

## IMPROVING YOUR DOG'S QUALITY OF LIFE

C.M.CHEVALIER, F.C.OLIVEIRA, L.C.DIAS, <u>T.L.A.SIFFRE</u>, V.M.C.VARGEM

Integrated Master in Veterinary Medicine, IUEM - Instituto Universitário Egas Moniz, Egas Moniz - Cooperativa de Ensino Superior, CRL.

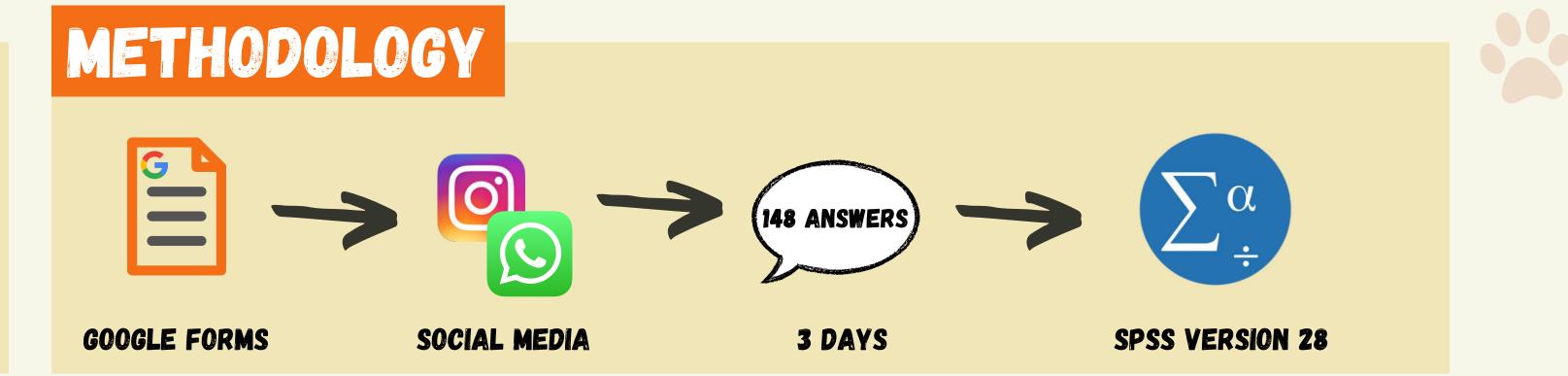
## INTRODUCTION

Nowadays, dogs are becoming, even more than before, a part of the family. So, taking care of their health and welfare is becoming a really important concern for dog owners. It is then important to analyse the factors that can be modified to improve their lifespan.

This study aimed to analyse some variables, such as the dog's age, the frequency they go to the vet, their health problems, or their diet, to determine if the relation between them and their impact on the dog's health and ageing can be observed. Dog owners' profiles were also considered as a possible factor.



Find out some factors that could impact the dog's health and ageing and how to influence them positively.



