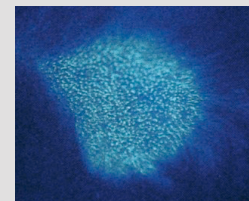


SO YOUR CAT WAS JUST DIAGNOSED WITH...

RINGWORM



Don't Panic! Ringworm is a treatable fungal infection of the skin, hair and nails (and is not actually a worm). It causes circular areas of hair loss and crusty lesions on the skin. Sometimes, ringworm can be identified by using a UV light and looking for a bright yellow/green fluorescence at the base of the hair shaft. Ringworm is transmitted through direct contact or contaminated items like bedding. It can spread to other animals and people but with proper precautions and cleaning the risk is low! By following these steps, you can successfully treat ringworm and prevent its further spread.



The fluorescent glow of a ringworm lesion under UV light

1

Infected cats must be isolated in a temperature-controlled and easily cleaned room, such as a bathroom. Do not allow contact with other animals and only use dedicated supplies in that room. You are responsible for the prevention and care of yourself and your own animals.

What if I get ringworm?
Ringworm is easily treated in humans by readily available OTC anti-fungal ointments.

2

Personal Protective Equipment

When working with ringworm cats, you must change into dedicated clothes or disposable gowns and footwear, that are only to be used in the isolation room. Wear gloves when medicating and protective eye wear when bathing. Care must be taken when putting on and removing PPE that you are not spreading infected hairs outside the isolation room. Wash your hands before entering and leaving room.

3

Treatment involves a combination of oral and topical medications. Follow your veterinarian's instructions and do not skip doses. Complete the full course, even if the cat looks better!



Date	Weight	Dosage (mls)
Day 1-7		
Day 8-14		No Treatment
Day 15-21		
Day 22-28		No Treatment
Day 29-35		

4

Oral Itrafungol Treatment

This liquid medication is typically given ONCE DAILY for 7 days THEN NO oral treatment for 7 days THEN we reweigh the cat to obtain a new dose for the next 7 days of once daily administration THEN no oral treatment for 7 days THEN reweigh again to obtain new dose for the final 7 days of oral treatment.

5

Topical Treatment involves a combination of scheduled baths and daily ointments.

Topical Ointments

OTC Miconazole or Terbinafine ointments may be applied daily, directly to ringworm lesions, as long as they are not applied near the eyes. Do not apply any ointments prior to a bath or dip.



6

The Dip

Lime Sulfur Dip is essential to treat the infection and help prevent the spread of infective spores. While smelly and bothersome, dips dramatically reduce the amount of time that an animal is infective to you and other animals.

After receiving the lime sulfur concentrate, you will need to mix 8 oz of that concentrate with 1 gallon of water. (note that this is a high concentration than listed on the bottle.)

We recommend dipping twice a week for the entire length of treatment.

Steps

- Prepare yourself by removing all jewelry and any clothes that you do not want to become stained. Wear medical gloves or dish gloves. Wear protective glasses to protect your eyes from splashing dip.
- Place a plastic bin or empty litter box inside your bathtub and place cat inside.
- Do NOT prewet or prewash the cat
- Gently pour or spray (with garden pump sprayer) the solution all over the cat's coat. Use a washcloth to work the solution all over the cat while avoiding the eyes, nose and mouth.
- Once the solution is soaked thoroughly into the coat, place cat into a clean carrier
- Allow cat to drip dry in a warm environment.
- Do not rinse solution off!



Optional: After 2 weeks, it may be possible to switch to a medicated shampoo such as a Chlorhexidine/Ketoconazole mix. (consult your shelter staff or DVM first) If using Shampoo, bathe as directed and be sure to let the lather sit for 5-10 minutes before rinsing off. Cats may be dried following shampooing.

7

Environmental Decontamination is essential for efficient and effective treatment. Infective spores can remain in the environment for months without thorough cleaning.

- Clean area of all organic material. (Swiffer® dusters are excellent for collecting spores.)
- Then, disinfect all hard surfaces with approved disinfectant. (Rescue® Spray or 1:10 Bleach solution)
- Let product sit 10 minutes before wiping off with a clean, wet rag.
- Vacuum and steam clean all floors and furniture
- Wash all bedding, towels and soft items with detergent and color-safe bleach and dry in hot dryer
- Dispose of any items, like cat trees and toys, that cannot be disinfected and may become future sources of infection



As treatment progresses, you will start to notice the fur growing back, better looking skin and less glowing under the UV light. Contact the medical team if new lesions appear, skin looks worse, or if the cat is vomiting after medication administration. Treatment is **complete** once the lesions have resolved and a veterinarian has rechecked with negative fungal cultures.

