

## SEBACEOUS ADENITIS

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- A. Etiology
  - 1. Unknown
  - 2. May be an immune mediated disease
  - 3. May be a genetically inherited defect – autosomal recessive trait.
  - 4. Keratinization abnormality with obstruction of sebaceous duct?
  - 5. Abnormality in sebaceous lipids?
  
- B. Clinical features - 2 forms
  - 1. Sebaceous Adenitis with Hyperkeratosis – Long Coated Breeds
    - a. Seen in all color variants of standard poodles (may be similar in other long-coated breeds of dogs such as Samoyeds and Akitas).
    - b. A symmetrical partial alopecia and excess scaling with follicular casts. Remaining hair is dull and brittle.
    - c. Affects dorsal planum of the nose, top of head, dorsal neck and trunk, tail and pinnae.
    - d. Non-pruritic and no offensive odor
    - e. May develop secondary bacterial folliculitis with pruritus.
    - f. Hair may become straight and lose its “curl”.
  
  - 2. Granulomatous Sebaceous Adenitis – Short Coated Breeds

- a. Affects short-coated breeds of dogs - Vizslas, Weimaraners
- b. Begins as a moth-eaten alopecia with minimal to no scaling.
- c. Primarily affects the trunk, head and ears.
- d. Non-pruritic

C. Diagnosis

1. Histopathology

- a. Initial nodular granulomatous to pyogranulomatous inflammation at the level of the sebaceous glands.
- b. Depending on the type, there may or may not be prominent hyperkeratosis.
- c. Chronic cases develop a complete loss of sebaceous glands with fibrosis, atrophy of hair follicles and in some cases complete loss of the adnexa with fibrosis.

D. Treatment

1. Propylene glycol - a hygroscopic lipid solvent that penetrates the horny layer and increases water content. 50-75% propylene glycol with water-applied daily as a spray.
2. Bath Oil Treatments (light mineral oil) – 50:50 mixture of bath oil and water, spray over the entire body, rub into the hair coat well, allow to soak for 1-2 hours. Remove oil by bathing with dish soap 2-3 times, and then finish with a moisturizing shampoo and conditioner/crème rinse for the final bathing. Repeat q 7 days for the first month, the q 14-30 days prn.
2. EFA Supplement - Derm Caps ES - 1 capsule BID; Evening Primrose Oil (EPO) - 500 mg BID.
3. Anti-seborrheic shampoos, conditioners and emollients have been of little benefit.
4. Treat secondary pyoderma if present.

5. Isotretinoin (Accutane®) - 1 mg/kg SID-BID.
6. Acetretin (Soriatane®) - 1 mg/kg SID-BID
7. Cyclosporine (Neoral, Gengraf, Atopica) - 5 mg/kg BID.
8. Retinol (Vitamin A) – 8,000-20,000 IU – SID-BID

E. Prognosis

1. Akitas – tends to be more severe, chronic recurrent pyoderma more of a problem, possible signs of systemic illness.
2. Standard Poodles – aesthetic disease, secondary pyoderma rare, difficult to regrow “normal” hair coat.
3. Short Coated Breeds – occasionally “cured” by treatment.