
11 - 12 years	<b>22</b>	2.7%
over 12 years	<b>29</b>	3.6%

### What is the gender of your bichon?



Male	<b>358</b>	45%
Female	<b>438</b>	55%

### Is your bichon entire?



Yes	<b>395</b>	50.4%
No	<b>389</b>	49.6%

### If not, at what age was he/she neutered/spayed?

- 1 year 2 months
- 5 years
- 3 years old
- Year old
- one year
- Less than one year old
- not known
- 8 months
- 3 months
- 7 MONTHS
- 23 months
- Six months old
- 14 months
- Being spayed 13/04/15

9-10 years

6month

weeks old

3

2

11mnths

1

12 months

7

6

Six months

5

4

Unsure as she is a rescue bichon.

9

8

6 mos

yes 2yrs

One year 2 months

12 minths

4 years old

7years

Not yet

5 years old

13

6mth

12 mths

8mnths

1 year

4 months

One

Unknown. He is a rescue dog

1 year

8month

9 months

3 years old

16months old

11 months

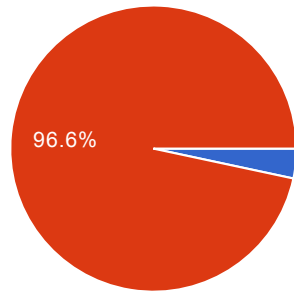
9yrs 6mths

7months  
7 mnths  
8 years  
unknown  
2 years  
12 months  
10  
2yrs  
18 month  
3 years  
7 months  
8months  
6 mths  
8 mths  
Not sure, but early, as soon as it was possible  
not sure  
1 year old  
12months  
nine months  
Sep/2014  
7 yeaars  
Nine months  
8 months  
16 months  
18 months  
6-8 months  
rescue dog, will be spayed after next seasons  
l year 2 months  
9months  
1 Year  
9yrs  
6 mth  
15 months  
2yrs 6 months  
6months  
9 mths  
2 years old  
01/02/13  
under 1 year

1year  
7 months  
5yrs  
six months  
2yrs 9months  
7 Months  
9 months  
6 months  
14 months  
2 years 8 months  
one  
One year  
1 1/2  
don't know was a rescue  
6month old  
12 Months  
11 months  
Approx 5 years old  
17 months  
7 months (we think... can't remember but too early)  
10 months  
6 monih  
6 months  
4yrs  
3yrs  
7 month  
2yrs 6months  
ten months  
2.5  
6months  
10 years of age  
15months  
5 months  
7 years  
Under 12 months  
2yrs 6 mths  
15 months  
6yrs  
6 years

- 9 years
- 1yr old
- 4 years
- 1yr
- Under a year
- Not sure

**Is your bichon an import?**

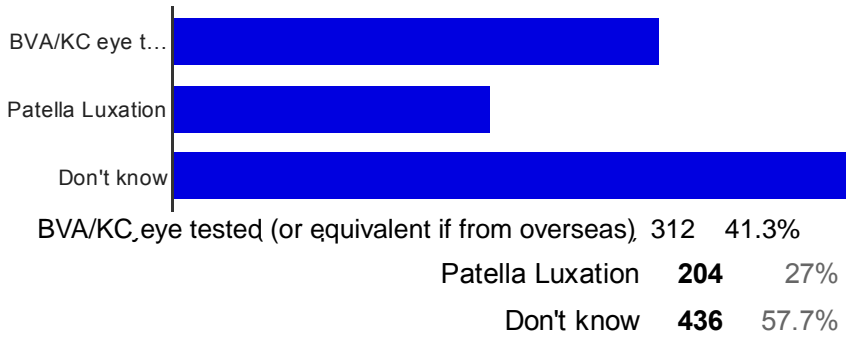


Yes	<b>26</b>	3.4%
No	<b>750</b>	96.6%

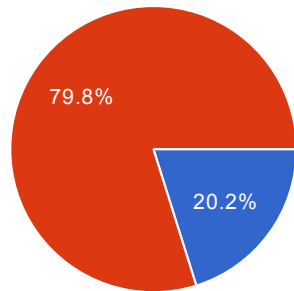
**If yes, from which country were they imported?**

