



Dermatology Department

3550 S. Jason Street, Englewood, CO 80110

Phone: 303.874.2078 Fax: 303.874.3203 E-mail: derm@vrcc.com Website: www.vrcc.com

Linda Messinger, DVM, Diplomate, American College of Veterinary Dermatology

Intradermal Allergy Testing

A procedure where small amounts of allergen are injected into the skin to determine whether your pet reacts (is allergic to) this allergen. This procedure is often done under a reversible sedative. A guide for Intradermal Testing Preparation is below.

Discontinue all drugs/topicals that interfere with the intradermal skin test (including corticosteroids)

Type of drug/topical

Topical shampoos or conditioners, e.g. Cortisoothe, Resicort	Recommended Withdrawal Time: 2-4 weeks
Topical ear medications, e.g. otomax, tresaderm, malotic, synotic, gentaved, tritop, malacetic-HC, burotic-HC, cortisporin-otic, cortastrin. If your pet received any ear medications that may have contained steroids, then please flush ears with a non-steroid containing ear flush 3-6 weeks prior to allergy testing to help remove any residual ear medication. (please note: mometomax may require withdrawal of 8 weeks or more)	3-6 weeks
Topical eye medications that contain steroids, e.g. NeoPolyDex, gentacin durafilm, pred acetate	3-6 weeks
Topical steroid cream, ointments, gels, sprays containing hydrocortisone, triamcinolone, betamethasone, clobetasol, etc. Examples include cortaid, cortisone 10, genesis spray, gentaved spray, gentacin spray, aristocort, cormax, clobetasol, topicort	2-6 weeks
Prednisone, prednisolone, medrol, methylprednisolone, temaril-P, dexamethasone	3-6 weeks
Triamcinolone (vetalog)	8-10 weeks
Methylprednisolone (depomedrol)	8-14 weeks
Betamethasone (betasone)	12-14 weeks

Type of drug/topical

Antihistamines or tricyclic antidepressants that have antihistamine properties	Recommended Withdrawal Time: 2-3 weeks
Oral (tablets, capsules), e.g. benadryl, diphenhydramine, tivist, clemastine, chlorpheniramine, chlortrimeton, claritin, hydroxyzine, atarax, allerga, clarinex, zyrtec, amitriptyline, elavil, doxepin	
Antihistamine shampoos, e.g. histacalm	5-7 days
Antihistamine sprays, e.g. benadryl spray	5-7 days
Acepromazine (tranquilizer)	2-3 days
Pramoxine containing products, e.g. ResiProx, Relief, Aveeno anti-itch cream	2-3 days

Medications O.K. to give to or use on your pet prior to skin testing

- Most antibiotics, e.g. cephalixin, baytril, clavamox, etc.
- Antivirals
- Antifungals, e.g. ketoconazole, fluconazole, itraconazole, griseofulvin
- Heartworm preventative
- Flea control products
- Oatmeal containing products, e.g. EpiSoothe, ResiSoothe, Aveeno, etc.
- Ophthalmic cyclosporine for KCS (dry eye)
- Oral cyclosporine, e.g. Atopica, Neoral, Gengraf
- Thyroid supplementation, e.g. soloxine, thyro-tabs
- Heart medications
- Anti-seizure medications
- Any medicines necessary to maintain life should be given to your pet!

- Cytopoint injection
- Apoquel (oclacitinib maleate)

Control any skin and ear infections, as infections often increase your pet's pruritus (itchiness).

Symptomatic therapy for pruritus (itch) that may be used:

- Cool water baths with oatmeal containing products
- Barrier methods, e.g. t-shirts, baby sleepers/onsies, Elizabethian collars, socks/booties, etc.

General information

No food after 10 pm the night before skin testing. Water is O.K.

- Plan on having your pet stay with us for the day (overnight stay is not required).
- A post-card sized "box" will be shaved on your pet's lateral thorax (side of the chest).
- Most dogs are sent home in t-shirts—the t-shirts may be removed the evening of the skin test or the next day.