

FIGURE 5

Clinical Presentation of the Pruritic Feline Patient



Miliary Dermatitis

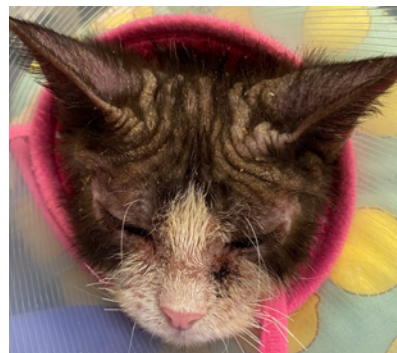
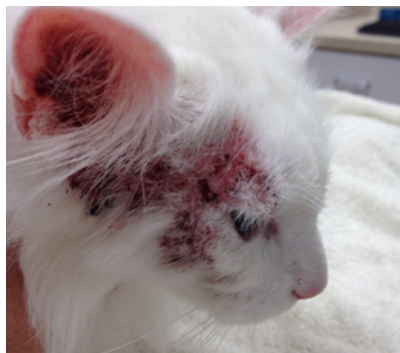
Miliary dermatitis appears as small papules with overlying yellow to brown crusts which can appear on the dorsal aspects of the body and the face. Often, these lesions may only be palpable rather than visible if not much alopecia is occurring.

Self-Induced Alopecia



Self-induced alopecia can occur without visible inflammation. Commonly affected areas include medial aspects of forelimbs and thighs, ventral abdomen and inguinal regions, dorsal lumbar area and base of tail.

Head and Neck Pruritus



Head and neck pruritus lesions can appear as alopecia, miliary dermatitis, and erythema with excoriations (scratch marks); however, many cats will exhibit intense pruritus that induces erosions, ulcerations, crusting, and hemorrhage.

Photos courtesy of Andrew Simpson, DVM, MS, DACVD

(Continued on next page)

FIGURE 5

Clinical Presentation of the Pruritic Feline Patient, Continued

Eosinophilic Granuloma Complex (EGC)

EGC lesions can be variable in presentation and can appear as indolent ulcers (unilateral or bilateral ulcerations of the upper lip), eosinophilic granulomas (areas of dermal thickening with or without erosion/ulceration on caudal thighs, proliferative lesions on the tongue or hard palate, or chin swelling “fat chin”), and eosinophilic plaques (raised areas of erosions and ulcerations present on ventral abdomen and medial thighs).

Indolent Ulcer



Bilateral ulceration and deformation of the rostral lip margins due to indolent ulcer.



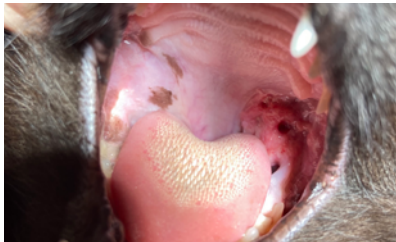
Unilateral ulceration on the rostral lip margin due to indolent ulcer.

Eosinophilic Plaque

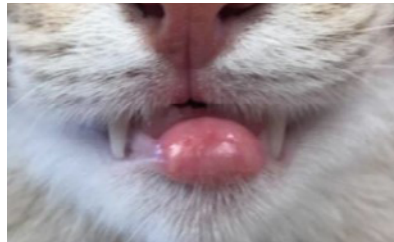


Pruritic eosinophilic plaques on the ventral abdomen of two different cats with feline atopic skin syndrome characterized by multifocal to coalescing raised areas of erythema, erosions, exudate, and alopecia.

Eosinophilic Granuloma



Focal, ulcerative oral mass (eosinophilic granuloma) on the left palatoglossal arch in a cat.



Focal, well-demarcated thickening of the ventral chin (“fat chin”) due to eosinophilic granuloma in a cat with feline atopic skin syndrome.



Swelling, erythema, and crusting of the metacarpal pad with biopsy-confirmed eosinophilic granuloma in a cat with food allergies.



Linear granulomas (raised, erythematous, linear dermal thickenings) on the caudal aspect of the thighs of a cat with allergic dermatitis.



Raised, nodular lesions with exudate and alopecia representative of eosinophilic granuloma on the rear paw and claw folds and rear leg of two different cats with allergic dermatitis.



Photos courtesy of Andrew Simpson, DVM, MS, DACVD

The 2023 AAHA Management of Allergic Skin Diseases Guidelines are available at aaha.org/allergic-diseases.

These guidelines were prepared by a Task Force of experts convened by the American Animal Hospital Association (AAHA) and were subjected to a formal peer-review process. This document is intended as a guideline only, not an AAHA standard of care. These guidelines and recommendations should not be construed as dictating an exclusive protocol, course of treatment, or procedure. Variations in practice may be warranted based on the needs of the individual patient, resources, and limitations unique to each individual practice setting. ©2023 AAHA.

