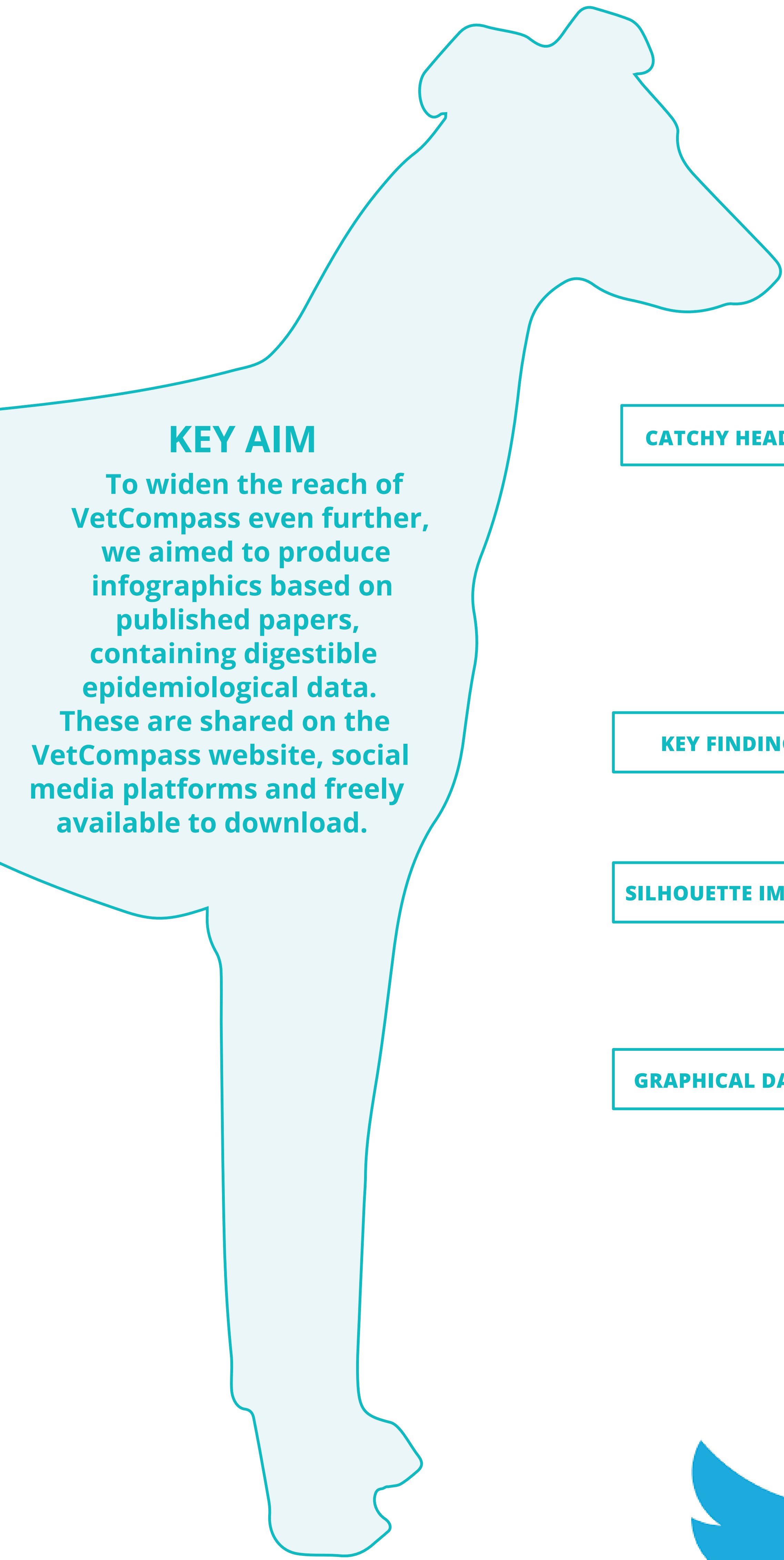


C. Pegram, D. Brodbelt, D. Chuch, N. Kennedy, D. G. O'Neill

Epidemiology alone doesn't change animal welfare; a limiting factor is often dissemination strategies. VetCompass™ aims to package epidemiological findings in palatable formats and share these widely.



## KEY AIM

To widen the reach of VetCompass even further, we aimed to produce infographics based on published papers, containing digestible epidemiological data. These are shared on the VetCompass website, social media platforms and freely available to download.

