

SCURVY

IN GUINEA PIGS

Vitamin C is essential for your guinea pig to stay healthy. It's used to produce collagen, which helps give structure and strength to skin, tendons, bones and teeth. Guinea Pigs are unable to produce vitamin C on their own and require added vitamin C in their diet. Incorrect diets can lead to vitamin C deficiencies leading to scurvy.

HEALTHY GUINEA PIG



DENTAL HEALTH

Gums should appear pink in colour without any blood or pale colouring.



JOINTS & BONES

Fully functioning legs, with no signs of weakness or pain.



EYES, EARS & NOSE

No signs of mucus or nasal discharge.

SIGNS OF SCURVY



DENTAL HEALTH

Sore bleeding gums that appear inflamed or tender.



JOINTS & BONES

Signs of lameness, sore joints or lack of mobility particularly in back legs.



BEHAVIOUR

Change in behaviour, loss of appetite or weightloss.

SOURCES OF VITAMIN C

Scurvy is easy to prevent via the provision of a balanced diet.



FRUIT & VEG

Fresh fruit and vegetables are great source of vitamin C and fibre, but aren't reliable. Most of the time, the levels of the vitamins are unpredictable and deteriorate rapidly in the elements (air, heat, sunlight).



SUPPLEMENTS

Vita-C Tablets are an easy way to supplement vitamin C without changing your guinea pigs' diet. It is a water dissolvable tablet that provides vitamin C and a range of other essential vitamins.



PELLETS

Most commercial grain mixes and pellets do not contain vitamin C. Vetafarm's Cavy Origins contains a stabilised form of vitamin C to ensure the vitamin is readily available in every feed.



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