

1. Clinical Allergy Overview
 - a. All species (canine, feline, equine, bovine, etc)
 - b. Allergic dermatitis is more common than respiratory signs
 - c. Contact Dermatitis is rare and should only be considered after other more common diseases have been ruled out.
 - d. Urticaria and angioedema has unique clinical signs but is associated with an antigenic allergic exposure.
 - e. Flea Allergy Dermatitis in dogs is almost always limited to the caudal half of the body; specifically the lumbar region.
 - f. Atopy, Food Allergy , and Scabies can look exactly alike.
 - g. Canine
 - i. Flea allergy > Atopy > Food allergy >> Contact
 - ii. Erythema, papules, pruritus
 - iii. Face, ears, feet, axillary
 - iv. Secondary pyoderma and otitis are common
 - h. Feline - Feline Pruritic Syndrome
 - i. Flea allergy > Insect hypersensitivity > Food allergy >> Atopy
 - ii. 3 syndromes - Miliary dermatitis, alopecia, eosinophilic granuloma complex
 - iii. Secondary infections usually resolve once the allergy is controlled

- I. Approach to the "Itchy Dog"
 - A. The "Itchy dog" has pruritus and dermatitis localizing to the face, ears, feet, axillary, and inguinal regions.

 - B. Scabies, Atopy, and Food Allergy can look identical

 - C. Use the subtle clues in the history and pattern of lesions to prioritize the rule-outs.
 1. age of onset (atopy starts at 1-3 years of age)
 2. seasonal variation in signs (atopy is seasonal)
 3. response to treatments (atopy responds to steroids)
 4. "Ears and Rears" = food allergy

 - D. Prioritize the 3 rule outs: scabies, atopy, or food allergy and proceed with your diagnostic plan
 1. treating for scabies
 2. allergy testing (skin testing or serum testing)
 3. food allergy dietary trial

 - E. Regardless of the underlying disease, most animals will have secondary infections (bacterial pyoderma, malassezia dermatitis, otitis) that must be treated aggressively. Treating the infections is as essential as treating the primary disease and will reduce the clinical signs dramatically.