- N/a
- France
- N/A
- 
- Romania
- Ireland
- usa
- Slovenia
- france
- Na
- USA
- Poland
- Southern Ireland
- wales
- Brazil
- australia
- Finland
- This is a maybe as I know his fam aren't from here

**Is your bichon from health tested parents?**

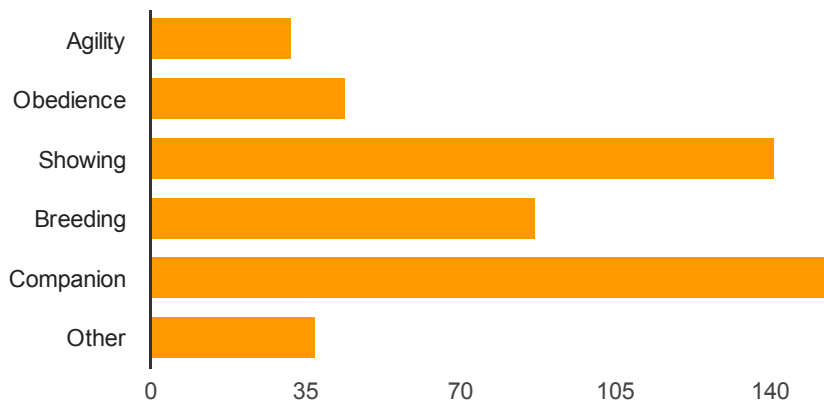


**Has your bichon been BVA/KC eye tested for hereditary cataracts in the past 18 months?**



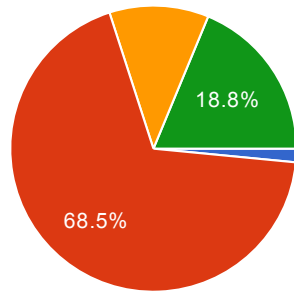
Yes	<b>155</b>	20.2%
No	<b>614</b>	79.8%

**Does your bichon participate in any of the following?**



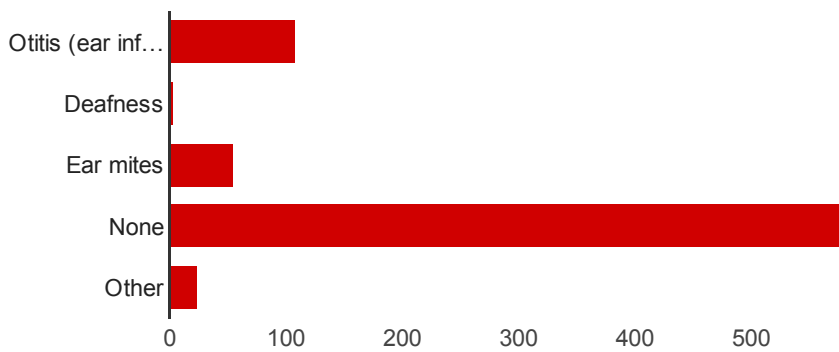
Agility	<b>32</b>	8.7%
Obedience	<b>44</b>	12%
Showing	<b>141</b>	38.5%
Breeding	<b>87</b>	23.8%
Companion	<b>154</b>	42.1%
Other	<b>37</b>	10.1%

**Is your bichon vaccinated?**



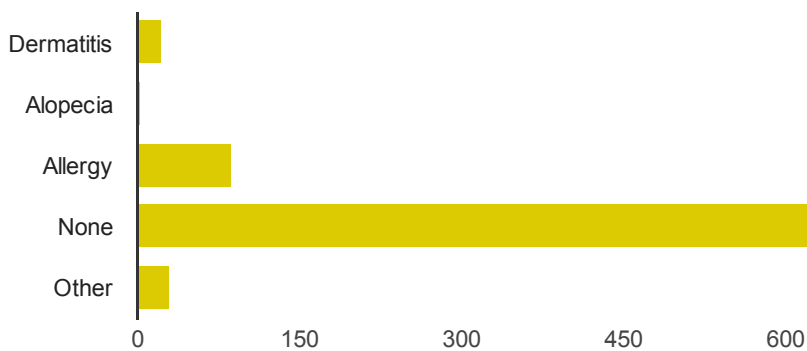
Yes, annually	<b>537</b>	68.5%
Yes, every three years	<b>88</b>	11.2%
Yes, initial vaccination only	<b>147</b>	18.8%

