

EHLERS – DANLOS SYNDROME. (FELINE CUTANEOUS ASTHENIA)

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SUMMARY

Ehlers – Danlos syndrome is a group of rare genetic disorders affecting humans and domestic animals, caused by a defect in collagen synthesis. The severity of the disease can vary from mild to life – threatening. Treatment is supportive. Common symptoms are unstable, flexible joints, ligaments are stretchable, elastic, skin is easily forms welts and scars.

Feline cutaneous asthenia is a rare disorder of collagen production in cats. Affected animals have hyper extensible and fragile skin. Although these animals can also have joint hyper mobility leading to frequent luxations.

Our case is an European female feline, nine months old. She came at the clinic with facial scratching and some lesions on the head. The cat had also joint laxity and "a lot of skin"



We made blood tests and urinalysis but no significant abnormalities.

The treatment begins with antibiotics and predinsone. Seven days later cat's lesions were begin to healing. Two months later new lesions had appeared and the cat started to scratching again, but in other places. This extreme hyper extensibility of the skin and it's fragility are the classic clinical signs of the disease. These animals needed a special attention, and should be castrated.

It is important to inform the owners of affected animals of the course and incurability of this disease.