Persian cats
At high risk of haircoat problems

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

CONCLUSIONS

- Owners of Persian cats need to be especially alert to dental, eye and haircoat issues in their cats and seek treatment at the earliest signs of ill-health.
- This study suggests that Persian cats are prone to haircoat, dental and ocular conditions because of their flattened faces and luxurious coats.

Persian cats live for 13.5 years, slightly shorter than the 14 year average for cats overall.

Most common causes of death (%)

- 23.4 KIDNEY DISEASE
- 8.5 CANCER

Top disorders within Persian cats (Prevalence %)

- Haircoat disorder: 12.7%
- Dental disease: 11.3%
- Overgrown nails: 7.2%
- Eye discharge: 5.8%
- Heart murmur: 5.8%
- Pneumonia: 5.1%
- Weight loss: 4.9%
- Conjunctivitis: 4.5%
- Diarrhoea: 4.4%
- Vomiting: 4.3%

This study included 3,325 Persian Cats from 285,547 cats across the UK. O’Neill, D.G. et al. (2019) “Persian cats under first opinion veterinary care in the UK: demography, mortality and disorders” Nature Scientific Reports (Free Open Access)