

Product list and Allergy Management Best practices





# Important Information about Allergy Testing and Treatment with Spectrum Veterinary

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## WHAT'S THE VALUE OF PROVIDING ALLERGY TESTING AND TREATMENT IN YOUR PRACTICE?

### **Top 10 Reasons Pets Visit Vets**

According to VPI (Veterinary Pet Insurance)

Top 10 Canine Claims	Top 10 Feline Claims
1. Skin allergies	1. Bladder/urinary tract problems
2. Ear infections	2. Periodontitis/Dental disease
3. Non-cancerous skin mass	3. Chronic kidney disease
4. Skin infection	4. Excessive thyroid hormone
5. Arthritis	5. Vomiting, Upset stomach
6. Vomiting, Upset stomach	6. Diabetes
7. Intestinal inflammation/diarrhea	7. Diarrhea/Intestinal upset
8. Periodontitis/Dental disease	8. Lymphoma
9. Bladder/urinary tract problems	9. Upper respiratory virus
10. Soft tissue trauma (bruise or contusion)	10. Skin allergies

#### For Dogs:

Allergies not only top the list but can be responsible/account for up to 4 of these causes above (ear infections, skin infections, vomiting, diarrhea). By not offering actual allergy solutions, (not suppression therapies) you are potentially turning away as much of 50% of the business/cases that walk in your door.

#### For Cats:

Allergies are not as great of an issue in the feline world, but they are still an issue nonetheless. Allergies can also account for, or be linked to, 4 other issues

common in cats and visits to the vet (thyroid, vomiting, diarrhea, and upper respiratory issues). If your focus is on providing the best care possible, it may be a great advantage to offer allergy testing as a way to really address what is going on, and its causes.

Allergy testing with Spectrum Veterinary does not mean you will never refer to a veterinary dermatologist again, but it does allow you to keep about 80% of your dermatology cases in house.

#### WHAT TO ADDRESS/RULE OUT BEFORE ALLERGY TESTING

Before conducting allergy testing we want to complete a full dermatological work up to address one or more of the following:

- Scabies / Parasite Infections
- Malassezia / Yeast Infections
- Bacterial Infections
- Endocrinology disease (Cortisol test)
- Thyroid disease (T4/T5 test).

\*Spectrum now offers Thyroid testing in conjunction with the allergy panel as long as there is a large enough sample. If you have questions regarding this please contact us.

#### WHAT & WHEN IS TESTING APPROPRIATE?

- Patient is 2 years of age or older
- 3 primary features are present:
  - Pruritus
  - Facial and/or digital involvement
  - Hardening/crusting of sores
  - Chronically-relapsing dermatitis
  - Individual or family history
  - Breed predisposition

- 3 secondary features are present:
  - Onset of signs before 3 years of age
  - Generalized dry skin
  - o Superficial staphylococcal infection
  - Cutaneous Malassezia infection
  - Bilateral external otitis
  - Facial erythema

#### Additional Tips:

- If seasonal component exists, ideal to test at the end of offending/most symptomatic season; ideal to treat i.e. build tolerance during off season (not always possible).
- Weaning off of steroids/antihistamines is not necessary for testing but ideal for treatment
- T4 and T5 panels can be run thru Spectrum Veterinary in conjunction with allergy testing

#### WHAT ALLERGY SYMPTOMS LOOK LIKE FOR ANIMALS:

#### Canine:

Mostly skin related

- Skin irritation
- Itching/scratching
- Face licking/chewing
- Hair loss
- Rash
- Skin infections

#### Feline:

*Skin and some respiratory* 

- Excessive grooming
- Hair loss
- Feline acne/granulomas
- Respiratory: sneezing, asthma, nasal discharge
- Watery eyes

- Gastritis
- Vomiting/diarrhea

#### Equine:

Can be both skin and respiratory

- Urticaria
- Itching
- Skin related problems
- Head shaking/sneezing
- COPD/labored breathing
- Respiratory/heaves
- Hair loss

#### WHAT CAN ANIMALS REACT TO?

Animals can be allergic to the same things that cause humans to suffer. These can be pollens like what we find in the air, or proteins that are found in foods.

