



The following statistics were extracted from data collected from the medical records of nearly **2.2 million dogs** and **460,000 cats** cared for in more than **800 Banfield Pet Hospitals (banfield.com)** in 2012. Note that diagnosis was made based on the attending clinician's judgment. Learn more about this new column by turning to page 7 and reading **Welcome to...Pet Health by the Numbers**.

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**KIDNEY DISEASE...BY THE NUMBERS**

Of all the pets presented to Banfield Pet Hospitals in 2012:

- A diagnosis of **kidney disease** (acute or chronic) was made in **2% of cats** and only **0.3% of dogs**.
- In patients over 10 years of age, approximately **1 in every 12 cats (7.8%)** and **1 in every 67 dogs (1.5%)** were diagnosed with **chronic kidney disease (CKD)**.
- Median **serum creatinine** concentrations in cats and dogs diagnosed with CKD were **3.2 mg/dL** and **2.6 mg/dL**, respectively.



**Path to Pet Wellness:** Although the incidence of acute kidney injury (AKI) is unknown, previously published estimates of CKD incidence in the general population of dogs and cats have been around 0.5% to 1.5%.<sup>1,2</sup> However, 1 recent study demonstrated that 30% of geriatric cats developed azotemia over the course of 1 year,<sup>3</sup> suggesting that CKD is likely more common than realized. The difference between prevalence and diagnostic data highlights how CKD may be overlooked due to absent or mild clinical signs. To enhance detection of renal disease, routine blood analysis and urinalysis should be performed, particularly in apparently healthy geriatric pets.—*JD Foster, VMD, Diplomate ACVIM*

Read **Nutritional Management of Renal Disease: An Evidence-Based Approach** on page 51.

**PERIODONTAL DISEASE...BY THE NUMBERS**

**PREVALENCE OF PERIODONTITIS BY SPECIES & AGE GROUP IN 2012**

Periodontal Disease Stage	JUVENILE (0–1 years)		YOUNG ADULT (1–2 years)		MATURE ADULT (3–10 years)		GERIATRIC (> 10 years)	
	Cats	Dogs	Cats	Dogs	Cats	Dogs	Cats	Dogs
Stage 1 (%)	0.3	0.2	3.5	3.3	6.5	7.1	6	6.2
Stage 2 (%)	0.04	0.02	0.8	0.8	3.7	4.9	6.5	8.8
Stage 3 (%)	< 0.01	< 0.01	0.2	0.1	1.5	2.2	4.8	7.6
Stage 4 (%)	< 0.01	< 0.01	0.1	0.04	0.6	0.9	2.3	4.8

To download a handout used to define the **Stages of Periodontal Disease**, compliments of Banfield Pet Hospital, visit [todaysveterinarypractice.com](http://todaysveterinarypractice.com).



**Path to Pet Wellness:** By 2 years of age, 80% of dogs and 70% of cats have some form of periodontal disease.<sup>4</sup> However, in veterinary practices nationwide, the number of pets diagnosed with periodontal disease, and subsequently treated, lags behind the prevalence statistics. To definitively diagnose this disease, oral evaluations must be performed with the patient under anesthesia, which allows identification of clinical signs and findings associated with periodontal disease, including the presence of plaque above and below the gumline; dental radiography is also essential to diagnosis.—*Brook A. Niemiec, DVM, FAVD, Diplomate AVDC*

Read **Practical Dentistry: Feline & Canine Oral Ulcerative Disease** on page 44.

**References**

1. Polzin DJ. Chronic kidney disease. In Bartges J, Polzin DJ (eds): *Nephrology and Urology of Small Animals*. Ames, IA: Wiley-Blackwell, 2011, pp 433-471.
2. O'Neill DG, Elliott J, Church DB, et al. Chronic kidney disease in dogs in UK veterinary practices: Prevalence, risk factors, and survival. *J Vet Intern Med* 2013; 27(4):814-821.
3. Jepson RE, Brodbelt D, Vallance C, et al. Evaluation of predictors of the development of azotemia in cats. *J Vet Intern Med* 2009; 23(4):806-813.
4. Wiggs RB, Lobprise HB. Periodontology. *Veterinary Dentistry, Principles, and Practice*. Philadelphia: Lippincott, 1997, pp 186-231.