

Ear Disease

Types of Ear Disease

- Bacterial infection
- Yeast infection
- Ear mites
- Inflamed ear

Conditions that Predispose to Ear Disease

- Anatomical: Ear flap covering ear canal
narrowed ear canal
- Inflammation of the Skin: Allergic Dermatitis
Food Allergic Dermatitis
- Hypothyroidism

Signs

- Shaking head, scratching at ears
- Reddened ear canals
- Buildup of wax and debris
- Increased smell

Treatment

- Flush and remove the wax and debris
This allows the medicine to reach the ear canal tissue.
This also makes your dog more comfortable.
- Topical ear medication
- Oral medications are sometimes needed.
- Some conditions may ultimately require surgery.

Additional Facts

- As long as a predisposing factor exists, you can expect some degree of ear disease.
- Proper ear flushing can decrease the incidents of ear disease by removing debris, adjusting ear canal pH, and keeping the ear canal drier. All of which leads to a healthier ear canal. Dogs that have repeated episodes of ear disease benefit from maintenance flushing (i.e. 1-2 x/week).
- If your dog is predisposed to ear disease, you should flush the ears following swimming or bathing.