

Feather Picking Disorder in Parrots

So-Young Lee, Dong-In Jung, Ha-Jung Kim, Ju-Won Kim, Byeong-Teck Kang,
Chae-Young Lim, Su-Hyun Gu, Hyo-Won Jeon, Jung-Hyun Kim, Kyung-Moon Ryu,
Hyung-Jung Sung, Jae-Im Jang, Kyo-Im Lee, Chul Park, Jong-Hyun Yoo and
Hee-Myung Park*

*Department of Veterinary Internal Medicine, College of Veterinary Medicine,
Konkuk University*

Feather picking disorder is a syndrome involving a variety self-directed feather and soft tissue destructive behaviors with no apparent underlying medical etiology. From February 2005 to October 2007, 6 parrots were visited to the Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital of Konkuk University due to feather chewing, picking, or self-mutilation. Birds were diagnosed as feather picking disorder followed by history taking, physical examination, blood profiles, radiographic finding, fecal examination, and dermatologic examination. Based on the underlying causes, modification of husbandry, change of caretaker behavior to the bird, or psychopharmacotherapy was selected as a treatment of method. 3/6 (50%) birds responded to the treatment and 1/6 (16%) bird reacted for a while. This study shows that therapeutic response is correlated with duration of symptoms and source of induction.

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* Corresponding author: parkhee@konkuk.ac.kr