- Weeds
- Trees
- Grasses
- Indoor Allergens
- Food
- Insects
- Molds

#### WHAT ALLERGENS SHOULD I TEST FOR AND WHY?

#### Regionally Specific Inhalant Panel:

The regional panel includes the weeds, trees and grasses that are not only most prone to induce allergic reactions but also those that are most common in your region. Keeping in mind that allergens can travel hundreds of miles, there may be allergens that you don't recognize or aren't included that you feel should be. This could be because they haven't been deemed a "significant" allergen or are not wind pollenated.

#### Food Panel:

Food allergy is the most likely cause of allergy symptoms in pets less than 1 year of age. The food panel is made up of the 24 most commercially available pet

food ingredients for dogs and cats. This means that Spectrum is constantly updating our list to reflect what is being manufactured right now. The diet is the easiest thing to control and can have significant benefits when addressed along side allergy treatment. By pairing these two facets of allergy treatment together, we get a success rate as high as 90%.

#### Indoor Allergens Panel:

The indoor allergens panel reflects what is found in an indoor home environment. These include things like carpet, furniture upholstery, pillows, and house dust.

#### Mold Allergens: (Included in the regional panel)

Mold allergens can be found just about anywhere and produce airborne spores. Their growth is stimulated by warmth and increases in humidity. They tend to therefore be most prevalent during the hot, humid months.

#### <u>Insect Allergens:</u> (Included in the indoor panel)

The insect panel includes cockroach, mosquito and house fly. We also offer flea allergen as a "special" order and it is included in the SPOT Platinum 91 allergen package.

#### Spectrum's SPOT Platinum Panel:

One of the things that make Spectrum's SPOT Platinum Panel unique is that we routinely test for 91 allergens (small animal) or 86 allergens (large animal). This is the industry's most comprehensive standard panel in the industry. We do this because we want to help you create a "one-and-done" approach to your patients who suffer, not ask you to retest them every year, or every other year. We find that by partnering a comprehensive test with a comprehensive treatment, we not only get success rates as high as 90% but we also create a long-term solution for effective allergy management.

As always if there are allergens that you wish to add that aren't currently found in your panel, you can add them for a nominal fee. Please contact us for details.

#### **EQUINE ALLERGIES 101:**

#### Symptoms:

See page 5 under "What Allergy Symptoms Look Like for Animals".

#### Allergen Panels:

#### Regionally Specific Inhalant Panel:

The regional panel includes the weeds, trees and grasses that are not only most prone to induce allergic reactions but also those that are most common in your region. Keeping in mind that allergens can travel hundreds of miles, there may be allergens that you don't recognize or aren't included that you feel should be. This could be because they haven't been deemed a "significant" allergen or are not wind pollenated.

#### Food Panel:

The food panel is made up of the 12 most common horse feed ingredients. Diet is the easiest thing to control and can have significant benefits when addressed along side allergy treatment. By pairing these two facets of allergy treatment together, we get a success rate as high as 90%. If you order the Equine SPOT Platinum Panel we also test for corn, oat, wheat and barley pollen that are airborne, so it is possible to have a horse that doesn't react to corn as a food but reacts to the corn pollen (airborne).

#### Mold Allergens: (Included in the regional panel)

Mold allergens can be found just about anywhere and produce airborne spores. Their growth is stimulated by warmth and increases in humidity. They tend to therefore be most prevalent during the hot, humid months.

#### Biting Insect Allergens:

The insect panel includes Cockroach, Culicoides, Mosquito, Stable Fly, Deer Fly, Horse Fly, and Fire Ant. This is a great "add-on" panel but alone may not test for enough potentially offending allergens to successfully get patients under management long-term.

#### Allergy Treatment:

See page 10 under headings "When is Treatment Appropriate?" and "How Effective is Treatment", as well as page 11 under heading "What Does Spectrum Consider a Success?".

#### Have a show or performance horse?

Don't worry! Our treatment will not affect their ability to qualify for upcoming competitions.

### WHO IS AN IDEAL CANDIDATE FOR ALLERGY TESTING AND TREATMENT?

- Patient is 2 years of age or older
- 3 primary features are present:
  - Pruritus
  - Facial and/or digital involvement
  - Hardening/crusting of sores
  - Chronically-relapsing dermatitis
  - Individual or family history
  - Breed predisposition
- 3 secondary features are present:
  - Onset of signs before 3 years of age
  - Generalized dry skin
  - Superficial staphylococcal infection
  - Cutaneous Malassezia infection
  - Bilateral external otitis
  - Facial erythema

If you have a patient who is under 1 year of age and already presenting with allergy-like symptoms and you have ruled out other possible culprits, we suggest testing for food allergies. We suggest this because food is the only thing they have been exposed to long enough to create a sensitivity to. If you were to run a full allergy panel, you would see reactions however it could be maternal antibodies.

