

Skin Conditons in Dogs

There are three main mites which affect dogs

Sarcoptes

Demodectes

Otodectes

Sarcoptes

Symptoms—Scratching and biting at themselves; causes trauma to affected area

Contagious to other dogs

Treatment - Diagnosed by skin scrapings, treatment effective but can be long and drawn out.

Demodectes

Symptoms— loss of hair especially on the head and front legs

Pups acquire infection through their mother when feeding

Treatment— varies depending on the type of mange.

Otodectes

Symptoms—Shaking and scratching ears.

Caused by the common ear mite which bites through the external ear canal.

Treatment—earlier the better, generally drops in the ear.

Fungi

Fungal infections of the skin are generally known as ringworm. Usually occur in hot , humid climates. May be resistant to treatment so early diagnosis is important. It appears as a

Hot Spots

An acute painful inflammation of the skin due to trauma inflicted by biting, licking or scratching. The trauma usually occurs because the dog has allergies especially to flea bites. Treatment involves cleaning and trimming the site and medication will be required.

Pyodermas

There are different types of Pyodermas but they are caused by skin folds in hot, humid conditions. Seek veterinary advice as soon as possible.