RESULTS

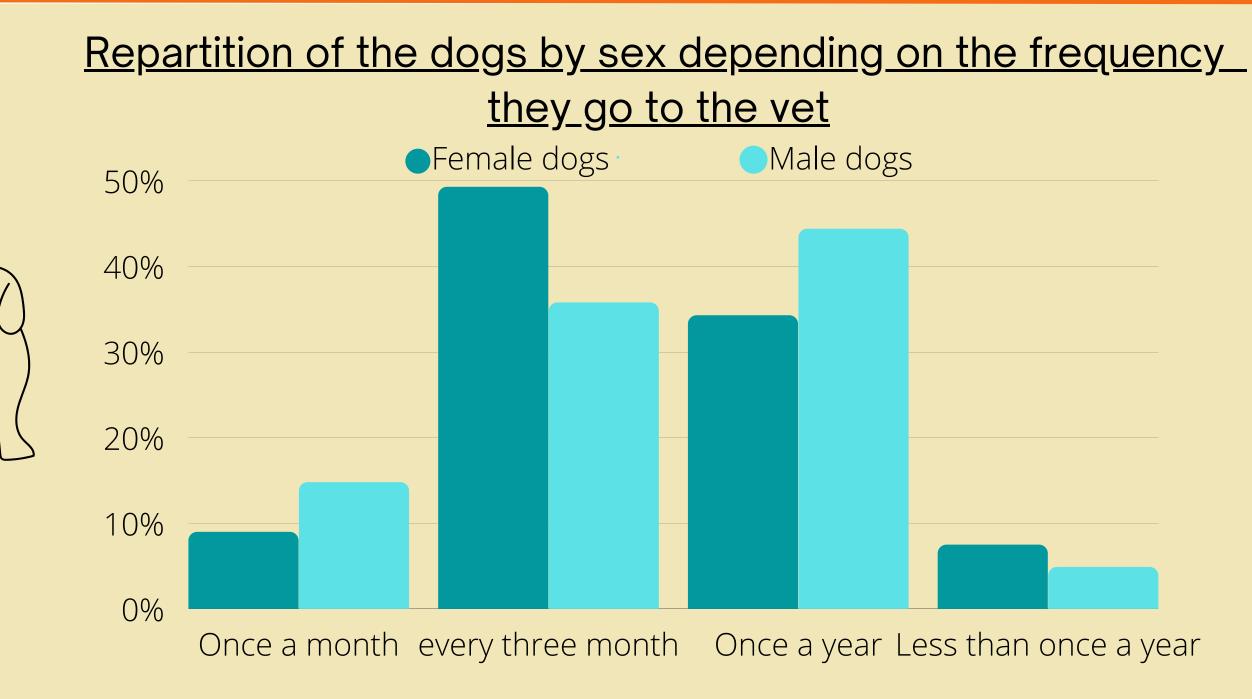
The age of the dog, their diet, their physical activity, their stimulation, and the owner's profile were considered. Female or older dogs go to the vet more often than males and younger dogs. Dogs with no interaction with people are more prone to have physical problems.

 Repartition of dogs interacting or not with people

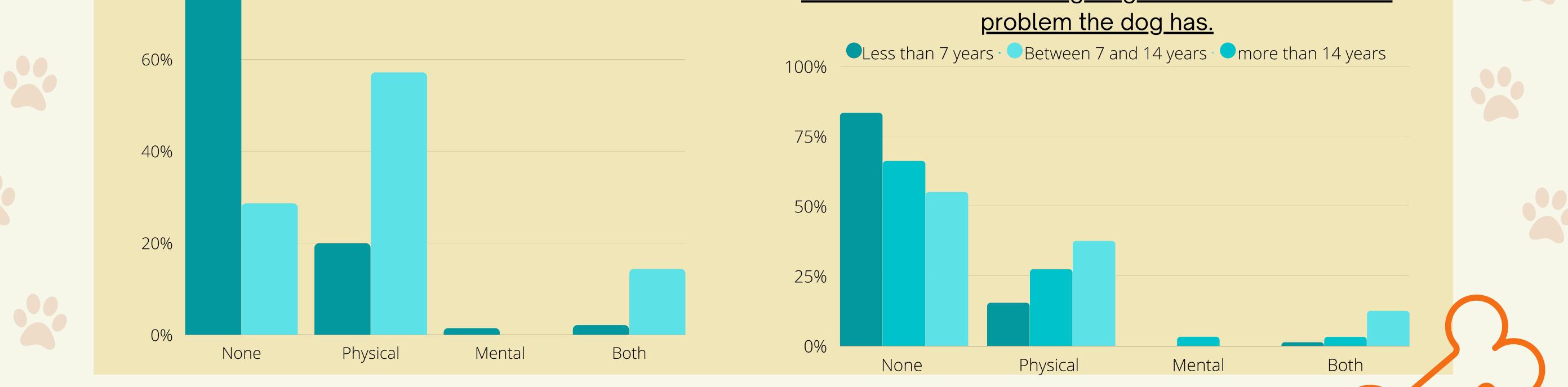
 by the type of health problem they have

 Dogs interacting with people

 Bogs interacting with people



<u>Relation between the dog's age and the kind of health</u>



## DISCUSSION

- Owner information to check for a representative sample.
- Age and sex have a major influence over other factors.
- Data was difficult to analyse.
- The limitations were: Data collection, small and nonrepresentative sample.
- The influence that the interaction of the dog with people has is hard to evaluate. This is because we can't determine precisely if is a cause or a consequence of the dog having a physical problem.



## CONCLUSION

- This study had the purpose of analysing habits in dog's daily life in order to understand what could impact their welfare and quality of life.
- After the analysis, it is possible to conclude that in general, the frequency a dog goes to the vet is globally the same. The main answers that were found, lead to the conclusion that some factors can indeed influence a dog's life. However, because of the bias and size of the population, most of the data can not be properly interpreted and interesting conclusions can not be reached.