### Has your bichon had any ear problems?



Otitis (ear infection)	<b>108</b>	14.3%
Deafness	<b>3</b>	0.4%
Ear mites	<b>55</b>	7.3%
None	<b>586</b>	77.5%
Other	<b>24</b>	3.2%

### Has your bichon had any skin problems?

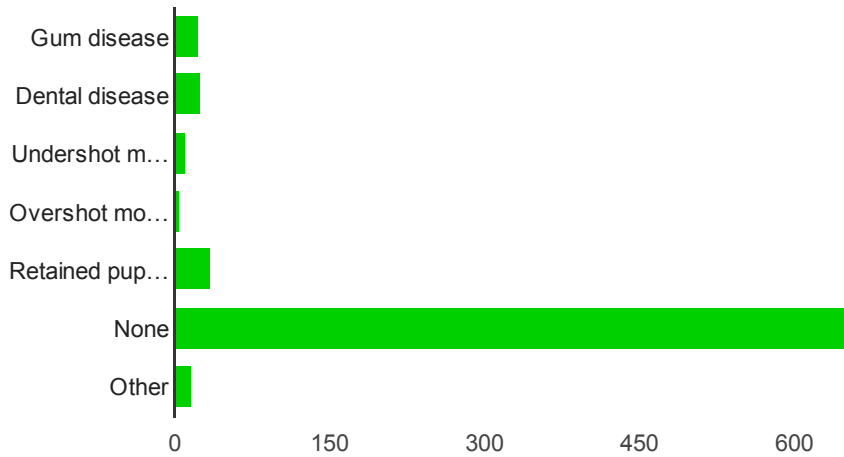


Dermatitis	<b>21</b>	2.8%
Alopecia	<b>2</b>	0.3%
Allergy	<b>88</b>	11.6%
None	<b>631</b>	83.1%



