

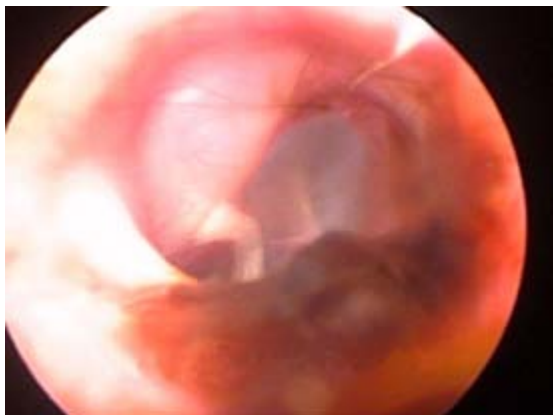


VIDEO-OTOSCOPY

Dermatology for Animals is now offering video-otoscopy service to aid in the diagnosis and management of chronic ear disease in dogs and cats.

The video otoscope provides a significant advantage over the hand-held otoscope. The 2-mm magnifying lens located at the tip of probe provides a 110 degree angle of view, allowing excellent imaging even in the smallest of ear canals. A 2-mm instrument port allows the passage of instruments for directed flushing of the canal and tympanic bulla. An oval fenestrated grasping forceps can be passed for foreign body and debris removal. Ear curettes can also be passed, which allow removal of debris adhered to the canal wall. Polyps and small masses can be removed as near as possible to their origin in the ear canal due to excellent visualization provided by the fiber optic light source. The video otoscope unit allows images to be captured during a procedure, which can then be shown to the client.

Many cases of chronic otitis externa lead to rupture of the tympanic membrane and subsequent otitis media. Resolution of these chronic cases will not occur as long as debris and infection remains in the tympanic bulla. Some cases of chronic otitis externa will result in chronic otitis media, even when the tympanic membrane has healed. Visualization of an opaque but intact tympanic membrane in a dog with chronic otitis externa often requires myringotomy followed by culture and flushing of the bulla. Video-otoscopy allows for precise myringotomies and directed cleaning of the tympanic bulla if necessary.



The video-otoscope illuminates a normal canine eardrum.

A large mass obstructs the ear canal.