Those change over time and treatment on such young animals can be difficult as their allergy profiles can/do change and their immune system is still developing.

#### WHY SERUM ALLERGY TESTING?

- Numeric value rather than visual confirmation
- No steroid/antihistamine withdrawal for testing
- Non-invasive
- Simple blood draw
- Correlates well with skin testing
- Saves time
- Cost effective
- Places allergy treatment in the hands of practitioner & minimizes referrals
- Increases practice profitability while enhancing patient care
- Provides a quick assessment of food hypersensitivity

#### WHY SPECTRUM VETERINARY?

- Increased services/care to existing client base
- Test for more-including foods; lower price
- List of approved foods provided.
- Two different options for treatment: injections & drops
- Unique compliance tools provided to pet parent
- Same technology used by Veterinary Dermatologist
- Competitor retest provided at no charge, up to 5 per year/per clinic

#### **HOW TO SUBMIT A SAMPLE:**

The allergy testing done via Spectrum Lab's SPOT test is steroid independent meaning it is NOT necessary to wean patient off steroids, antihistamines or cyclosporine for testing purposes. Once the blood has been spun down to serum, please pour into the Spectrum approved plastic tubes. (Please note: if you do not have the plastic tubes, a red top or tiger top will suffice but please request more tubes so we can ensure you have everything you need.)

- 3 5 ml of serum
- Absolute minimum 1.5 ml.
- Order & History Form

#### WHAT OUR ALLERGY RESULTS TELL YOU?

Allergy testing provides a snapshot of the immune system as it relates to the offending allergens. Any results scoring over 100 ARU's are considered significant allergens and therefore should be avoided, or if it is not possible to avoid, treated for (no food allergens). Not only do we fax/email the results as soon as they are ready, we also send a 24-page custom allergy profile booklet to you, for your pet parent. In the booklet, not only do we color code where all the reactions appear we also provide you with:

- A list of foods free from offending allergens (see page 10 for more info on "Food Allergies and Serum Testing)
- A general overview on:
  - Allergies
  - Types of allergens
  - Source guide as to where the allergens are found in the environment
  - Allergy questionnaire
  - o Guide to "allergy proofing" your home

#### *Our approach to treatment:*

Spectrum recommends to treat for all allergens patient reactions, either by allergy injections or oral drops. We find that treating for/or accommodating, all reactions creates a long-term allergy solution with reduced likelihood of retesting. We can fit up to 20 allergens in a single treatment set, or can also follow AAAI guidelines for allergy injections upon request.

#### **FOOD ALLERGIES AND SERUM TESTING**

There are two main ways to identify food allergies: food elimination diets (which have a failure rate of over 90%) or a serum blood test that measures the presence of IgE. Elimination diets greatly restrict the foods a patient can consume to a minimum number of protein sources, and then slowly reintroduce omitted proteins to see if clinical signs reappear. This process usually takes 6-8 weeks and is more based on the trial & error methodology.

Serum testing challenges the patient's serum against the 24 most commercially available pet food ingredients. We also have a database of allergens that can be added on upon request at a nominal fee. Please contact us for details.

#### WHEN IS TREATMENT APPROPRIATE?

If dietary adjustment isn't enough to reduce a patient's symptoms OR if the patient has a large number of reactions (18+) it is beneficial to start treatment as soon as possible. If there is a time of year when a patient's symptoms are worse than others, it is always best to test at the end of the offending season. This allows us to ensure ample exposure to the largest number of potentially problematic allergens. Please indicate on the Patient History Form that seasonal allergies seem to be an issue for the patient, if applicable. If you proceed with allergy treatment, it will also be necessary to maintain the allergen year round, not just during the offending season.

Allergies are a life long problem, therefore the best way to ensure long-term success is to encourage the pet parent to maintain the tolerated levels as long as possible. If you stop allergy treatment at any time, you run the risk that we need to reestablish tolerance by starting over completely.

