

Popular Article

Management of skin diseases in Dogs and Cats

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Introduction

What is dermatology?

Dermatology is defined as the branch of medicine dealing with skin, nails, hair, and its diseases. Veterinary dermatologists are veterinarians who specialize in the diagnosis, treatment, and management of skin, ears, hair, nail, hoof, and mouth problems in animals.

Components of skin:

Epidermis: The outermost layer of skin, provides a waterproof barrier and creates skin tone

Dermis: present beneath epidermis contains tough C.T, hair follicle, and sweat glands.

Deeper subcutaneous: made up of fat and C.T

Skin diseases in Dogs:

Black skin disease
Seborrhoeic dermatitis
Atopy
Demodectic mange
Pyodermatitis
Cutaneous streptothicosis
Fungal infections etc.

Skin diseases in Feline:

- Ringworm
- Eosinophilic granuloma
- Pyoderma
- Cat scratch disease
- Urticaria
- Ectoparasite infestation etc.



Diagnosis of skin diseases:

- Examination of skin scrapings for mite: 1. Direct KOH method. 2. Sedimentation method. 3. Sugar floatation method.
- Examination of a skin scraping for fungus: 1. Direct examination 2. cultural examination.
- Microbiological examination for identification of bacteria spp.
- Blood smear examination for the presence of protozoa.
- Allergy testing to detect the type of allergen causing skin disease.
- Examination under woods light for detection of fungus.

General management of skin diseases in canine and feline:

- Don't keep pet animals in a wet area or don't allow them to sit on wet soil places.
- Maintain overall body health by shampooing with antifungal shampoos once a week.
- Grooming of the hair of the pets is also important to prevent an infestation with ectoparasites.
- Agents or vaccinations used to kill mites should be used annually.
- Oral preparations to prevent skin infections should be given periodically.

How to avoid occurrences of skin diseases in Canine and Feline:

- Feed a high-quality diet to help prevent skin problems in dogs and cats.
- Keep your dog or cat at a proper weight to help prevent skin disease.
- Prevent canine and feline disease by terminating fleas and mites.
- Keep your pet well-groomed to prevent skin problems.

Home remedies for skin diseases and hair loss in canine and feline:

- Apple cider vinegar: Healing property reduces infection and provides quick relief.
- Coconut oil: The lauric acid in coconut decreases the development of yeast growth on dogs' skin.
- Lemon water: reduces inflammation and provides relief from skin infections.
- Benadryl: Benadryl is a common human antihistaminic and can be given to dogs suffering from allergic reactions.
- Flaxseed oil: it is another home remedy for hair shedding in pet dogs.
- Aloe vera: this helps to soothe skin and prevent hair loss and itching.



- Supplements: omega 3 and fatty acids can be very beneficial to hair coat and hair loss.

Conclusion:

- While preventing the occurrence of skin disorders is difficult, with correct care and treatment, we can reduce the risk of disease occurrence to a minimum. Animal owners should be aware of the different types of skin infections that their dogs might have and how to prevent them. They should be advised to maintain their animal's hygiene and sanitation, as well as to get regular vaccinations to keep their cherished pets healthy.

