

## Flatcoated Retriever Cause of Death Register Report, March 2026

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### Cause of Death Register

Twenty-three new entries were made in the Cause of Death Survey between March 2025 and mid-February 2026, the total number of entries now stands at 299.

	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb
2021	2	3	4	5	3	2	3	2	1	2	1	2
2022	2	3	3	2	1	-	-	1	4	1	3	2
2023	11	1	3	1	5	6	2	1	3	-	1	1
2024	3	3	2	1	-	1	-	2	2	1	2	3
2025	2	1	2	1	1	2	1	2	3	3	5	-

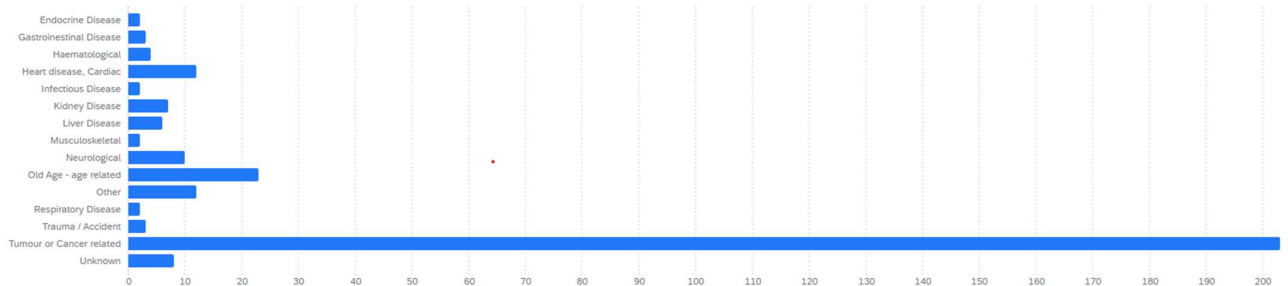
The main cause of death reported is 'Tumour or Cancer Related' = 203 cases (68% of entries as in 2025), 'Old age' accounted for 23 deaths and heart disease = 12, as detailed below.

#	Answer	2021 -22	2022 - 23	2023 - 24	2024 - 25	2025 - 26
1	Endocrine Disease	1	1	1	1	2
2	Gastrointestinal Disease	3	3	3	3	3
3	Haematological	4	4	4	4	4
4	Heart disease, Cardiac	10	11	12	12	12
5	Infectious Disease	1	2	2	2	2
6	Kidney Disease	5	5	5	7	7
7	Liver Disease	4	5	5	6	6
8	Musculoskeletal	0	0	1	1	2
9	Neurological	4	6	6	9	10
10	Old Age - age related	19	19	21	23	23
11	Other	7	9	9	10	12
12	Respiratory Disease	0	0	0	0	2
13	Trauma / Accident	3	3	3	3	3
14	Tumour or Cancer related	133	153	180	189	203

15	Unknown	6	6	6	6	8
	Total	200	227	258	276	299

Please select the main cause of death 299 ⓘ

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Tumour types were specified for :

Tumour type	Number 2021 - 22	2022 - 23	2023 - 24	2024 - 25	2025 - 26
Histiocytoid sarcoma	33	42	47	50	56
Haemangiosarcoma	24	26	31	33	35
Leukaemia	5	5	5	5	6
Chondrosarcoma	2	2	2	2	2
Carcinoma, not specified	8 + 2 adenocarcinoma		13 + 3adenocarci	13 + 3adenocarc	14 +3 adenocar
Neoplasia, not specified	8		10	10	10
Melanoma (malignant)	3 + 1 benign	4 + 1 benign	4 + 1 benign	5 + 1 benign	6 + 1 benign
Lymphoma	9	9	11	12	12
Mast cell tumour	8	8	10	10	10
Osteosarcoma	8	9	12	14	14
Soft tissue sarcoma	7 + 5 sarcoma	8 + 5	8 + 5 NOS	8 + 5 NOS	9 + 5 NOS

	type not specified				
Spindle cell sarcoma			1	1	1
Myeloma				2	2

#### Tumour site

Site	Number 2024 - 25	2025 - 26
Limb, including hip, foot/toe, hock stifle or not specified	15	15
Limb - elbow	9	9
Limb - shoulder	16	20
Liver	18	20
Spleen	39	40
Lung	12	14
Lymph node	9	9
Multifocal / diffuse	4	4
Not specified	68	75

These figures are very similar to last year, the frequency of spleen remains high and this could reflect either histiocytic sarcoma or haemangiosarcoma. We also know that localised histiocytic sarcoma often periarticular, which fits well with the quite high incidence of elbow and shoulder.

As before, this is just a brief summary of the entries to the survey from 2021 to present, there appears to be a reasonable consistency in the causes of death being reported and sadly neoplasia / cancer still features as the main cause of death in the breed. There is a wealth of information about causes of death in the breed which I would be happy to share further with the Health Committee.

Once again may I take this opportunity to thank everyone who has contributed their information to this survey.

**Jane Dobson**

**February 2026**

