

Canine

Fungal Dermatitis

- ① Malasseziasis - common
- ② Candidiasis
- ③ Dermatophytosis - common
- ④ Blastomycosis etc.

Malasseziasis

Introduction

- Hypersensitive reaction to the yeast or cutaneous overgrowth of yeast organism.
- Almost always associated with an underlying cause like
 - Atopy
 - Food allergy
 - Endocrinopathy
 - Keratinization disorder
 - Metabolic diseases
 - Prolonged corticosteroid use
- Pre-disposing breeds
 - Dachshunds
 - West Highland
 - White Terriers
 - English Setters
 - Basset Hounds
 - American cocker spaniel
 - Shitzus
 - GSD
 - Springer Spaniel

Symptoms

- Moderate to severe pruritus
- Regional/generalized alopecia
- Initially
 - Excoriations
 - Erythema
 - Seborrithoea
- Chronic
 - Lichenification
 - Hyperpigmentation
 - Hyperkeratotic
(Leathery / Elephant skin like)
- Unpleasant body odour
- Paronychia, with dark brown nail bed discharge.
- Concurrent yeast otitis externa.
- Lesions are most commonly found - interdigital space, ventral neck, axillae, perineal region, leg folds.

Differential Diagnosis

- ① Demodicosis - Skin scrapping examination, No nail bed discoloration.
- ② Superficial pyoderma - papular dermatitis, epidermal collarette
- ③ Dermatophytosis - Mild pruritus, dermatophytic nodule
- ④ Ectoparasites - Gross visualization
- ⑤ Atopy - No response to anti-fungal meds, may be seasonal

Treatment

- ① **TOPICAL THERAPY** - Till total lesions resolve & follow up skin cytology is negative (4 weeks approx)

Shampoo bathing in every 2-3 days containing

- ① 2% Ketoconazole
- ② 1% Ketoconazole / 2% Chlorhexidine

③ 2% Miconazole

④ 2-4% Chlorhexidine

⑤ 1% Selenium Sulfide (only for dogs)

② SYSTEMIC THERAPY - Moderate to severe cases

① Ketoconazole @ 10mg/kg PO q24hr (with food)
(avoid using in cats)

② Fluconazole @ 10mg/kg PO q24hr (with food)

③ Terbinafine @ 30-40mg/kg PO q24hr (with food)

④ Itraconazole @ 5-10mg/kg PO q24hr (with food)

Dermatophytosis

Introduction

- Causative organism - *Microsporum canis* & *Trichophyton* spp.
- Zoonotic importance
- Infects hair shaft & stratum corneum.
- Affects Kitten/Puppy / Immunocompromised animals

Symptoms

- Minimal to mild pruritus
- Lesion - circular/irregular/diffuse alopecia with variable scaling
- Erythema, papules, crusts, seborrhoea, paronychia
- Dermatophytic nodules (rare in cats)

Differential Diagnosis

① Demodicosis

③ Neoplasia

② Superficial pyoderma

④ Acral lick dermatitis

Diagnosis

- ① Wood's Lamp (UV Lamp) exam - Yellow green fluorescence
May be give False -ve & +ve
- ② Trichogram
- ③ Dermatohistopathology
- ④ Fungal culture

Treatment

① TOPICAL -

Topical creams containing

- ① Terbinafine
- ② Clotrimazole
- ③ Ketoconazole
- ④ Miconazole

Topical antifungal solution

- ① Enilconazole 0.2%
- ② Lime sulfur 2-4%

Topical shampoo - Refer malasseziasis

② SYSTEMIC - Refer malasseziasis

Research Articles

2002	Ohio	Pulse therapy of Itraconazole 2 days a week
2019	Italy	Azole resistance of Malassezia pachydermatis
2022	India	Topical Therapy should be preferred over systemic therapy