

Common Ferret Kit Illnesses and Their Symptoms

| Cold/Upper Respiratory Infection (URI) | Prolapse | Intestinal Parasites (Coccidia) | Intestinal Blockage | ECE (Green Slime) | Distemper | Ear Mites |
|--|--|--|--|---|---|---|
| <p>Loss of appetite</p> <p>Lethargy</p> <p>Face Rubbing</p> <p>Discharge from eyes & nostrils</p> <p>Sneezing</p> <p>Coughing</p> | <p>Diarrhea</p> <p>Possible straining to eliminate waste</p> <p>Inflamed/reddened rectal area</p> | <p>Lethargy</p> <p>Diarrhea</p> | <p>Loss of appetite</p> <p>Lethargy</p> <p>Teeth grinding</p> <p>Salivation</p> <p>Pawing at mouth</p> <p>Vomiting</p> <p>Tender belly/bloating</p> <p>Diarrhea, stringy feces, black or tarry</p> <p>Possible straining to eliminate waste</p> <p>Dehydration</p> | <p>Mucoid which may be green or yellow in color</p> <p>Diarrhea</p> <p>Dehydration</p> | <p>Loss of appetite</p> <p>Lethargy</p> <p>Disoriented/loss of balance</p> <p>Tremors</p> <p>Seizures</p> <p>Discharge from eyes & nostrils</p> <p>Rashes on the chin that may extend to abdomen</p> <p>Elevated body temperature</p> <p>Dehydration</p> <p>Coughing</p> <p>Hardened, thick paw pads are possible</p> | <p>Excessive scratching around face and ears</p> <p>Dark discharge in ear canals</p> <p>Excessive head shaking</p> |
| <p>Diagnosis: Clinical observations</p> <p>Treatment: Isolate affected ferrets. Monitor appetite and drinking, keep nostrils and eyes clear of discharge as needed, antibiotics for secondary bacterial infections.</p> <p>Prevention: Isolate affected animals and monitor health.</p> | <p>Diagnosis: Based on visual assessment of symptoms</p> <p>Treatment: Preparation H as needed.</p> <p>Prevention: Manage stress, ensure access to water and proper diet.</p> | <p>Diagnosis: Fecal exam</p> <p>Treatment: Albon or Sulfatrim antibiotic, food supplements such as Furo Vite.</p> <p>Control: Regular removal of feces from cage environment.</p> | <p>Diagnosis: Palpation and X-ray</p> <p>Treatment: Dependent on severity, surgery may be indicated.</p> <p>Prevention: Keep environment safe and free from small indigestible objects, which can lead to blockages - intestinal foreign bodies</p> | <p>Diagnosis: Clinical observations, further diagnostic testing for confirmation</p> <p>Managed Care: Supportive care as needed.</p> <p>Prevention/Control: Manage stress, ensure access to water and proper diet.</p> | <p>Diagnosis: Clinical observations, further diagnostic testing for confirmation</p> <p>Treatment: Isolate affected ferrets. Vaccinate remaining healthy ferrets.</p> <p>Prevention: Vaccinate ferrets when boosters are due</p> | <p>Diagnosis: Microscopic identification of mites and discharge on swab</p> <p>Treatment: Topical ear mite medications that are safe for use in kittens are generally safe for use in ferrets.</p> <p>Prevention: Inspect ferret's ears regularly, isolate affected animals and treat.</p> |