

GUIDE FOR PROPER EAR CLEANING

When cleaning your pet's ears, please keep in mind that the objective is to remove as much of the debris as possible. This debris can cause pain and disease, and can be caused by either normal or abnormal wax buildup. It can also be caused by yeast, bacteria, and parasite waste products. Often, the medications used to treat ear infections are not able to reach the tissue due to being blocked by this excrement buildup. The goal of cleaning ears is thus to remove all the material that prevents a free flow of air as well as to reduce the amount of humidity present in the ear canal. Proper ear cleaning should include the following:

1. Put a small amount of **Animal Dermatology Laboratories Ear Cleanser** into each ear and massage well. This product is found in our reception area, and will actually cut down the grease and wax in your pet's ear, enabling you to remove it more easily. This should stay in the ear for at least 10 minutes, then be rinsed out thoroughly.
2. Shampoo your pet thoroughly. Put a small amount of shampoo in the ears as well. We recommend that ears be cleaned and flushed with **Chlorhexiderm Shampoo**, since it is effective against bacteria and yeast. This shampoo can be used on the whole body – not just the ears. Be liberal with the shampoo, making sure to massage ears often and flush thoroughly. A soft rubber bulb syringe can also help get excrement out. It may be necessary to massage and flush several times to remove all the waxy buildup. When you think you are finished, be sure to rinse again with water until completely clear.
3. After you are done, allow your pet to shake all the excess water out of their ears. Then apply some of the **Animal Dermatology Laboratories Ear Flushing/Drying Solution** located in reception area. The goal is to have clean, *dry* ears. If your pet experiences any pain during this procedure, stop immediately, rinse out the ears, and call us.

If you have any additional questions about the above procedures, please ask a technician for a demonstration today.

This ear flushing procedure should be done _____ times per week for the next _____ weeks and _____ thereafter. You may monitor the progress of a healthy ear by wiping out with alcohol-free, non-scented baby wipes often.