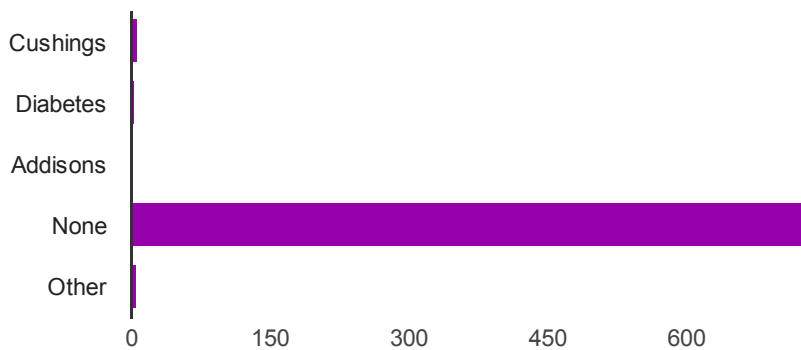
Other **30** 4%

### Has your bichon had any dental problems?



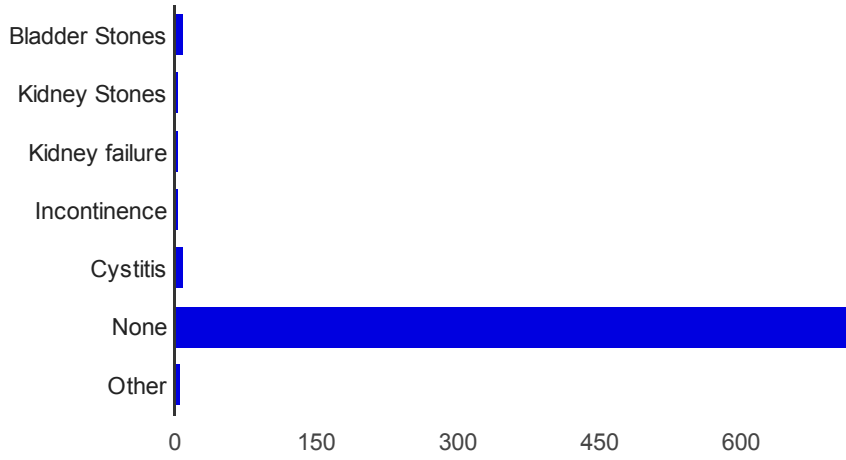
Gum disease	<b>22</b>	2.9%
Dental disease	<b>24</b>	3.2%
Undershot mouth	<b>10</b>	1.3%
Overshot mouth	<b>4</b>	0.5%
Retained puppy teeth	<b>35</b>	4.6%
None	<b>660</b>	86.7%
Other	<b>17</b>	2.2%

### Has your bichon had from any endocrine (hormonal) diseases?



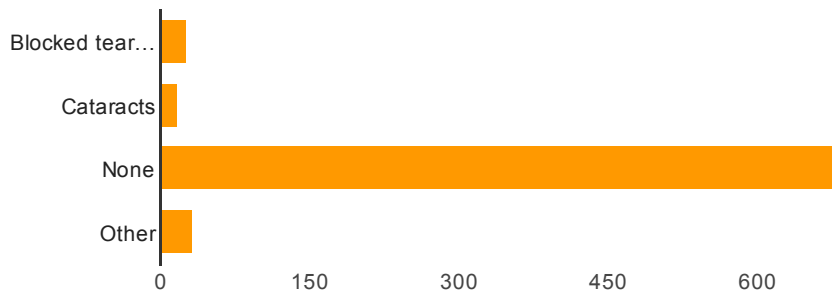
Cushings	<b>6</b>	0.8%
Diabetes	<b>2</b>	0.3%
Addisons	<b>0</b>	0%
None	<b>737</b>	98.4%
Other	<b>4</b>	0.5%

### Has your bichon had any urological issues?



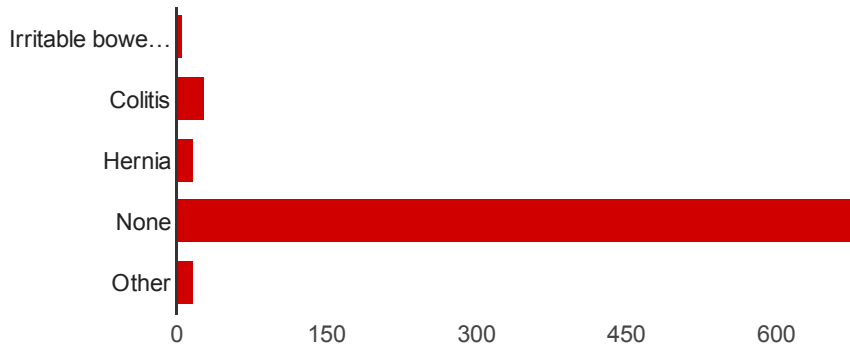
Bladder Stones	<b>8</b>	1.1%
Kidney Stones	<b>3</b>	0.4%
Kidney failure	<b>3</b>	0.4%
Incontinence	<b>3</b>	0.4%
Cystitis	<b>10</b>	1.3%
None	<b>722</b>	96%
Other	<b>5</b>	0.7%

