

Ear Mites



Ear mites are a common parasite that invade the ears of cats causing severe itchiness and discomfort. Cat ear mites do not infect other species, like dogs, but will infect other cats.



Why should I worry about ear mites?

Ear mites are extremely uncomfortable and can cause damage to the ear canal if left untreated. The mites create a large amount of debris that can interfere with a cat's sense of hearing, putting cats at risk of missing dangerous sounds, like a barking dog. Bacterial infections are common with severe mite infections and may require additional medical care to resolve both the infection and infestation.

How can I tell if my cat has ear mites?

The best way to identify whether your cat has ear mites is to have your veterinarian look at the debris in your cat's ears under a microscope. Other signs include very itchy ears, and sometimes red, sore areas behind the ears from scratching.

How do I get rid of ear mites?

There are several medications available through your veterinarian that will kill ear mites. If there is a large amount of debris present, the ears must be professionally cleaned out. Your veterinarian can help identify and treat secondary bacterial infections as well. Please see your regular veterinarian to make a treatment plan that is right for you and your pet.

What about community cats or ferals?

While permanently eliminating ear mites in free-roaming cat colonies may not be possible, providing a single dose of Revolution and cleaning the ears at the time of surgery can help relieve suffering and improves their quality of life.

A single dose of Revolution given at surgery can help treat ear mites, but it is important to follow up with your regular veterinarian as additional care maybe needed to completely eliminate the infestation.

What does FCSNP do for ear mites at the time of surgery?

FCSNP will inform caregivers if any suspicious signs are seen at the time of surgery so that you may follow up with your veterinarian. We can apply Revolution at the time of surgery if requested by the caregiver at check in. We may clean ears in severe cases if time allows.

Revolution: A topical flea treatment that also kills ear mites can be applied at surgery only and only if requested by the caregiver at check in. Other care is often needed to eliminate the infection so please follow up with your regular veterinarian.

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