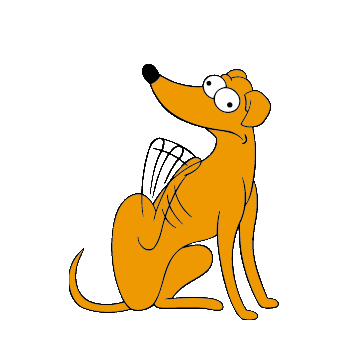
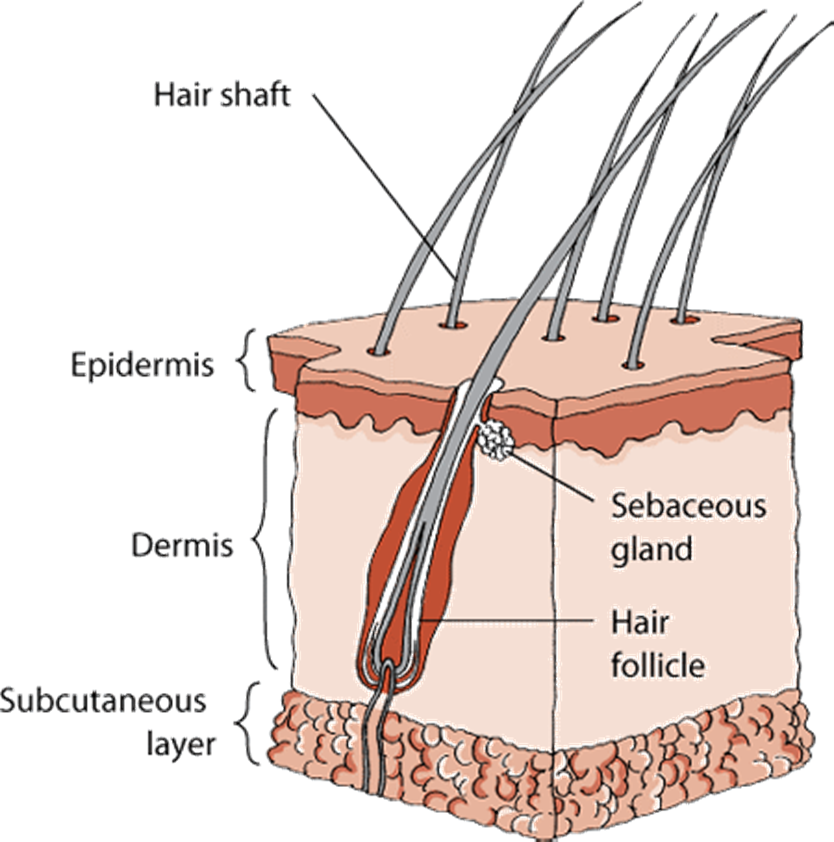
Rashes and other itchy stuff



Structures of the skin



What is dermatitis?

* Dermatitis is inflammation of the skin
* Incited by allergies, infection, mites, hormones or medication
* Skin can become red, painful, itchy, crusty, flaky, oily or smelly
* Caused by a combination of several factors:

- Skin barrier dysfunction

- Cell mediated immune responses

- IgE mediated hypersensitivity

- Environmental factors



Dermatology terms

* Otitis externa –inflammation of the outer ear canal
* Atopic dermatitis – inflammation caused by allergens
* Pododermatitis – inflammation of paws
* Conjunctivitis – inflammation of eyelids
* Acute moist dermatitis – commonly known as hot spots
* Pyoderma – bacterial skin infection
* Dermatophytosis – fungal skin infection
* Demodicosis – inflammation caused by Demodex mite
* Flea allergy dermatitis – inflammation due to flea bites

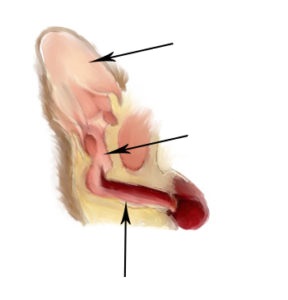
Common skin problems

* Otitis Externa
* Acute moist dermatitis
* Atopic dermatitis
* Flea allergy dermatitis
* Pyoderma
* Demodicosis
* Dermatophytosis



