

SARCOPTIC MANGE

What is Sarcoptic mange?

Sarcoptic mange is a skin disease caused by the mite *Sarcoptes scabiei* which is highly infectious; and can be passed easily from one dog to another. The mite burrows into the superficial layer of the skin where it lays eggs. Once a dog has been infected with this mite it becomes very itchy and will scratch and chew its body, legs and head resulting in self-trauma, hairloss and inflamed, crusting skin. Skin lesions are most commonly seen on the ear tips, elbows and hocks (to a lesser degree on the abdomen and chest). The mite is very small and only visible under the microscope.

Occasionally humans can pick up the infection resulting in a minor, short lived skin irritation. The mite will not survive for more than 2-3 days away the dog and cannot reproduce on human skin.

How is it diagnosed?

Diagnosis is made from the clinical signs and distribution of skin disease and confirmed by microscopic examination of scrapings from the dog's skin to visualise mites. Unfortunately the mite is difficult to find and diagnosis is often based on clinical signs and history alone.

How is it treated?

Sarcoptic mange can be treated by a combination of the following, depending on the severity of the problem and breed of the dog:

- A course of **IVERMECTIN** injections (3-5) given 10-14 days apart. It can take up to 2 injections before a response to treatment is seen. This drug is not safe for use in Rough Collies or Shetland Sheep Dogs (Shelties).
- Once fortnightly topical application of **SELEMECTIN** ("Revolution") for 3 applications.
- **AMITRAZ** bathing (dilute 2ml of **AMITRAZ** to 1000ml of cool water). Your veterinary surgeon will give you another handout with details regarding the proper use of this drug.
- Antibiotics may be given if there is concurrent bacterial skin infection.
- A short course of corticosteroids may be necessary if the dog is very pruritic (itchy).

How to prevent recurrence or spread?

- Once treatment has started, it is important to soak collars, grooming tools, bedding and spray the living area (kennel) with diluted **AMITRAZ** solution (2ml : 1000ml water).
- Regular skin scrapings should be performed to check the efficacy of treatment.
- It is a good idea to treat all in contact dogs.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONSULT YOUR VET

疥癬蟲病

疥癬蟲是一種名為 *Sarcoptes scabiei* 的皮膚寄生蟲，傳染性高，很容易經一隻感染了的大隻來傳播。疥癬蟲會在犬隻表層皮膚裏繁殖產卵。被感染的犬隻會感到痕癢難當，所以會不停地搔癢、舔/咬身體痕癢部份。這些自殘的行為會對皮膚造成傷害，因而引致脫毛、紅腫及起皮屑等。疥癬蟲通常生存在耳端、手睜及跗關節、胸部及腹部亦可受影響疥癬蟲是很細小的所以只可在顯微鏡下看到。人類偶然亦會受疥癬蟲感染，造成紅腫及痕癢，但它們並不能在人體皮膚繁殖。

診斷

診斷通常是透過病徵及皮膚傷痕的分佈。獸醫亦需要在皮膚上進行刮片，在顯微鏡下檢查，但要在刮片找到疥癬蟲並不容易，所以很多時斷症是依靠病徵及病歷。

治療方法

- Ivermectin
 - 一連 3 至 5 次的 Ivermectin 注射，每次隔 10 至 14 日。很多時動物需要注射 2 次或以上，情況才会有改善。隨着疥癬蟲死去時，動物可能會變行更為痕癢，但情況會慢慢改善。
 - 這藥不能用於牧羊犬類
- Selamectin 例如：Revolution
 - 3 劑 Revolution 滴劑，每 2 星期一劑
- Amitraz 葯水
 - 用 1 公升水稀釋 2 毫升 Amitraz 葯水。你的獸醫會給你另一單張詳細講解正確使用此葯的方法
- 抗生素
 - 如皮膚同時受細菌感染的話，獸醫會處方抗生素，請跟指示完成療程
- 類固醇
 - 這可令狗隻減少痕癢，但不會經常使用

預防及防止傳染

- 頸帶、毛刷及其他美容工具、床鋪等要用稀釋的 Amitraz 葯水浸洗 (用 1 公升水稀釋 2 毫升 Amitraz 葯水)
- 定期接受刮片檢查，以確保治療成效
- 所有與患疥癬蟲病有接觸的狗隻都應接受治療

欲知道更多有關詳情，可請教你的獸醫