

SKIN CONDITIONS IN LARGE DOG BREEDS

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Types of Skin Conditions

The most common types of skin conditions are food allergies, environmental allergies.

Environmental and food allergies cause itching in the face, paws, and chest. They can cause other skin conditions such as folliculitis, ear infections, and skin infections. Folliculitis is inflamed hair follicles and appears as sores, bumps and scabs over the skin. Impetigo appears as lesions and blisters, most often on a dog's belly.



Basic Information

- Skin problems in dogs are much more common during warmer seasons
- If not treated, skin conditions can worsen and trigger other health issues such as secondary infections
- Golden Retrievers, Boxers, Labradors, Spaniels, German Shepherds, and Standard Poodles are more prone to skin problems than other breeds



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Underlying Issues

If your dog's skin issues have been ongoing and they are not getting better with treatment, there is a possibility of an underlying illness. An example of this is Lupus, an autoimmune disease that causes the body's immune system to turn on itself.

It is important to have your veterinarian look at any skin issues your dog might have, especially if it a chronic condition. If there is an underlying cause, it's not likely that the skin problem will go away until the underlying issue is resolved.

Your veterinarian may want to consult a dermatology specialist in cases where an underlying issue is suspected.



Warning Signs and Treatment Options

Warning Signs that your pet may have a skin condition:

- Itching
- Skin Sores
- Dry/flaky skin
- Rashes or redness
- Bumps
- Excessive licking
- Hair loss / Bald spots
- Hot spots / Inflamed skin

Topical treatments including antibiotic and shampoos, special diets, and oral medications are all used to treat different skin conditions. Your veterinarian may want to consult a dermatology specialist in some cases .

Sources

Dog Breeds Prone To Skin Problems - What You Need To Know: EAC Animal Care,
<https://eacanimalcare.com/blogs/news/dog-breeds-prone-to-skin-problems>.

10 of the Most Common Dog Skin Conditions: Animal Trust, UK,
<https://www.animaltrust.org.uk/blog/dog-skin-allergies/>