Otitis Externa

* More common with breeds that have long ears
* Animal is genetically predisposed to skin inflammation
* Ear mites can cause inflammation
* Bacterial and fungal infections are usually secondary
* Excess scratching can cause a hematoma
* Diagnosed by an ear swab and microscopy



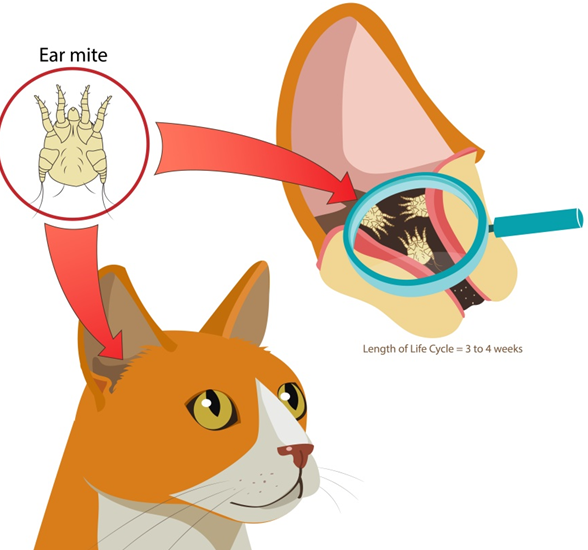
**Ear flap**

**Vertical canal**

**Horizontal canal**

Ear mites

* More common in cats – itchy and miserable
* Diagnosed by microscopy
* Mites are killed by a prescribed otic insecticide
* An otic anti-inflammatory is usually prescribed



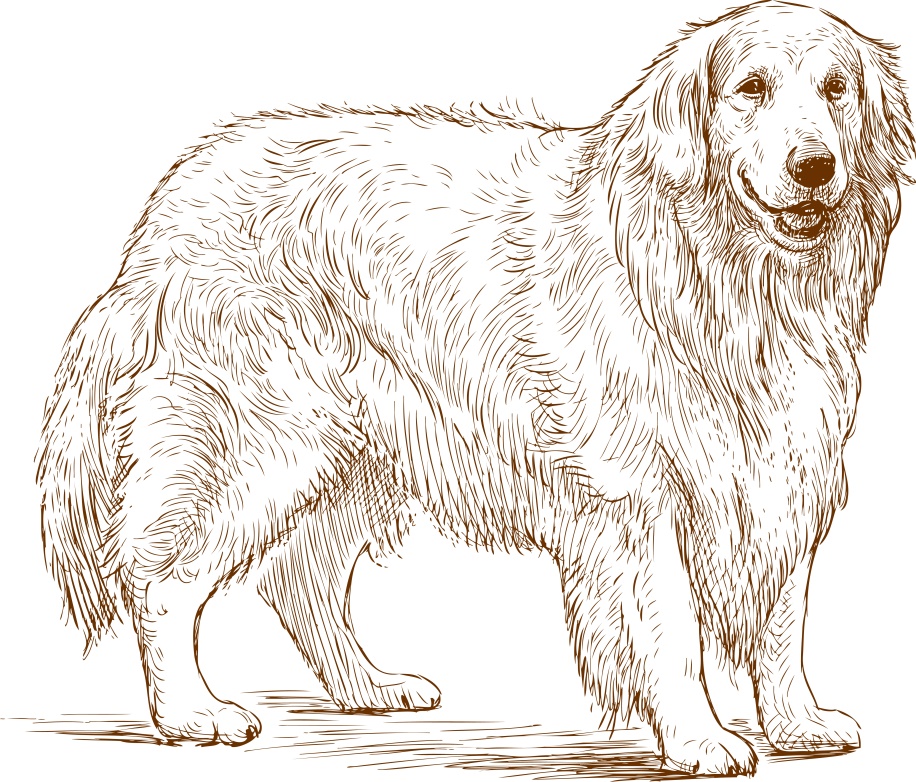
Ear infection

* Ears are itchy and/or painful
* Ear canal is red with yellowish, brown or black wax
* Yeast infection is most common
* Commensal bacteria can overgrow
* Pathogenic bacteria cause a true infection with pus
* Treated with an otic antibiotic-fungicide-steroid