CATCHY HEADLINE

## Pet rabbit health: heads or tails

KEY FINDINGS

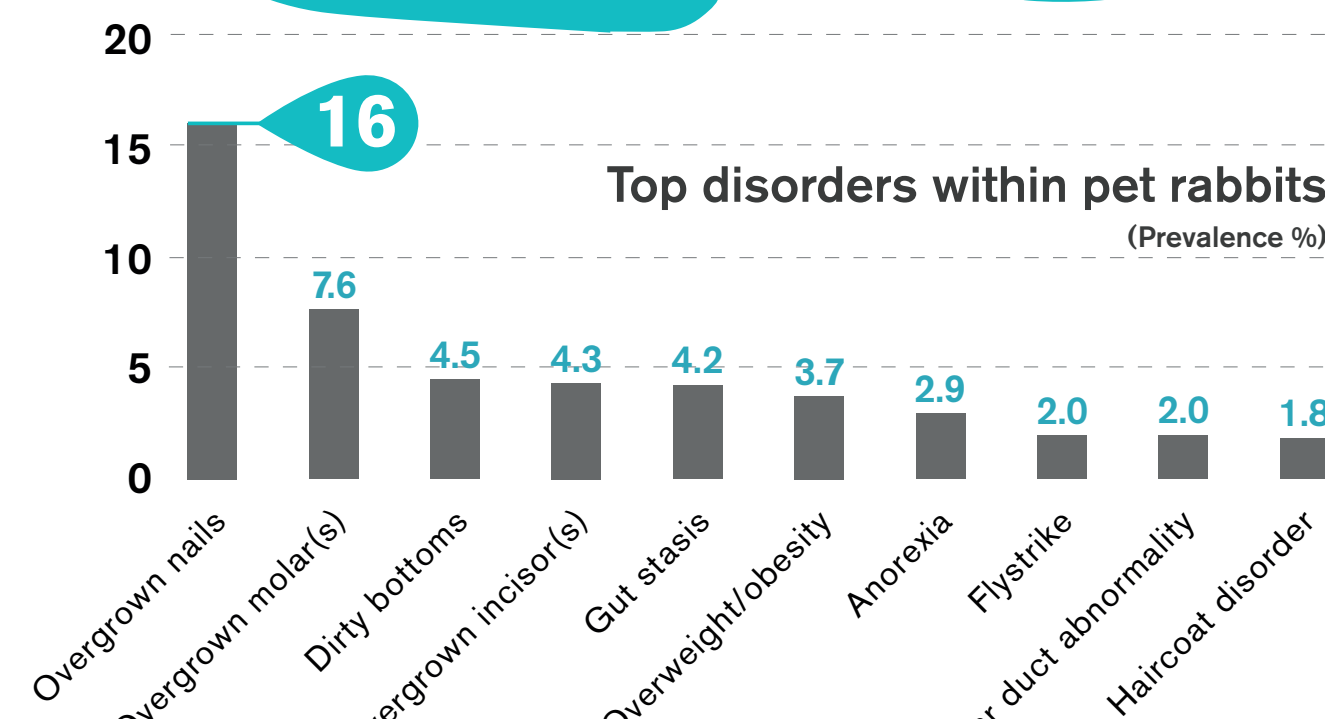
SILHOUETTE IMAGE

GRAPHICAL DATA

This study evaluated the demography, longevity and common disorders of pet rabbits in the UK.

**4.3 YEARS** - Rabbits live on average 4.3 years, with males (5.2 years) outliving females (3.7 years). The most common breed types are domestic (31.9%), lop (26.4%) and Netherland dwarf (10.6%).

- 10.9% FLYSTRIKE
  - 4.9% COLLAPSE
  - 4.9% ANOREXIA
  - 4.3% GUT STASIS
- Most common causes of death



## CONCLUSIONS

- Many common disorders are associated with inappropriate housing or feeding.
- Rabbits evolved as prey species and can disguise external signs of disease, making it hard for owners to spot that their rabbit is ill.
- This study can help improve the lives of rabbits by helping owners and vets recognise the common health problems and prioritise key management factors that will improve the lives of our rabbits.

The study included 6,349 rabbits attending 107 veterinary clinics across the UK. O'Neill, D.G. et al. (2019) 'Morbidity and mortality of domestic rabbits (*Oryctolagus cuniculus*) under primary veterinary care in England', Vet Record (Free Open Access)

CONCLUSIONS

WEB LINK



Papers open access to reduce information sharing barriers.

