

PREVENTION IS BETTER THAN CURE

DENTAL DISEASE:

Rubs his mouth, hyper salivates: Tartar, gingivitis and dental disease are frequent. Prevention is to give anti-tartar treats for cats.

Mouth tumors are relatively frequent.

EYE DISEASE:

The hedgehog is predisposed to eye injuries and corneal ulcers. An excess of peri-ocular fat or an underlying inflammation causes an ocular proptosis. (The eye is pushed out of its orbit)

EARS:

Dermatitis of the ear flap with secretion accumulation is frequent. Ringworm and mites are important causes of skin problems in hedgehogs. An otitis is generally a complication of ear mites.

RESPIRATORY DISEASE:

Nasal discharge, respiratory sounds, respiratory problems, weariness

Possible causes: Bacteria, lung tumors, pneumonia caused by aspiration of foreign bodies and cardiac disease are the primary causes of respiratory problems in hedgehogs.

Prevention: Check ambient temperature, avoid dust and inadequate bedding. Clean regularly, give a good diet to reinforce his immune system.

CARDIOVASCULAR DISEASE:

Weight loss, respiratory difficulty, exercise intolerance

Cardiomyopathy

DIGESTIVE DISEASE

Diarrhea, weariness, not eating:

Possible causes: Bacterial or parasitical enteritis are possible.

Not eating, weariness can or cannot vomit

Possible causes: A pyloric and intestinal obstruction with rubber, hair, cloth fiber is highly suspected.

Not eating, weight loss and weary, more or less diarrhea, vomiting:

Possible causes: An esophagitis, gastritis, colitis or a gastric ulcer could be the cause of these disease signs.

DIARRHEA AND WEIGHT LOSS:

Possible causes: Change in diet, milk, intestinal tumor like lymphosarcoma, hepatic disease or hepatic tumor are among the possible causes.

URINARY DISEASE

Abnormal urine color, difficulty urinating, urinating in small quantities, eating less and weariness

Possible causes: infection or calculus of the urinary tract, kidney disease, systemic disease.

REPRODUCTIVE SYSTEM

Posthitis: foreskin inflammation due to accumulation of debris and secretions.

Blood around vulva: Polyps, tumors, uterus infection.

MUSCLOSKELETIC DISEASE:

Osteoarthritis, discal hernia, paw fracture, threads compressing the paw, neurological disease and tumors are possible.

NEUROLOGICAL:

WHS. Wobbly hedgehog syndrome: Neurological disease with incoordination and weakness.

Progressive paralysis and not rolling in a ball anymore

Discal hernia, malnutrition, tumors can lead to these neurological signs. Hibernation: during extremely low or high: can last a couple of weeks but stays sensible to touch and are prone to infections.

Tilted head and turning in circles: Internal or medium otitis or a neurological disease like parasites, rabies, tumors, etc.

SKIN DISEASE:

Scratching intensely: Hyperkeratosis, seborrhea, loss of thorns, whitish or brownish crust at the bottom of the thorns and around the eyes

Possible causes: Skin mites are the most frequent skin problem in hedgehogs. Fleas, ear mites, ringworm, skin tumors like papilloma and squamous cell carcinoma, lymphosarcoma, sebaceous gland carcinoma and osteosarcoma, allergic dermatitis are also possible skin problems.

NEOPLASM

By frequency: Mammal tumor, lymphosarcoma, oral squamous cell carcinoma, uterine tumor.

FOOD RELATED DISEASE

Obesity is very frequent due to overfeeding and lack of exercise.

Anorexic and lethargic hedgehog:

Possible causes: Systemic disease, tumor, gastric ulcer, pneumonia or hepatic or kidney disease.