

DERMATOPHYTIC PSEUDOMYCETOMA IN A DOMESTIC FERRET

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ABSTRACT

A 3-year-old male ferret was presented for evaluation of two cutaneous masses on a hindlimb. Physical examination was unremarkable except for diffuse alopecia with visible scaling and the presence of two erythematous and ulcerated firm nodules, 0.6 cm in diameter, in first digit of the right hindlimb. Nodules were surgically excised by finger amputation. Histopathological examination revealed chronic nodular pyogranulomatous and eosinophilic dermatitis, panniculitis and cellulitis extending to the periosteum of the underlying bone with intralesional granules of a grey to basophilic amorphous material with an external rim of eosinophilic material and clumped fungal hyphae with globoid dilatations up to 15-20 microns in diameter. Low numbers of follicles had luminal colonies of fungal hyphae 1-2 microns in diameter. Fungal culture from skin lesions yielded *Trichophyton spp* on Sabouraud dextrose agar. A

diagnosis of dermatophytic pseudomycetoma was established based on lesion and fungal morphology, and the results of culture. Fluconazole (10 mg/kg/12h/PO) and miconazol/chlorhexidine shampoo therapy was started after surgery and continued for 3 months. Pseudomycetoma, an atypical form of dermatophytosis, is a deeper dermal and /or subcutaneous infection caused by dermatophytes in cats, dogs and humans. To the author's knowledge, the present case appears to be the first report of dermatophytic pseudomycetoma in a ferret.

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