

Qualitative Coding Framework for assigning the free-text responses to VetCompass™ disorder terms

The entire data set consisting of 6527 valid responses was assigned to VetCompass™ disorder terms at the same time, i.e., additionally including those puppies purchased between 1 January and 22 March for both years.

In the case of this question (Q46/Q60), where multiple responses were allowed, all relevant comments were assigned to VetCompass™ disorder terms

The following tables give details of the VetCompass™ disorder terms for the question assigned for this publication along with examples of comments.

Q46/Q60: Soon after you brought your puppy home, did you notice any of the following?

- Other (please specify) (n=219)

VetCompass™ Disorder Term	Example(s)
Abdominal disorder	<i>"Swollen tummy"</i>
Anal sac disorder	<i>"Compacted anal glands...", "Anal glands needed expression"</i>
Appetite disorder	<i>"Lack of appetite", "She hardly ate for days..."</i>
Collapsed	<i>"There was an issue, there was concern that the litter overheated on the way to vets for first vaccination & chipping"</i>
Complication associated with clinical care procedure	<i>"This was to do with previous operation..."</i>
Drug therapy adverse reaction	<i>"He was on anti biotic when he came to us but then required more"</i>
Ear (aural) disorder	<i>"Ear infection", "After a week the puppy had a red ear..."</i>
Enteropathy	<i>"Parvovirus", "Giardia", "Blood in stools", "Being sick..."</i>
Female reproductive abnormality	<i>"Vaginal discharge", "Vaginitis"</i>
Foreign body	<i>"Foreign body was suspected"</i>
Haematopoietic system disorder	<i>"Blood from rectum"</i>
Hearing impaired/deafness	<i>"The pup is deaf"</i>
Heart (cardiac) disease	<i>"A loud heart murmur...", "Heart condition"</i>
Hernia	<i>"umbilical hernia", "He needed a hernia operation..."</i>
Lethargy	<i>"Extreme tiredness", "Lack of energy"</i>
Lower respiratory tract disorder	<i>"...chest...",</i>
Mass/lump/swelling	<i>"...swollen eye..."</i>
Musculoskeletal disorder	<i>"Diagnosed with loose hip joint...", "Lameness..."</i>
Ophthalmological disorder	<i>"Conjunctivitis", "Entropion", "Inflamed eyelids"</i>
Oral cavity (mouth) disorder	<i>"Hair lip",</i>
Parasite infestation	<i>"Ear mites", "She had walking dandruff."</i>
Polyuria/Polydipsia	<i>"Constant drinking", "Excessive weeing"</i>
Skin (cutaneous) disorder	<i>"Itchy", "Dandruff", "Flaky skin", "...foliculitus..."</i>
Tail disorder	<i>"... kinked tail"</i>
Thin/underweight	<i>"Underweight", "Was quite thin"</i>
Traumatic injury	<i>"Broken tail", "...he had a broken leg..."</i>
Undesirable behaviour disorder	<i>"...we believe this is anxiety related", "...anxiety of being left alone for short periods."</i>
Upper respiratory tract disorder	<i>"...coughing"</i>
Urinary system disorder	<i>"Frequent urine infections", "Urinary track infection"</i>
Vascular disorder	<i>"...abherrent left subclavian aortic arch"</i>