

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