Concerned your patient may be over stimulated by the allergy injections? We have a Technical Services Department that are here to help you review and determine the best next steps for each of your patients that seem to continue to suffer. We can also help you with patients who are reaching the end of Vial C (the red topped vial) in the initial treatment set, and pet parents feel the allergens are not helping. It is necessary, when reviewing these cases, to provide us with the following information: date of last dosage, dosage amount, color of vial, symptoms and how soon post injection the symptoms occur. Symptoms can also occur in between dosages.

#### **HOW EFFECTIVE IS TREATMENT?**

The efficacy of treatment depends on several factors: including the number of allergens treated for versus the number of total reactions, pet parent compliance, and the proper storage of allergen.

Common Success Rates are as follows:

• Dietary alone: 50% success

• Allergy treatment alone: **66% success** 

Allergy treatment and dietary together: 90% success

#### WHAT DOES SPECTRUM VETERINARY CONSIDER A SUCCESS?

At Spectrum Veterinary, our goal is to give patient's back their quality of life and reduce or eliminate their dependence on steroids or other anti-inflammatory drugs. We determine a success when both veterinarian and pet parent can look at their pet and know that is better.

Oftentimes when we cant say the patient is better, and it is in fact suffering from allergies, we are able to work with the Veterinarian and pet parent to adjust or monitor patient protocol to determine where the ideal maintenance dosage should be.

#### **ALLERGY DROPS VERSUS INJECTIONS?**

A pet parent's honest feedback is the best tool to determine which treatment methodology will meet both parent and patient needs. The pros and cons of each methodology are listed below:

#### **About Allergy Drops**

Allergy drops are the latest in hyposensitization delivery method, perfect for pet owners who prefer a needle free option or pets who have had issues tolerating allergy injections in the past.

#### **PROS**

- Simple administration between cheek and gums
- Needle free

#### CONS

- Requires daily administration
- No food or drink 10 minutes before or after giving drops

#### **About Allergy Injections**

Allergy injections have been used in both human and veterinary medicine for decades with great success

#### PROS

- History of proven success
- Build up to once a month injections

#### CONS

- Uses needles
- Requires extract to be at room temperature

#### **ALLERGY TREATMENT SCHEDULE: INJECTIONS**

	Dose	Day	Interval (Days
Vial A			
	Dose	Day	Interval (Days
	0.1 ml		
Vial B	0.6 ml		
Blue			
	1.0 ml		
	1.0 ml	88	10
	Dose	Day	Interval (Days
	0.3 ml		
	0.5 ml		
Vial C			
Red			
	1.0 ml		
	CALL YOUR V	ET TO ORDER N	MAINTENANCE

Injections starts at a two-day interval and works up to a once per month injection.

Spectrum provides the pet parent with the opportunity to create their own treatment calendar. Click <u>here</u> for details...

Concerned a patient may be over stimulated by the allergy injections? Contact us to assist you.

#### **ALLERGY TREATMENT SCHEDULE: DROPS**

Sublingual allergy drops are a great solution for pet parents who prefer a needle free option and/or have pets that have had issues tolerating allergy injections in the past. Proper and consistent administration is the key to success with allergy drops. This method requires daily administration and no food or drink 10 minutes before or after the drops. The dosage amount is based on a patient's weight: under 22lbs=2 drops, over 22lbs=3 drops.

Each vial contains 300 drops, therefore treatment lasts 150 days for a patient receiving 2 drops, and 100 days for a patient receiving 3 drops.

Allergy drops take a minimum of 3-5 months before we see the full benefits they are going to provide the patient and should be maintained year round, even for seasonally allergic patients.

#### **REASONS FOR POOR ALLERGY TREATMENT RESPONSE:**

- Older animals generally give a poor immune response
- Poor owner compliance with hyposensitization regimen
- Undetected allergens in animals environment
- Suppressed immune system
- If a complete dermatological work up was not done, it could be endocrine or thyroid rather than allergy

#### **DISCOUNT PROGRAMS**

At Spectrum Veterinary we want to make working with us an easy transition for you. We also want to do everything we can to help you create your own success stories rather than just taking our word for it. Here are a few programs we offer that can help your clients.

