

# HOW TO ADMINISTER EAR MEDICATION

## Safety tips:

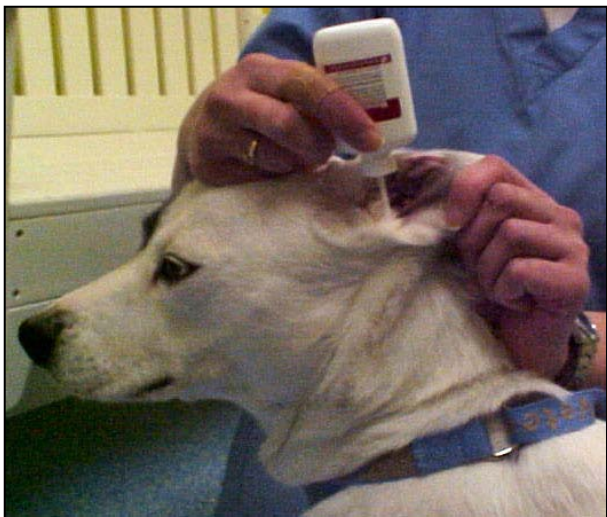
Following your veterinarian's instructions is critical for success.

- Only use ear treatments that have been recommended by your veterinarian.
- Human ear solutions are not designed for pets, and solutions with alcohol may be irritating, sting or feel cold.
- If your pet's ears are in pain, a muzzle can help calm your pet. Your veterinarian may recommend medications to reduce inflammation or advise you to temporarily suspend ear cleaning.
- Do not put medications in the ears unless a veterinarian has examined the ear first. Some medications should be avoided if the eardrum is ruptured.
- Never insert cotton swabs into the ear canal. They can push ear debris deeper into the canal and can rupture the eardrum.

## Cleaning the ear:

Debris in the ear canal is often irritating and can prevent medication from reaching the infected site. Excessive hair in the ear canal may also collect debris and obstruct the flow of medication. Ask your veterinarian if clipping or plucking the ear hair is recommended.

- Extend the ear flap over the head. Gently instill cleanser into the ear canal.
- To loosen debris deep in the ear, massage external ear canal from the base to the external opening.
- Use a clean cotton ball to wipe the accessible portion of the ear clean.
- Allow the pet to shake out any excess solution or debris.
- Continue wiping with cotton balls until the ear is clean and dry.
- To help the medication disperse throughout the ear, gently massage the external ear canal.



## Applying ear medications:

- Pull the ear flap over the head, and gently instill drops or ointment into the lowest opening of the ear canal.
- To help the medication disperse throughout the ear, gently massage the external ear canal.

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