



# Alliance Française du Shar-Pei

[www.alliance-sharpei.com](http://www.alliance-sharpei.com)

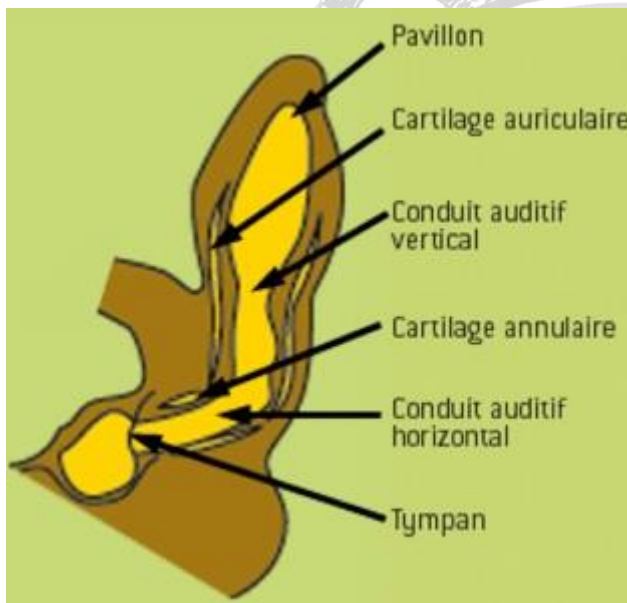
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## Cares and ears pathologies on our Shar-Pei

The pathologies of the ears are very common on our dogs friends, let us not forget that if our Shar-Pei has some folds outside of the body, he(it) also has got inside, particularly in the ears.

First of all, a small short about the anatomy. The ear of our animals consists of 3 parts

- The external ear understanding the pinna and the auditory canal.
- The middle ear understanding the middle ear, the eardrum and 3 jacks (hammer, anvil and stirrup)
- The inner understanding the labyrinth, the "cochlea" and " the vestibular system"



These 3 parts are closely entangled and allow on the one hand the hearing and on the other one the balance. There are also glands inside the auditory canal which secrete the earwax and protect the canal.

Shar-Pei have generally a very narrow canal, sometimes not allowing to introduce the otoscope there. The first standard of the race indicated: small, thick ears in the shape of equilateral triangle, the headland being rounded off, attached very high forward above eyes and widely spaced out. This was modified after April, 1999 by the words: very SMALL what has led the breeders to try to produce puppies with the smallest possible ears so entailing a modification of the internal canal. It is sometimes very difficult to maintain correctly ears, what can cause diverse affections.



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## **THE MOST CURRENT PATHOLOGIES**

### 1. **THE OTITIS**

The otitis mainly affect the external ear. However, they can complicate, for example, a perforation of the eardrum pulling an average otitis, rarely an internal otitis. The 1st thing to do, if your Shar-Pei seems to suffer ears (intense scratching, shakes itself very frequently the head, the disorders of balance) is to consult your veterinarian to make a precise diagnosis, causes of otitis which can be multiple.

### 2. **Unknown body**

The nice weather arriving, you make a stroll in campaign(countryside) and on the way back your dog is taken by a frenzy of scratching and shakes itself the head in all directions by crying. An unknown body probably settled at the level of his pinna (very often a foxtails grass) and it is progressing slowly but surely inward at the risk of finishing it's running against the eardrum, drilling it, and causing problems much more complicate. It is thus necessary to consult immediately for only an extraction of the unknown body can relieve your animal. By waiting for the appointment at the veterinarian, you can instil some drops of vegetable oil of sweet almond in the ear to grease the auditory canal, coat the foxtail grass and with a little luck allow that to be expelled during a shaking of head.

### 3. **THE SCAB OF THE EAR**

The scab of the ear is frequently caused by acarids giving several symptoms: strong itches, red and hot ears, presence of a thick and black earwax in large quantities, a characteristic smell getting free of the ears.

Only your veterinarian can make the diagnosis

This disease is very contagious from an animal to the other one, so think of cleaning well the head of the flask that you use, change cotton for every animal, wash you hands between 2

### 4. **BACTERIA**

Some otitis are caused by bacteria, either in a primary way, or secondarily in another pathology (secondary infection). There also, only your veterinarian can make the diagnosis



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## 5. YEASTS

The most frequent yeast in the otitis is *Malassezia pachydermatis*. As bacteria it can be the primary cause of the otitis but most of the time it takes advantage of the state of inflammation of the ear to come to settle down and to multiply, participating then the chronicity of the otitis. \* Small advice: put some drops of Malaseb ( specific shampoo containing antifungal treatment)in your usual flask.



## 6. ALLERGIES

We distinguish several types of allergy: atopic Dermatitis, Food allergy, Contact allergy, environmental Allergy, DAPP (Dermatitis allergic to the stings(injections) of fleas, medicinal allergy due to the used cleaning product. Before any processing, it is thus advisable to look for the cause of this allergy to avoid second recurrences by evicting definitively the triggering factor.

## 7. TUMORS / POLYPS

The shrinkage of the auditory canal due to the presence of a tumor (mild or malignant) opposes the good circulation of the air and favours the accumulation of the waste which can give external otitis. It is thus important in case of second recurrence of otitis to make an otoscopique examination in case of a possible tumor, which would require a surgery to remove it).

## 8. THE OTHEMATOMES

The othématome is the most frequent traumatic affection to the dog.It can be primary further to a shock, or secondary in an external otitis (due to shaking ears or to scratch itself, he creates vascular hurts which cause a bleeding at the level of the internal pinna of the ear).



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## **Before cleaning:**

wash your hands, make penetrate the product into the ear, duly mass on the basis of the ear by going back up, then let the dog shake itself. At the end of a few minutes clean the internal face of the ear with a cotton soaked with product until the ear is very clean.

Diverse products are effective but there are also "home-made" and natural products which can have of the interest: mix Water / vinegar of biological cider

## **LOCAL CARE**

For all which is pathology alone your veterinarian can give you the course to follow to handle effectively these diseases.

In regular care: duly clean ears does not mean often: twice a month should be enough.

Diverse products are sold by your veterinarians, prefer those single-use.

Avoid the cotton stalk which risks to bring down in the auditory canal the small fragments as the hairs or the herbs and make then a maceration, a smell, then an otitis

In a bowl prepare your mixture with 50 % of water and 50 % of cider vinegar (use a syringe to be more precise). Dip then press a sterile compress or a make-up remover pad then clean slowly the inside of the ears of your Shar-Pei. The cider vinegar having antiseptic, antibacterial and antifungal properties, this one will allow to handle prematurely the beginning of otitis.

### · Oils

Several oils have antiseptic, antibacterial, antifungal properties besides being moisturizing, in particular the coconut oil, the sweet almond oil, the oil of calophylle, the olive oil or the oil of calendula. These oils can serve as support for Essential Oil or Thornit.



Unpretentious article written by Mrs FALZON  
According to several bibliographies



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