**Has your bichon had any eye conditions?**

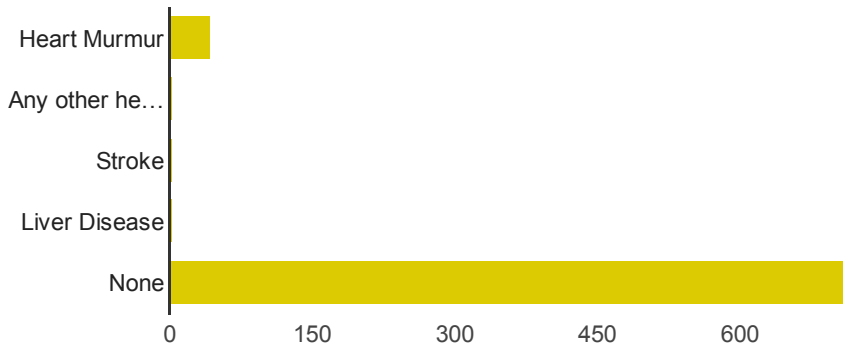


Blocked tear ducts	<b>25</b>	3.3%
Cataracts	<b>18</b>	2.4%
None	<b>685</b>	91.1%
Other	<b>32</b>	4.3%

**Has your bichon had any gastrointestinal problems?**



**Has your bichon had any of the following?**



Heart Murmur	<b>42</b>	5.5%
Any other heart problem	<b>1</b>	0.1%
Stroke	<b>1</b>	0.1%
Liver Disease	<b>1</b>	0.1%
None	<b>717</b>	94.3%

**If your bichon has suffered from any other condition not specified please give details**

back legs

no

luxating patella

Liver Shunt

luxating patella

Was very ill after beening acttact by dog then had to go on a drip and an other time got samila from recalled dog food

Epilepsy from 7 months

Crucial ligament

Luxating patella

arthritis

Seizures

LP

Anal glands

Parvo :-( poor wee mite

luxating patella

No.

Blocked anal glands

. Recurring subcutaneous cysts.

cruciate ligament strain but not ruptured

Anal glands infection

diabetes

Had a small tumour in his toe when 2 years old. toe was amputated and he has had no further issues currently with this.

Legge Parthes at 11 months old she had surgery for it.

hypoallergenic diet

Mastomy

Had a small mass recently removed and awaiting results

anal gland issues

Arthritis

None

Knee joint problem under investigation

cruciate ligament rupture

Cancerous lump on tail

cruciate

back legs and cruciate ligament

slipping patella

No

n/a

Auto immune

lungworm made him very poorly now on advocate every 4 weeks

arthritis as she was getting old 14

Epilepsy

Eclampsia

Arthritis

Cruciate ligament untreated

Pancreatitis

Both cruciate ligaments repaired. Arthritis.

My bichon has had 2 seizures.

Hip problems

When we bought her and brought her home she started coughing... Took her the vet

and she had kennel cough

Ruptured cruciate ligament

Pancreatitis

Phantom Pregnancy

none

perthes

Anal gland problem

ulcerated left eye which was caused through her bottom eyelashes growing in over she lost her eye through this but it doesnt hold her back any.

only has 1 testicle (is 6 months old)

My bitch is nearly 17 years old , and only suffers from a bit of arthritis in her spine, which is treated with an injection approx once a year.

Pyometra

Kennel cough

Constant anal glands infection

Regarding the previous question about heart murmur...it disappeared.

old age warts

Since spaying she has suffered from wight gain despite being on special weight loss diet

Flow murmur diagnosed at 1 year old, never materialised yet to full heart murmur

Had blood transfusion due to anaemia

retained testicles

Mammary Tumours

He hops on his rear left leg but vet can find no reason for it

Anal glands

Grade 2 mummer,being checked annually by my vet

Skin cancer, crucuate ligament

Tear stains & hot spots

Recurrent ear infections

Un dropped testicle

Luxating patellas

Enlarged prostate gland due to high testosterone levels

Umbilical hernia

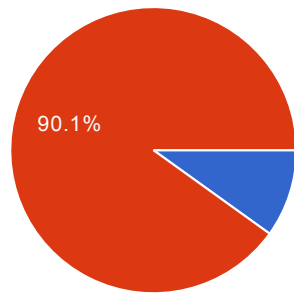
Mammary tumour

Breast cancer

IVDD (Intervertebral Disk Disease) and Testicular Tumor which is why he was castrated.

