

PYODERMA

WHAT IS PYODERMA?

Pyoderma is a 'bacterial skin infection very common in dogs, less common in cats.

WHAT IT LOOKS LIKE

Superficial pyoderma manifests as redness, scales, pustules and crusts. In the deep forms are observable furuncles and abscesses, and in these cases the skin may be painful.

THE CAUSES

The bacteria normally responsible for superficial pyoderma are those that habitually reside on the skin of the animal (*S.pseudintermedius*). Infection sets in if causes arise that disrupt the normal balance skin and facilitate the multiplication of bacteria. Allergic, parasitic, hormonal diseases or prolonged use of drugs that depress the immune system (such as corticosteroids) are among the main causes of pyoderma. If these underlying causes are not detected and treated, pyoderma la can be a recurrent problem throughout the animal's entire life.

DIAGNOSIS

The diagnosis of pyoderma is made mainly by cytological examination of material obtained from lesions on the skin. In cases where the infection is recurrent and especially for deep forms, it may be necessary to perform a bacterial culture and an antibiogram to identify the bacterium involved in the infection and to prescribe targeted antibiotic therapy.