

Yeast (Malassezia) Dermatitis

Malassezia is a non-contagious yeast infection of the skin of dogs. The appearance of the skin varies. Typically we will see at least one of the following lesions involving the face (around lips), neck, armpits, or feet:

1. Oily/greasy skin
2. Hair loss
3. Thickened leathery skin
4. Scaly skin
5. Red skin

Yeast infections may be very itchy. The development of a yeast infection indicates some underlying cause that allowed the yeast to overgrow. Most commonly it has been associated with allergies (environmental or food). Treatment involves a topical medication and/or oral medication for at least 2-4 weeks.