

# SARCOPTIC MANGE

**SARCOPTIC MANGE IS A SKIN CONDITION CAUSED BY A TINY PARASITE CALLED SARCOPTES SCABIEI. IT'S ALSO KNOWN AS SCABIES AND CAN SPREAD TO HUMANS. IT CAUSES SEVERE ITCHING, LEADING DOGS TO SCRATCH EXCESSIVELY, LOSE HAIR, ESPECIALLY ON LEGS AND BELLY, AND DEVELOP THICKENED, DARKENED SKIN. IT CAN AFFECT DOGS OF ANY AGE AND IS DIFFERENT FROM DEMODECTIC MANGE.**

## COMMON SIGNS OF THIS CONDITION INCLUDE

1. Severe itching
2. Loss of hair
3. Thickened skin (called lichenification)
  1. Darkened skin

Diagnosis typically involves examining skin scrapings, although sometimes the mite responsible may not be found. Treatment can often begin based on these visible symptoms alone.



## TREATMENT

Treatment options for this condition include a variety of effective medications. Oral flea and tick preventatives like Bravecto or Simparica have demonstrated effectiveness in managing the condition. Your pet will also receive doses of ivermectin as part of the treatment protocol. Depending on the severity of the condition, additional interventions such as medicated shampoos, anti-inflammatory medications, and antibiotics may be prescribed to ensure comprehensive care.

## PROGNOSIS

Optimistic outcomes are often achievable through consistent and targeted therapy. In most instances, a complete restoration of health is feasible with dedicated treatment, albeit requiring several months for full recovery.

To minimize the risk of recurrence, it's advisable to dispose of any bedding used by your dog for sleeping or to launder it regularly, ideally every other day, using a diluted bleach solution (one ounce of bleach per gallon of water).



# DEMODECTIC MANGE

CANINE DEMODICOSIS (ALSO KNOWN AS "DEMODEX") IS A COMMON INFLAMMATORY PARASITIC SKIN DISEASE BELIEVED TO BE ASSOCIATED WITH A GENETIC OR IMMUNOLOGIC DISORDER.

THIS DISEASE ALLOWS MITES FROM THE NORMAL SKIN POPULATION TO PROLIFERATE INAPPROPRIATELY. THE FACE AND FORELEGS TO THE ENTIRE BODY SURFACE OF THE DOG MAY BE AFFECTED.

## COMMON SIGNS OF THIS CONDITION INCLUDE

1. Hair loss (alopecia)
2. Redness (erythema)
3. Dandruff (scaling)
4. Pustules
5. Furunculosis
6. Secondary infections

Diagnosis is made through skin scrapings, with visualization of the Demodex mites under the microscope. Sometimes it can be difficult to find the mites, and treatment may be started based on clinical signs alone.



## TREATMENT

There are a few medications commonly used for treatment. Lately, pills like Bravecto, Simparica, and Nexgard, which belong to the Isoxazoline drug class, have been proven to work well against this condition. They're a convenient and efficient option for treating Demodex. Depending on how bad the inflammation and any secondary infections are, doctors might also suggest special shampoos, anti-inflammatory drugs, or antibiotics. In severe cases, patients might need to take ivermectin every day.

## IMPORTANT FACTS:

- Dogs with adult-onset demodicosis should undergo a thorough examination for potential underlying issues.
- Roughly 10% of dogs with localized demodicosis may develop the more severe generalized form.
- Treating generalized demodicosis may take over three months and incur significant costs.
- Relapse is possible if treatment is stopped early, emphasizing the importance of completing the full course.
- While some dogs can manage the condition, it may not be fully curable.
- Dogs needing parasitocidal therapy for demodicosis should not be bred.

## PROGNOSIS

can be very good with appropriate, persistent therapy. In the majority of cases, a full recovery can be made with committed treatment; however, some dogs may have lifelong problems.



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