

This study aimed to investigate the frequency, welfare impact and clinical management of skin fold dermatitis in dogs in the UK. This evidence can help owners to make health-focused decisions on which dogs to buy to avoid harmful skin fold infections.

0.37%  
(1 in 300)

differing age,  
sex-neuter and  
insurance status  
between the  
breeds.



Skin fold dermatitis is often a chronic problem requiring life-long skin care. Before purchasing a breed with marked skin folding, owners should commit to the dog's need for life-long skin care.

This research adds further evidence to the welfare concerns around high popularity of dog breeds with extreme body shapes. The message to anyone considering getting a dog is to 'Stop and think before buying a flat-faced dog'.