

Histiocytomas

General Information

Histiocytomas are very common skin tumors in dogs but are very rare in cats. These tumors are benign (non-cancerous) and usually affect younger pets. Boxers, Dachshunds, Cocker Spaniels, Great Danes, and Shetland Sheepdogs are more susceptible to these growths than other breeds.

Histiocytomas usually occur singly on the head, face, ears and legs. Usually they are less than 1 inch in diameter, button- or dome-shaped and ulcerated.

Important Points in Treatment

1. The usual treatment for histiocytomas is surgical removal. In some cases, however, medical treatment and observation without surgery may be successful.
2. *Surgical patients:*
 - Check the incision at least once daily. Report any abnormalities to the doctor.
 - Restrict your pet's activity until the sutures are removed.
 - Your pet will be evaluated for suture removal in _____ days.

Notify the Doctor if Any of the Following Occur

- Your pet develops more tumors.
- Your pet's tumor bleeds
- Your pet's tumor appears red or swollen or oozes fluid or pus.
- Your pet's general health changes.