

Mountain View Animal Hospital
129 Main Street, Essex Junction, Vermont 05452
Phone 802- 879-6311
www.vtvvet.com

SEBORRHEA

A. General Information

1. Seborrhea is a noncontagious disease that is similar to but more severe than simple dandruff.
2. It is a poorly understood condition that may be either hereditary, caused by an internal metabolic problem, or secondary to a number of other disorders.
3. The primary clinical signs of seborrhea are dry scaling or greasy crusting.
4. Many seborrheic dogs have an offensive “rancid fat” odor, excessive shedding and are also itchy.
5. Secondary bacterial skin infections are seen more frequently in seborrheic dogs.

B. Goals of Therapy

1. Correct any underlying diseases.
2. Seborrhea caused by certain internal metabolic defects may be cured.
3. Unfortunately, many cases of seborrhea can be controlled but not cured.

C. Therapy

1. An antiseborrheic shampoo will be recommended. Lather the dog up well, leave on 10-15 minutes, and thoroughly rinse. Shampooing may be repeated every 5-7 days, for 1 month then gradually decrease the frequency.
2. Dietary adjustment will be required if there is a metabolic cause or underlying allergies are suspected. If feeding dry food a fat supplement maybe added.