Acute moist dermatitis

* Cause is not fully understood
* Stimulated by licking, chewing or scratching
* Results in excess inflammation
* Skin is red, hot, painful and oozing
* Long haired breeds are more susceptible
* Steroids are usually needed to calm inflammation
* Secondary pyoderma may require antibiotics



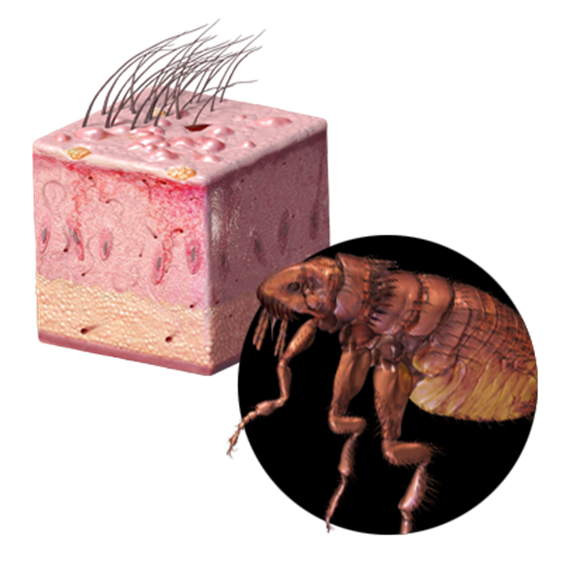
Atopic dermatitis

* Caused by a response to an allergen (topical or oral)
* Goals are to treat inflammation and itchiness
* Treated with anti-histamines +/- steroids
* New generation of anti-inflammatories available
* Control by bathing with skin replenishing shampoo
* Control by reducing allergens in environment
* Immunotherapy is an alternative



Flea allergy dermatitis

* Caused by a hypersensitivity to a flea bite
* A single bite can cause system-wide skin inflammation
* Steroids are usually prescribed for inflammation
* Fleas killed with topical or oral insecticide
* Secondary pyoderma is common
* Environment must also be treated



