Treatment of Otodectic Mange

Effective Date: 10/15/2021 **Revised:**

Responsible Staff:

- Vet techs

Purpose: This SOP provides vet techs with a step-by-step procedure for diagnosis and treatment of dogs and cats with otodectic mange or ear mites. Treatment relies on parasite products shown by clinical studies to be effective in eliminating Otodectes mites in 1-2 months.

Otodectic Mange Facts

- Otodectic mange = ear disease caused by infection of the canals with Otodectes cynotis mites.
- Clinical signs include large amounts of "coffee grounds" debris in the ear canals with constant head shaking and digging at the ears due to the intense pruritis. Crusty lesions may also be on the face and around the ears. The back of the ears may have open wounds from scratching with the back paws.alopecia.
- Otodectes mange is **CONTAGIOUS** to other dogs and cats.

Supplies Needed

- Disposable exam gloves
- Mineral oil
- Ear swabs
- Ear wash
- Glass microscope slides with cover slips
- Microscope with 10X objective
- Fipronil Plus for dogs
- Revolution Plus for cats

Procedures

1. Wear clean exam gloves.
2. Open the animal's medical record in Chameleon.
3. Ensure that the animal's ID neckband and description match the medical record.
4. Weigh the animal
5. Apply a drop of mineral oil into each ear canal and massage the canals to loosen up the debris.
6. Carefully and gently use an ear swab to remove some debris from each canal.
7. Transfer the debris from the swabs to a drop of mineral oil on a glass microscope slide. Place a cover slip on top of the oil.
8. Examine the debris with a microscope with the 10X objective. Look for adult mites. Refer to pictures posted by the microscope. The mites are typically present in large numbers.
9. Record the results in the medical record.
10. Dogs: Administer Frontline Plus topical onto the skin between the shoulder blades according to package instructions. ***NOTE* Frontline Plus is applied to all dogs at intake and every month while in the shelter - you do not need to repeat this treatment if given within the past month.**

11. Cats: Administer Revolution Plus topical onto the skin between the shoulder blades according to package instructions. ***NOTE* Revolution Plus is applied to all cats at intake and every month while in the shelter - you do not need to repeat this treatment if given within the past month.**
12. Clean the “coffee grounds” debris out of the ear canals with an ear wash solution. The ear canals may need to be cleaned weekly until there is no more debris.
13. Otodectic mange is contagious. Be sure that all dogs or cats that are co-housed in the same run or cage with the infected ones are also treated.
14. Repeat treatment in 1 month to ensure a cure.