

Ringworm

Ringworm is not a worm or a parasite but an infection caused by a particular type of fungus that has the ability to grow on the skin and use the superficial layers of the skin, hair or nails as a source of nutrition.

It usually first appears as a small area of hair loss that may be inflamed. The name comes from the characteristic red ring that often occurs around the infected lesion as the fungus grows and spreads outwards.



Infection can be picked up from DIRECT contact with an infected animal or person, or INDIRECT contact with objects or surfaces such as toys, shower mats, and grooming equipment.

It is imperative that instructions from the vet be followed religiously to prevent treatment failure and ensure full recovery. Discuss the clipping of longhaired animals with your vet.

The prescribed intrafungal medication is a must, the only healthy alternative is to let ringworm run its course and heal by itself (duration about 6++ months). The very unpleasant sulphur bath can be easily and successfully substituted with a regular bath with F10 shampoo to eliminate the spore shedding.

Very good success was achieved with applying Pure Coconut Oil to the infected areas. Coconut oil is made up of medium chain fatty acids (MCFA), with lauric acid being one of the key natural components. Lauric acid is known to have strong antimicrobial properties that will help you get rid of the infection real quick! Cover the area afterwards with Vaseline or F10 ointment to prevent further distribution of the spores and contamination.

Be aware: You can get infected with ringworm!

For information and treatment in people please see YOUR HEALTH.