Skin Care

The skin is the largest organ of the body. Therefore, it is important to make sure your pet's skin and fur remains healthy and sleek at all times!

Diet's Role in Skin Health

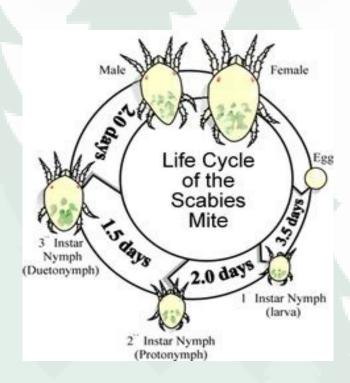
A pet's diet plays a huge role in how healthy the skin and fur coat look! The quality of the food your pet eats can definitely affect how the skin and fur look and feel. A diet with the proper amount of vitamins, minerals, carbs, proteins, and fats will allow the hair to be sleek and shiny, and allow the proper replacement of hair over time (shedding). However, a malnourished pet or one that is getting a diet that does not fulfill its dietary needs will cause the fur to be dull and brittle, and can cause excessive shedding.

Allergies

Many pets have either seasonal or food allergies. Allergies can cause severe itchiness, leading to skin irritation and fur loss. To help avoid skin irritation from allergies, it is important that your pet is on a good flea and tick preventative year-round. Frequent bathing can help remove some pollens and other environmental allergens, especially if your pet is outside a lot. Furthermore, there are several different diets and medications to help with itchiness! For more information, talk to your veterinarian about what you can do to help with allergies!

Creepy Crawlies

Parasites are another common reason that we can see poor skin coat on pets. Fleas are one of the more common parasites found on dogs and cats. Other parasites, such as demodectic or sarcoptic mange, can also cause severe itchiness, resulting in fur loss and scabbing of the skin. While there are treatments for all of these parasites, prevention with good flea and tick medications is the best way to keep these parasites off your pet!



Best regards, Rachel Rielinger, DVM



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