

Cat Bite Abscess

Information about Cat Bite Abscesses

An abscess forms when an infected bite wound heals over on its surface thus sealing the deeper infection inside. Bacteria, diseased tissue and inflammatory cells liquefy into pus. The pus breaks through the overlying surface skin and drains, leading to foul odor, pain, and discharge. The area may or may not heal on its own.

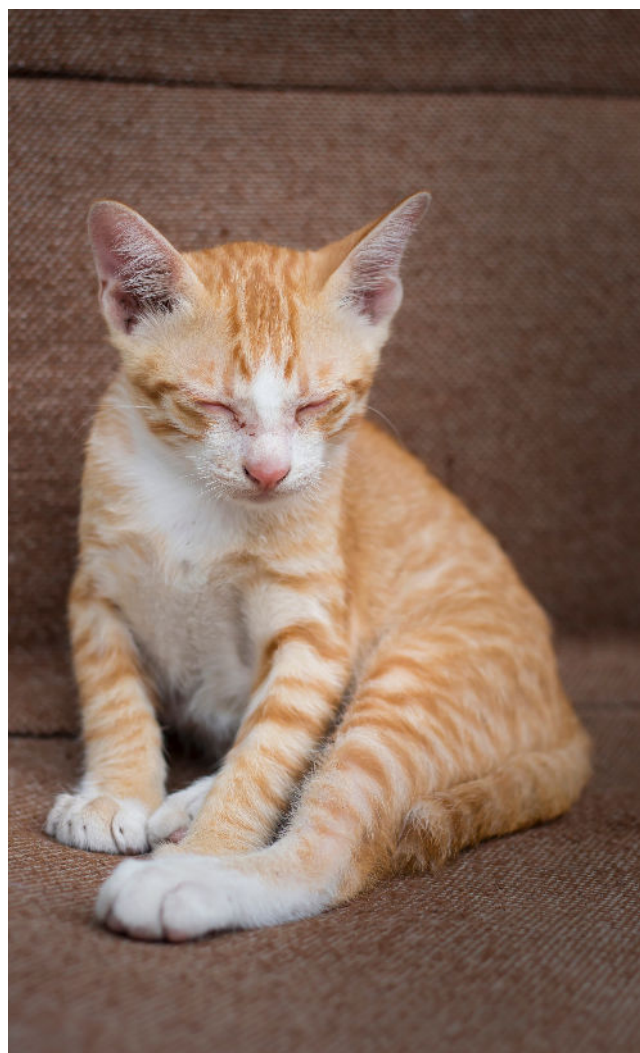
What to Look for at Home:

If the abscess has not yet ruptured, the cat will most likely be feverish, which means you will see listlessness and appetite loss. Depending on how long the area has been swollen, the skin involved may be very tender or fragile.

Common areas for bite wound abscesses include the facial cheeks, the legs, and the base of the tail. These are the areas where fighting cats tend to bite one another.

Treatment:

If the abscess has not ruptured, it will need to be lanced. Once the abscess is open, it will need to be flushed clean of infected debris. If the abscess is large or especially painful, sedation or a general anaesthetic may be required to accomplish this. Older abscesses may have enough devitalized overlying tissue to require surgical trimming and stitches. Some abscesses are large enough to require an indwelling rubber drain to assist with removal of the pus.



If you're concerned your pet has a Cat Bite Abscess or has serious vomiting and diarrhoea please seek veterinary attention early. Our team of amazing veterinarians are available 24/7 for any emergencies when your vet is not available. Feel free to call us if you aren't sure you should see a veterinarian or not, and our team can assist you.



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