suffered a GD/GDV episode were fed from a height compared with 27 (53%) unaffected dogs ($p = 0.032$). Significantly, a larger proportion of the dogs which suffered from GD/GDV suffered from borborygmi ($p = 0.037$). Seven Greyhound owners reported their dogs undergoing previous abdominal surgery, 6 of these went on to develop GD/GDV ($p = 0.0001$). Six (38%) Greyhounds suffering a GD/GDV had a relative which suffered from the condition compared with 5 (24%) dogs which did not suffer bloat ($p = 0.026$). Twelve (86%) dogs undergoing surgery for the GD/GDV survived and 9 (75%) were subsequently discharged.

STATEMENT (CONCLUSIONS)

This study indicates that feeding from a height, presence of borborygmi, having an affected relative and previous abdominal surgery could be important factors influencing the development of GD/GDV in Greyhounds. This information may be valuable for Greyhound owners attempting to minimise the chances of their dogs developing GD/GDV.

Effect of dog ownership experience on the uptake of preventative health care practices reported by puppy owners

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OBJECTIVES

To summarise preventative health care practices reported by owners of puppies aged ≤ 16 weeks, and to determine whether previous dog ownership affected engagement in preventative health care.

METHODS

Owners who acquired a single puppy at ≤ 11.5 weeks of age and lived in the UK or Republic of Ireland were recruited onto a longitudinal cohort study. Online questionnaires were completed at study registration and when puppies were aged 16 weeks. Chi-squared tests were used to examine associations between previous dog ownership and the use of flea and worm treatment/preventative products, vaccinations and pet insurance, on puppies at or before 16 weeks of age.

RESULTS

Of 1,288 owners, 1,118 (87%) and 1,230 (95%) reported that by 16 weeks of age their puppies had been administered at least one flea product and at least one worming product, respectively; 1,259 (98%) of puppies had been vaccinated at least once and 1,066 (83%) were insured by 16 weeks.

First-time puppy owners were more likely than owners with previous dog ownership experience to use a flea product (OR: 2.63; 95%CI: 1.66–4.16; $P < 0.001$) and have pet insurance (OR: 1.92; 95%CI: 1.33–2.79; $P < 0.001$) by 16 weeks of age, respectively. No differences were found for the use of worming products ($P = 0.3$) nor vaccinations by 16 weeks of age ($P = 0.2$).

STATEMENT (CONCLUSIONS)

Flea product use and pet insurance acquisition were less commonly reported than worming product use and vaccination amongst our cohort subjects. Factors, including previous dog ownership, may influence uptake of preventative health care, suggesting advice could be tailored to different audiences.

Retrospective analysis of Canine Bronchoalveolar Lavage submissions to referral veterinary laboratories in the UK

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OBJECTIVES

The aim of this study was to investigate the prevalence of bacterial respiratory disease in dogs using the results of canine bronchoalveolar lavage (BAL) submissions.