Blood not circulating properly round body. Has bronchial problems...all related to old age.

### Have you bred from your bichon bitch in the past two years?



Yes	<b>62</b>	9.9%
No	<b>563</b>	90.1%

### If yes, how many males did she have?

currently pregnant

-

3

2

1

0

6

5

4

none

### And how many females did she have?

-

3

2

1

0

6

5

4

none

### If she has had a second litter in the past two years please answer again. How many males did she have?

Not in past 2 yr

-

3

2

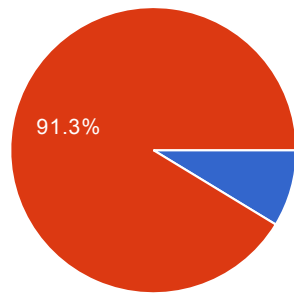
1

- 0
- 5
- 4
- n/a
- none

**And how many females did she have?**

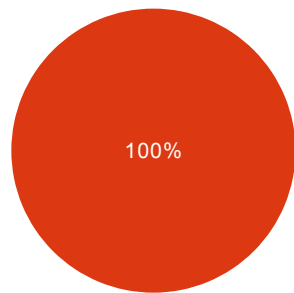
- 
- 3
- 2
- 0
- 4
- n/a

**Did your bitch have a caesarian section?**



Yes	<b>10</b>	8.7%
No	<b>105</b>	91.3%

**If she has had a second litter in the past two years please give a second answer**

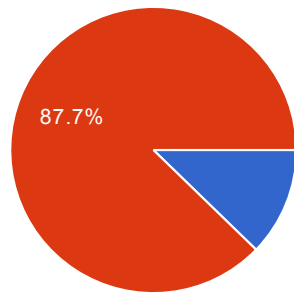


Yes	<b>0</b>	0%
No	<b>33</b>	100%

**Have you mated your bitch but she did not become pregnant?**

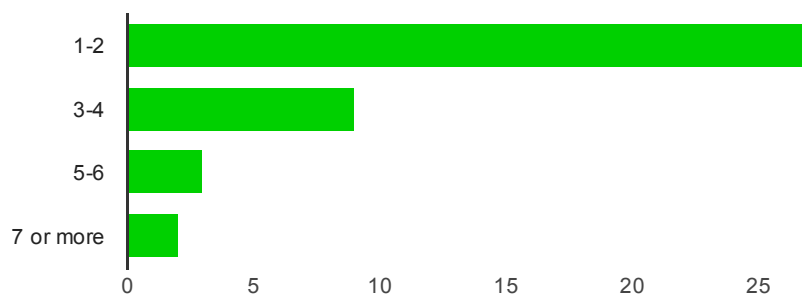
Yes	<b>9</b>	5.5%
No	<b>155</b>	94.5%

## Has your dog been used at stud in the past two years?



Yes **39** 12.3%  
No **279** 87.7%

## If yes, how many times has he been used at stud in the past two years?



1-2 **27** 65.9%  
3-4 **9** 22%  
5-6 **3** 7.3%  
7 or more **2** 4.9%

## If there is any other information that you feel would be useful to Bichon health please give details

Tear stains

Had one litter 3yrs ago just one boy

white dog shaking syndrome as it is on the rise and thought to indicate epilepsy problems

He has microphthalmia

my bichon is only 11wks and will be having her bva eye test done in the next week and again at 12mths.

He is completely blind due to cataracts even agree surgery.

we eye tested regularly until advised no longer required due to her age.

Anal glands have to be sorted every 6 weeks and they make home very poorly he gets a high temperature

The breed seem to suffer from warty cysts as my previous one had many over her body, I have had one removed from my current dog but she has developed more. I also have a younger one so I just hope she doesn't develop them. I would like to



know what other people do about them.

This is a rescue bichon

Separation anxiety even though he's very rarely left

she was healthy but biteing her feet v.v

Two large sebacious cysts removed

Luxating patella. No surgery needed. Has arthritis from an operation due to chipped bon.

my bichon is a rescue

My boy died recently aged 9 of IMHA. Have you had other cases?

