

Heart Disease

Information for the Ferret Owner

Heart disease is a common disease in ferrets.

The two common causes we see here at the Hospital are 1) dilated cardiomyopathy and 2) heartworm disease.

Dilated cardiomyopathy (DCM) occurs in many cases of ferrets with adrenal disease.

Heartworm disease is transmitted by mosquitoes and is the same worm that causes heartworm in dogs and cats.

Many cases we diagnose heart disease by x-rays. In fact, our recommendation for ferrets 5 years or older is to obtain a chest x-ray.

Symptoms your ferret may show is coughing or shortness of breath.

Treatment depends on the cause and severity of the disease.



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