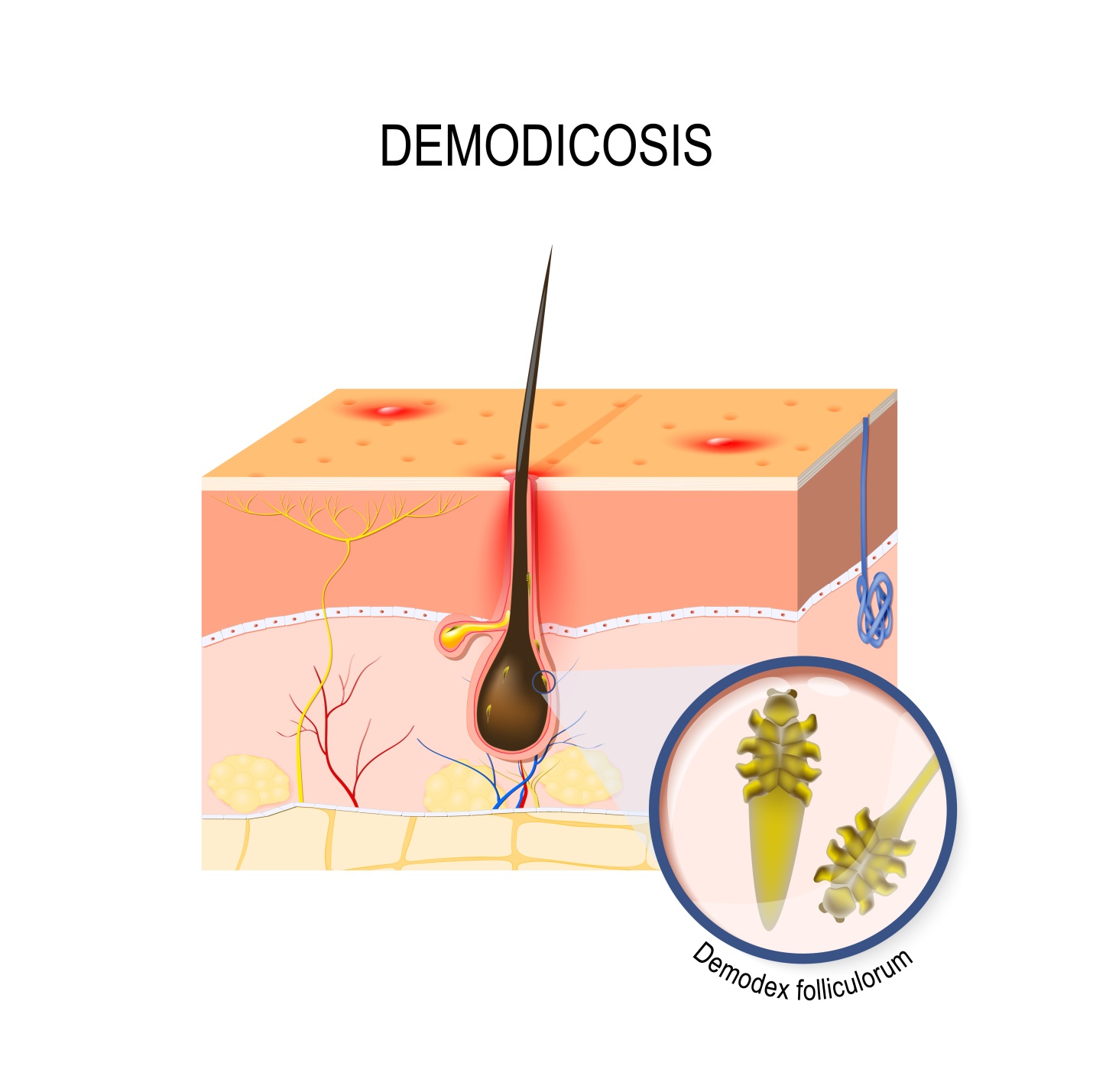
Pyoderma

* Often secondary to dermatitis
* Superficial and deep forms
* Often seen on abdomen of puppies
* Diagnosed by skin swab
* Staph infections are most common
* Treated with topical or oral antibiotics
* Controlled with bathing in antibacterial shampoo



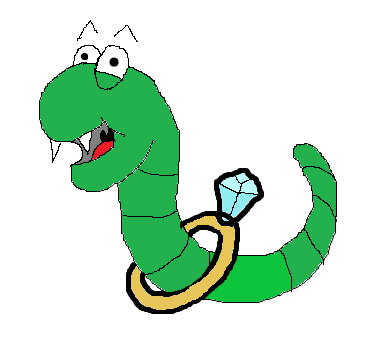
Demodicosis

* Caused by the Demodex mite
* Problem in immunocompromised animals
* Defective skin barrier lets mite cause inflammation
* Fur loss and thick, crusty skin are hallmark signs
* Secondary pyoderma is common
* Diagnosed by skin scrape and microscopy



Dermatophytosis

* Also called ringworm, but is caused by a fungus
* Common in cats, but any animal can be infected
* Itchy, contagious and zoonotic!
* Lesion is round and red +/- dark edge
* Fur usually falls our around region
* Diagnosed by ultraviolet light or fungal culture
* Treat with oral or topical antifungal
* Remove spores from environment



Ear swab cytology



