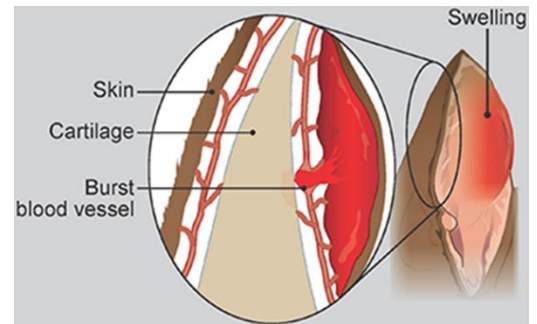


Aural Hematoma

An aural hematoma is also referred to as an Ear Hematoma; this is uncomfortable and even painful in severe cases. There are several reasons why this happens but will almost always require surgery for treatment and relief for the pet. Please do not hesitate to ask if you have any questions and/or concerns.

What is it?

- ~ Accumulation of blood and fluid between the skin and cartilage of the ear flap
- ~ Due to broken/damaged blood vessels in the ear flap
- ~ Caused by vigorous head shaking, scratching or trauma to the ear
- ~ Usually secondary to an existing ear infection, ear mites, debris or fleas



Surgical Treatment:

- ~ Incision is made on inside of earflap to drain blood and fluid
- ~ Multiple stints and sutures are placed over entire area to prevent the ear from refilling
- ~ Incision is left open to allow continued draining of fluid; may take several weeks to heal
- ~ Stints and sutures are left in for 10-14 days for proper healing
- ~ Pet will go home on pain medication and antibiotics to treat ear infection
- ~ All pets will have to wear an E-collar to prevent further damage to ear during recovery



Cauliflower Ear:

- ~ Scarring of the ear flap resulting in a "deformed" appearance of the ear
- ~ Occurs when the hematoma is left untreated and resolves "naturally"
- ~ Fluid is absorbed back into the body, leaving scar tissue behind
- ~ May take weeks or even months for a hematoma to resolve on its own
- ~ Some pets may still develop cauliflower ear even with surgical repair, but usually not as severe

