

ABNORMAL SYMPTOMS REQUIRING EVALUATION AND ASSESSMENT BUT NOT LIFE THREATENING

- **Animal Bites/scratches**
- **Constipation**
- **Diarrhea**
- **Drooling and or pawing frantically at mouth**
- **Hair Loss**
- **Insect Bite**
- **Itchy skin**
- **Red blotches on the tummy and or hives**
- **Sneezing**
- **Sprains and strains**

Animal Bites/scratches

Clean affected area with hydrogen peroxide. Do not attempt to bandage area — ferret will not tolerate it. Apply antibiotic ointment. If not noticeably improved in one day, or if condition worsens, seek medical attention.

Constipation

Signs include, straining to defecate, vocalizing when trying to pass a bowel movement, scant, reduced, or absent stool volume, thin, watery stools. Administer Laxatone or comparable furball medication every 4 hours for 3 to 4 doses. If no improvement noted see your vet.

Diarrhea

A green stool is an indication of increased rate of passage of feces through digestive tract. is acceptable every once in a while. A green stool, or one that is bloody, mucoid, dark, sticky, has worms or foreign material is definitely abnormal. If diarrhea persists for over 24 hours, seek veterinary attention as serious dehydration is likely.

Drooling and or pawing frantically at mouth

Symptom of an insulin-secreting tumor of the pancreas or severe stomach ulcers. Signs may be indicative of an impending crisis. See [Convulsions](#).

Hair Loss

Rat Tail, the loss of all the hair on the tail, is a common sign of stress in a ferret. When the stress is eliminated, the hair will return with the next fall coat.

Persistent hair loss, starting at the base of the tail and gradually moving up the back and over the entire body, may be a sign of adrenal carcinoma, a disease which is remedied by surgical removal of the affected adrenal gland. If left untreated this condition will eventually lead to death.

Insect Bite

Clean area with antiseptic solution. Follow with light application of antibiotic ointment.

Itchy skin

May be localized or generalized. The causes include dry skin, dry environment, allergies, parasites or metabolic problem. Try bathing with mild shampoo followed by cream rinse allowing adequate skin contact time. Be sure to rinse thoroughly. If symptoms persist more than 48 hours see your vet.

Red blotches on the tummy and or hives

Most likely an acute hypersensitivity reaction to an allergen which has been contacted or inhaled. Litter material is often a culprit. Try a different brand of litter and giving the ferret a bath.

Sneezing

Usually occurs in clusters. Causes include dust allergies or cold. It is important to know that humans can transfer influenza virus to ferrets very easily. Therefore if you are exhibiting signs of a cold or the flu, use caution when handling and interacting with your ferret.

Sprains and strains

Reluctant to walk or bear weight or does so abnormally or with difficulty. Confine in a pet carrier or cage and restrict activity until medical attention can be sought.