

DIAGNOSING THE CAUSE OF ITCH IN YOUR DOG

STAGE 1: ESTABLISH DIAGNOSIS

HISTORY

- Breed, age of onset, seasonality, environment, previous medication and response, current flea control etc.

PHYSICAL EXAM

1 PARASITES

- Fleas
- Demodex mite
- Sarcoptes mite
- Ear mites

Diagnostic tests to consider:

- Flea comb
- Wet paper
- Skin scrape
- Hair pluck

 Y N

2 INFECTION

- Bacteria
- Yeast
- Fungi

Diagnostic tests to consider:

- Cytology:
- Sticky-tape
 - Cotton bud
 - Direct impression
 - Fungal culture

 Y N

If **parasites** and **infection** have been ruled out, and the skin condition remains, then **allergic dermatitis** should be investigated

3 ALLERGIES

- Contact, food, atopic dermatitis

A CONTACT

Diagnostic tests to consider:

- Avoidance and re-challenge
- Patch test

 Y N

B FOOD

Diagnostic tests to consider:

- Dietary exclusion trial

 Y N

C ATOPIC DERMATITIS

Diagnostic tests to consider:

- Intradermal testing
- IgE serology

 Y N

STAGE 2: INSTIGATE TREATMENT

CONTROL PRURITUS

- Apoquel® to relieve itch quickly whilst performing work-up
- Cytopoint® once Atopic Dermatitis diagnosed

OTHER:

- Steroids, medicated washes etc

 Y N

EFFECTIVE FLEA AND MITE PREVENTATIVE

- Simparica®

 Y N

ANTIBIOTICS

- Topical +/- systemic (e.g. Clavulox®, Antirobe, Convenia®*)

ANTI-FUNGALS

OTHER

- e.g. medicated washes

 Y N

AVOIDANCE

- Specific avoidance trial for contact allergy

 Y N

NOVEL PROTEIN/ CARBO-HYDRATE DIET OR COMMERCIAL HYDROLYSED DIET

 Y N

ALLERGEN SPECIFIC IMMUNO-THERAPY

ADJUNCTIVE THERAPIES

- Shampoo +/- conditioner
- Support skin barrier function e.g. omega fatty acids

 Y N

STAGE 3: ON-GOING MANAGEMENT OF ATOPIC DERMATITIS

ENSURE ON-GOING MONTHLY TREATMENT WITH EFFECTIVE FLEA AND MITE PREVENTATIVE

- Simparica

 Y N

OTHER LONG-TERM MANAGEMENT TOOLS TO CONSIDER FOR ATOPIC DOGS

Manage 'flare' factors:

- Parasites — on-going monthly treatment with effective flea and mite preventative (e.g. Simparica)
- Secondary infections — topical +/- systemic therapy (e.g. Clavulox; Convenia®)
- Food allergy — novel protein/carbohydrate diet or commercial hydrolysed diet

Improve skin barrier function:

Diet and/or topical therapy

Apoquel:

Depending on the individual patient, can be used once-a-day continuously or as required to manage flare-ups

Cytopoint®:

Can be used monthly on a continuous basis if required to manage pruritus

Oral or topical steroids, cyclosporine

 Y N

IF NO RESPONSE TO THERAPY OR IT LOOKS UNUSUAL: BIOPSY, CULTURE AND/OR REFER



Supported by other products in the Zoetis Dermatology portfolio:

