

THE FELINE EOSINOPHILIC GRANULOMA COMPLEX

WHAT IS FELINE EOSINOPHILIC GRANULOMA COMPLEX?

Feline eosinophilic granuloma complex is not a disease, rather a set of skin changes that are grouped together because they are all attributable to a particular type of skin reaction that the cat develops as a result of different causes.

The skin manifestations included in this group are indolent ulcer, eosinophilic plaque, and eosinophilic granuloma

WHAT IT LOOKS LIKE

Indolent ulcer

Indolent ulcer is an ulcerated plaque usually located at the upper lip.

Eosinophilic plaque

Eosinophilic plaque is a raised, ulcerated and strongly itchy skin lesion, oval or linear in shape, which can be located in different skin areas but is predominantly observed on the abdomen and inner face of the thighs.

Eosinophilic granuloma

Eosinophilic granuloma is a yellowish-white, raised, nodular lesion frequently located along the posterior margin of the thigh, but also found in other locations, such as on the chin.

THE CAUSES

There are many diseases associated with these skin manifestations, the most common are:

Ectoparasite infestations

Flea bite hypersensitivity or hypersensitivity to other parasitic and non-parasitic arthropods

Adverse reaction to food

Feline atopic syndrome

Bacterial infections

Foreign body reactions

DIAGNOSIS

The diagnosis of CGE is based not only on history and dermatologic examination, but also on cytologic and sometimes on histopathology.

However, the important thing is to establish a diagnostic protocol to try to define the trigger of CGE, which tends to be recurrent

To determine what is the true cause of the eosinophilic granuloma complex, the veterinarian may use several tests to confirm or rule out the various diseases included in the list of differential diagnoses.