



LET'S TALK ABOUT  
**ALBERT'S**  
**AILMENTS**  
GENERAL HEALTH  
ISSUES IN APH  
AN APH CARE GUIDE

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By Happy Quills

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# ALBERT'S AILMENTS

Hi I'm Albert and I am here to give you some first aid tips and products that help with our well being . This is not an exhaustive list, just a summary of more popular ailments.

## Quilling

APH's go through several quillings. Their first quilling is when they lose their soft baby quills, this usually occurs at 6-8 weeks, at this point they should still be with their breeder. The next quilling is approx 4-6 months and they can have a smaller quilling at one year old. Quilling is very painful, similar to baby teething. Even the most placid friendly hog can not bear to be touched, some quill worse than others.

Top tips include a soothing Colloidal oat bath and a good spray of Leucillin daily helps ease their pain.

## Tatty Ears

Tatty ears are just a build up of dry skin and can be easily remedied by rubbing coconut oil onto the affected parts of the ears. Warm up a tiny bit of oil between your finger tips and rub gently daily. See before and after photos in this album.

## Constipation

A nice warm bath can help loosen bowels. However, pumpkin baby food definitely gets things shifting - do not feed too much or you might end up with dihorrea.



## Green Poo/ diahorrea

Usually occurs when hogs are stressed. However, can be caused by digestive issues. Pro-kolin is good for gut health and for firming up those poops

## Self Harming

Unfortunately some hogs self harm by biting themselves, usually under their chin or on their chest. This is often caused by stress, something in their environment has changed ( could be new washing powder, scent of new pet, too noisy ), can be caused by boredom ( treat your pet to lots of new toys) or they could be biting as they are in pain ( feel around for any lumps and bumps). Keep area clean, spray with Leucillin or Vetericyn wound spray to help heal the area.

## Calcium Deficiency

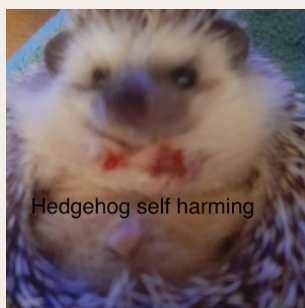
A common issue in hogs. Sprinkle Nutribal on food a couple of times a week to provide your hogs with the nutrients they need

## Dry Skin

Flaxseed oil on food is great for helping with dry skin. Also oat baths and Leucillin help. Make sure when bathing your hogs that you are getting rid of all the suds as it is often the residue that causes dry skin.

## Eyes

Due to protruding eyes hogs have lots of eye injuries. If you see a bulging eye then it is a vet visit asap as they prolapse quickly. Good news is that hogs cope well with either one eye or no eyes. Hogs also get cataracts, however if you are seeing cloudiness in a young hog it is more likely to be from lack of nutrition in their diet.



Hedgehog self harming



Eye starting to prolapse

## Ripped/ Bleeding Claws

For bleeding nails place foot in cornflour or styptic powder until bleeding stops. For ripped out claws wash in salt water, keep clean, spray daily with Leucillin or Vetericyn until wound healed.

## Dental Issues

For those losing teeth soaking kibble in warm water softens it up so they can chew it easier. Any dental issues need a vet visit.

## Bacterial/ Fungal Infections

These can spread quick in hogs and are extremely dangerous. Wash hog in Hibiscrub and use Leucillin/Vetericyn daily.

## Mites

If you think your hog is scratching more than normal then it could be mites. Place your hog on a dark surface and brush with a toothbrush. If you see the flakes moving then you have mites. To treat the hog use Xeno 50, squeeze the small Pipette on the back of the quills. Repeat after two weeks. All bedding needs thoroughly washed, advised once dry to put in freezer to kill off any remaining mites. Enclosure needs thoroughly cleaned, good product is sprinkling diatomaceous earth over surfaces as this kills mites ( you might want to sprinkle your hog too). Clean bedding daily and keep hog separate from any other pets. If handling other pets change your clothing first.

## UTI's

Urinary infections are very common in hogs and most are only noticed once the hog starts passing blood. Vet visit needed to get required medication



## Surgery recovery/ loss of appetite

If your hog is recovering from surgery, has loss of appetite or has been starving, then feeding them critical care formula provides them with everything they need nutritionally. Restorative Care wet food is also advised.

## Wobbly Hedgehog

If you have a sudden onset of a wobbly hedgehog it is more likely to be a hibernation attempt from being too cold, an ear infection, neurological issues or a stroke. Wobbly hedgehog syndrome is very rare and is slow to progress, a bit like Parkinson's in humans. It has also been practically eliminated in the UK by good breeding programmes that have tracked and stopped breeding any lines that have confirmed WHS. If your hog is still wobbling after being warmed up then vet visit strongly advised.

## Respiratory Issues

Sneezing, wheezing, excess mucus? Sometimes it's because the substrates in the enclosure are not suitable ie) sawdust irritating nose lining etc. However, hogs are susceptible to respiratory infections, so any new hog sounds need checked out by a vet.

