



Routine Ear Checks

The importance of regularly checking dogs ears

Pets are susceptible to a wide range of bacterial and fungal infections, which can be worrying for their owners. Dogs can go their whole lives without getting their ears cleaned, but like humans, dogs can easily get substantial build-up of wax and other dirt that can lead to irritation and inflammation, resulting in serious infections such as recurrent and/or chronic otitis externa and in severe cases otitis media.

Chronic ear infections may involve bacterial or yeast overgrowth in the external, middle or inner ear. Chronic infection can permanently damage the ear canal and cause pain, neurologic signs and deafness. Accurate diagnosis of pathogens causing infections is the key factor for a successful treatment.

Testing:

It is recommended to perform bacterial culture pre- and post-cleaning to ensure no pathogens remain in the ear canal to cause secondary infection (post-wash).

Request: Routine microbiology culture and sensitivity testing performed on both ears

Sampling: Collection of the ear swabs prior to antibiotic treatment

Specimen: Use bacterial gel swabs (Amies transport swab)

Our dedicated team of experienced and passionate microbiologists provide Veterinarians with timely differential diagnosis and suitable antibiotic treatment options.

To order microbiology culture and sensitivity testing for dogs ears please send required samples to Gribbles along with your submission form (available to download at gribblesvets.com.au/veterinarians/ordering-a-test). Please write routine microbiology culture and sensitivity testing for dogs ears in testing instructions.