## THE FINAL PRODUCT

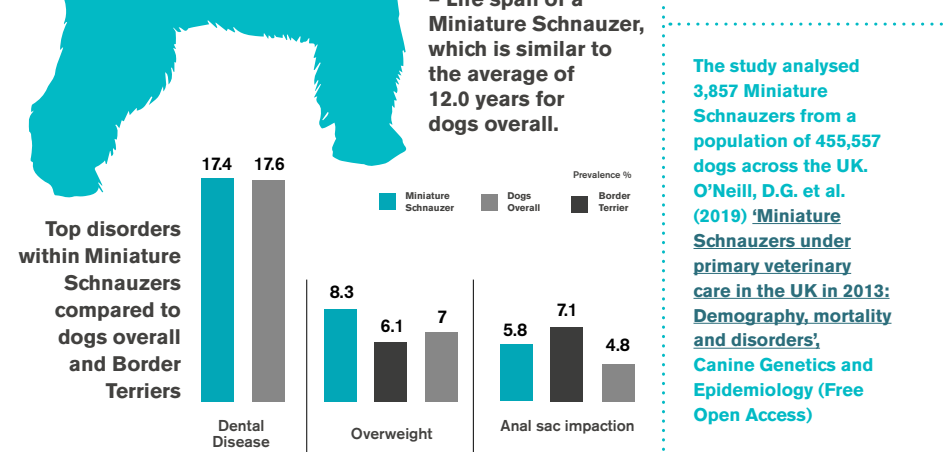
## THE REPRODUCIBILITY

### Miniature Schnauzers

The power of being average

This study evaluated the demography, longevity and common disorders of Miniature Schnauzers in the UK.

Over the past decade, the popularity has remained stable, accounting for 0.7 to 1.0% of all births annually.



CONCLUSIONS: The Miniature Schnauzer does not appear predisposed to any common disorders.

### Chihuahuas

Small dogs but big popularity

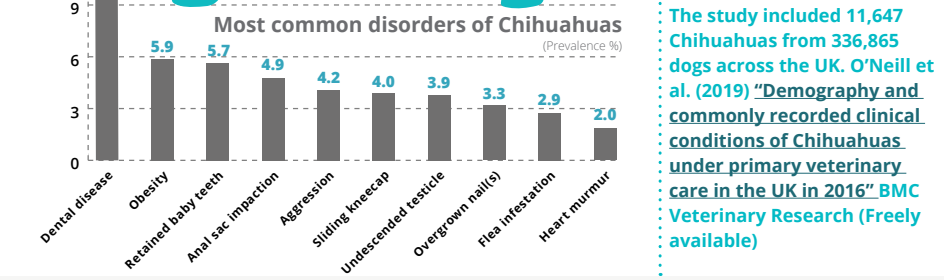
This study evaluated the popularity, demography, longevity and common disorders of Chihuahuas in the UK.

Chihuahuas are on average 8.2 years old.

Most common causes of death (%):

- 18.8% HEART DISEASE
- 13.8% TRAUMATIC INJURY
- 16.3% CANCER

Chihuahua ownership in the UK has risen fivefold from 1.0% of puppies born in 2005 to 5.35% in 2016.



CONCLUSIONS: Chihuahuas have unique behaviours and needs that practitioners should consider in advance.

### Persian cats

At high risk of haircoat problems

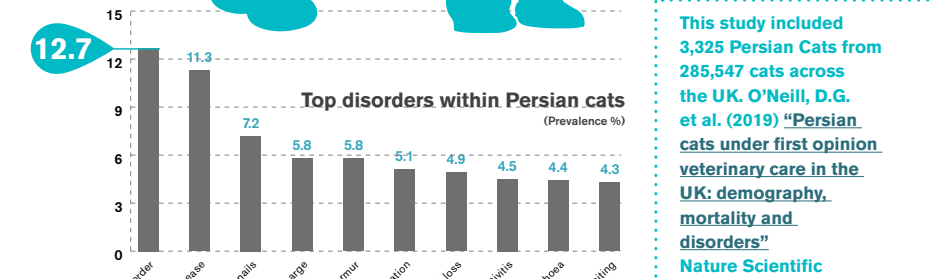
This study evaluated the ownership, demography, longevity and common disorders of Persian cats in the UK.

Persian cats are the 12.3 most popular breed type for cats in the UK.

Most common causes of death (%):

- 23.4% FURBALL DISEASE
- 8.5% CANCER

Persian cats are a popular breed worldwide from their luxurious coat and flattened face.



CONCLUSIONS: Owners of Persian cats need to be especially alert to dental, eye and haircoat issues on their cats and seek treatment at the earliest signs of ill-health.

We acknowledge Prit Parmar (RVC) for his assistance in the infographic design and development

## References:

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3. Demography and commonly recorded clinical conditions of Chihuahuas under primary veterinary care in the UK in 2016. O'Neill DG, Packer RMA, Lobb M, Church DB, Brodbelt DC and Pegram C (2020) BMC Veterinary Research
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