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DISEASE BURDEN IN FOUR POPULATIONS OF DOG AND CAT BREEDS COMPARED TO MIXED-BREED DOGS AND EUROPEAN SHORTHAIK CATS

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ABSTRACT

Current public and professional opinion is that many dog breeds suffer from health issues related to inherited diseases or extreme phenotypes. The aim of this historical comparative observational study was to evaluate the breed-related disease burden in three purebred dog populations (Chihuahua, French bulldog, Labrador retriever) and one purebred cat breed (Persian cats) in the Netherlands by comparison to a control population of mixed-breed dogs and European Shorthair cats.

A qualitative query was performed, consisting of a literature review and collecting the expert opinions of University veterinary specialists, to gather insight into potential diseases of the study population.

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