

## Ear Cleaning Protocol

Ear cleaning is a very important part of preventing and treating ear infections.

Excess ear wax and debris:

- Disrupt the normal ear defences leading to infections.
- Prevent air from circulating within the ear.
- Allow bacteria and yeast to 'hide' and multiply.
- Prevent the medications from penetrating the ear canal and working as effectively.

### Ear cleaning protocol

**Step 1:** Shake the bottle and restrain your pet to allow the drops to be put down the ear.

**Step 2:** Completely fill the ear canal with solution (disposable syringes can help).

**Step 3:** Massage the base of the ear for at least a minute to help dissolve and dislodge the wax and aid removal. Most dogs will enjoy this part!

**Step 4:** Wipe away any excess with cotton wool.

**Step 5:** Repeat as necessary depending on veterinary advice.

**If also using Medicated Drops:** after cleaning as above, follow Step 1 and apply the medicated drops into the ears as prescribed by your vet. Massage the ear but do not wipe any excess away.

### Things to help get on top of the problem

- Some pets are not keen initially, but stick with it. Try warming up the solution by placing the bottle in a tub of warm water before using.
- Clean your pets ears in an easy clean area as they are likely to shake their head when the solution is applied
- To prevent contaminating the solution, use disposable syringes or clean the bottle nozzle after use.
- Always follow the directions of your vet and fully complete the course and regime prescribed, even if you think the ear is looking better.
- Please do not put anything down your dog's ears that is not designed for purpose/prescribed.

Please do not use old medicated drops from previous infections – these will be less effective due to contamination, can lead to antibiotic resistance and can make problems worse if no infection is present.



EAR CLEANERS

Can be kept for future use



EAR MEDICATIONS

Discard after the prescribed course