



Moonee Valley Animal Hospital

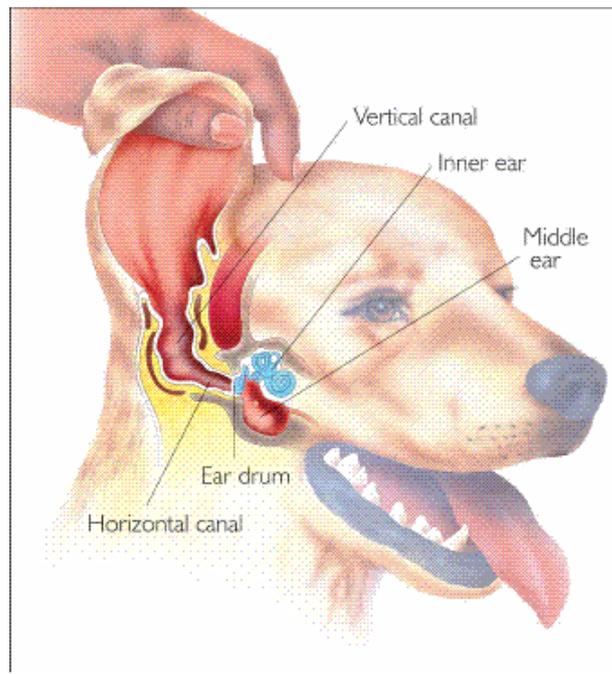
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EAR INFECTIONS

Your pet has been diagnosed with an ear infection. This is often caused by a combination of various bacteria &/or yeast (fungal) organisms and, occasionally, parasitic ear mites. You have been supplied with an ear preparation to fight these infections, and also reduce inflammation and pain in the ear.



When administering ear drops, gently extend the ear to open and straighten the ear canal and apply the medication into the canal – Your vet may have instructed you to use a small syringe to do this, in which case, use the measured amount of ear drops. Flush the syringe immediately with water after applying the drops to the ear, as the thick ear drops can cause the syringe to become blocked. Alternately, your vet may instruct you to medicate the ear canal directly from the bottle; it has been made for this purpose and will not damage the ear. Squeeze the bottle for 2 – 3 seconds and then withdraw whilst squeezing so that some medication dribbles onto the earflap. Massage the ear base for a few seconds to aid penetration.

Always continue medication for the prescribed time period – usually two weeks, even if your pet's ear problem appears to have cleared up. Stopping treatment prematurely can result in recurrence of infection. If pain, irritation or unpleasant odour continues despite treatment contact the clinic. Do not re-use previously prescribed ear drops if you think the ear infection has reoccurred as this intermittent use of antibiotics can lead to bacteria with multidrug resistance.

If your vet has recommended a revisit then it is important to attend the clinic to have the ear re-examined after treatment. It is impossible to know if the infection has fully resolved without the use of an otoscope to view the lower ear canal.