Although my dog has not been tested for HC in the last 18 months, he was tested for HC when younger - result clear. I haven't bothed re-testing since he was 8 years of age as not worth doing now he is older and castrated anyway.

Bichon has double claw nail in one toe

She had 3 lilltes frist lttler 2 bicths

heavy tear staining at times

My bichon is aging & therefore has some ailments associated with this, deafness & stiffness plus the diabetes & cataracts

She is a Rescue pet

Eye stains

Despite having the herpes injection the whole litter was still born.

best diet for bichons

highly strung unpredictably aggressive

Chronic itching which resulted in her being on steroids

Eye & Patella clear.

My bichon has a lot of problems with his anal glands he has to got to the vet to get them emptied

Mybaby only has three ties on one of his feet

Had lillte 3yrs ago 6 puppy

Frequently have to treat ear and eye problems due to hair growing into both. Is under investigation for knee problem to back right leg - may be patella or cruciate ligament damage.

All is well

## REPORT ON HEALTH SURVEY

This is the first time the breed clubs have carried out a survey on the internet. The survey was publicised on Facebook through Bichon Groups and Bichon Frise Health UK's own FB page. It was also accessible through the Bichon Health Web Site.

In the past the only way we could access bichon owners was to send out a survey form to all members of the three breed clubs and traditionally we have received little over 100 returns mostly coming from the show fraternity.

The response to our on-line survey has been amazing with over 800 survey forms returned! Not only does this high number give us a much better picture of the overall health of bichons but we have reached bichons that compete in obedience and agility and a large number of pet owners as well as the show community.

On to the good news. Bichons appear to be in a very good state of health!

Unfortunately, by error, we missed out a question on orthopaedics but under the section 'any other conditions not mentioned' we had a good response. The most noticeable was patellar luxation or cruciate ligament problems (16 cases) This condition is prevalent in most toy breeds so it came as no surprise however it does highlight the need for patella testing before breeding. It is encouraging to see that 204 bichons have had patella tests.

Other notes from the survey:

Of the 18 cases of cataracts, the majority were in dogs over the age of 10 but in our next survey we will ask at what age they first appeared. 20% had BVA/KC eye tests within the last 18 months.

Bladder stones is known to be relatively common in bichons but there were only 8 cases of bladder and 3 of kidney stones (1.5% combined)

64% of owners have their dogs vaccinated annually. The accepted protocol is to give core vaccinations (canine distemper virus (CDV), canine adenovirus (CAV) and canine parvovirus type 2 (CPV-2)) as puppies, a booster after one year and then three yearly after that. Of course the answer to the annual vaccination question may be the none core (leptospirosis, parainfluenza and kennel cough) which have a limited life and must be given annually. In our next survey we will split the question into core and non core vaccinations

Of the 385 bichons that were neutered 49 were neutered under the age of 12 months. There is some debate regarding neutering too early which is something we will look into and report back.

11.4% of bichons had some type of allergy. As our breed is a little prone to skin or allergy problems this figure is not of concern, however in our next survey we will refine the question by asking what they were allergic to if known.

Of the 62 bichons that had been bred from not everyone answered how many of each sex they produced so no significant conclusions can be made. In the next survey we will remove the question.

Only 8.7% of bitches had caesarian section which is a much reduced and encouraging figure from two years ago.

cont/

## FUTURE SURVEYS

This was our first on line survey and for 2017 there are some changes or refinements we can make to the questions. Some of these are mentioned in the above report. Additionally we think diet should be covered. If there are any other areas that you think should be covered we would be very happy to hear of your suggestions.

Please email [pauline@manoirbichons.com](mailto:pauline@manoirbichons.com) with any comments or suggestions you have on this or future surveys.

A big thank you to everyone who participated!

Pauline Johns  
Bichon Frise Health Co-ordinator  
on behalf of the  
The Bichon Frise Club of Great Britain  
The Northern and Midland Bichon Frise Club  
The Southern Bichon Frise Breeders Association