#### CRT (Competitive Retest Program):

- Patient tested at another lab or local dermatologist
- Can be skin testing or serum testing
- Minimum of 20 allergens tested with original test
- Can be recent or years old
- Limit 5 competitor retest per clinic per year

- Attach previous results to sample and Spectrum Order Form, notate on paperwork "Competitor Retest"
- We will run a full 91 antigen panel at no charge

#### **TOOLS/SUPPORT**

Successful allergy management requires a multifaceted approach, because no two allergy cases are the same or have the same needs. Here at Spectrum Veterinary we provide pet parents with links to online videos that give them insights as to the advantages of this form of testing/treatment, what to do if the pet has an increase in symptoms or symptoms reappear while on treatment, what to do if they miss an injection, along with various other scenarios that may inhibit the pet from achieving the maximum benefits.

#### **Technical Support**

We provide you and your veterinary staff with a multitude of online tools and resources (see below) as well as technical support should a client contact you with any question or issues during treatment. With over 26 years of experience, we have encountered just about every scenario imaginable. We do not want any clinic to feel isolated in deciding on any adjustments should they be necessary. While an increase in symptoms is rare, we are here to support you every step of the way. If a patient is experiencing an increase in symptoms, please have the

following information ready when contacting us:

- · date of last injection
- vial color
- dosage amount
- symptoms
- how soon after injection, symptoms occurred

Staff Training Videos: www.vetallergy.com/veterinarians/modules/ Does your staff need an overview or a refresher course on Spectrum's approach to allergy testing and treatment?

#### "How to" Pet Parent Videos: www.vetallergy.com/pet-parent/video/

These <u>videos</u> provide you a basic overview on allergy injections: how to give an injection, what to do if you leave the allergenic extract out, and various other scenarios. We strongly recommend you review them on behalf of your pet parents so you are aware of the instructions we provide and advise alternatively if you feel it best for a patient's unique situation.

#### Custom Treatment Calendar: www.lab.vetallergy.com/calendars

Generate a custom treatment calendar and register for email reminders so you never miss an injection again! Great tool for pet owners to ensure compliance. You may also download the Treatment app. (refer to allergy treatment diary).

#### Allergy Injection Reminders

Starting allergy treatment is a 9 month investment. Because we start at a 2-day interval and work up to a once per month injection, knowing when to give the shot can get confusing. To help the pet parent remember, we have set up allergy reminders they can opt into that come to them via email on the day a injection is due. The email includes the pet's name, volume amount and color of the vial to minimize errors.

#### Social Media

Follow Eurovets socials to see various Spectrum end-user posts and articles.





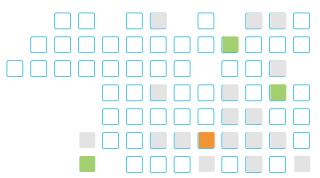




#### **TESTING**

With new technology employing a powerful reagent the results are even more specific as alternate antibodies are reduced to almost negligible levels. This allows for unmatched testing, and ultimately treatment, for pet allergies.

Eurovet Code	Size	Туре	Usage
E003790	Single Panel	Spot Platinum Test	91 Allergens
E004016	Single Panel	Food Panel	24 Allergens
E001385	Single Panel	Indoor Panel	Indoor, Insect & Mite Allergens
E001384	Single Panel	Individual Allergen	Individual Allergen
E003882	Single Panel	Spot Platinum Express	91 Allergen





#### **TREATMENT SETS** - Subcutaneous Allergy Injections

Once the initial injection protocol is completed, it is necessary to maintain the pet's increased tolerance to allergens. After an initial dosage, maintenance injections are administered monthly and each set lasts approximately 8 months.

Eurovet Code	Size	Туре	Usage
E003696 E003697	Single Set Single Set	Single Initial Set	up to 21 Allergens over 23 Allergens
E003694	Single Set	Single Maintenance Set	Refill Set
E003695	Single Set	Double Maintenance Set	Refill Set

#### **TREATMENT SETS - Sublingual Allergy Drops**

Easy to administer oral allergy drops dispensed in spray bottles for daily treatment that last up to 3-4 months.

Eurovet Code	Size	Туре	Usage
E003692 E003693	Single Set Single Set	Single Sublingual Set  Double Sublingual Set	up to 21 Allergens over 23 Allergens



#### **ALL THE BEST BRANDS**

Eurovets is dedicated to providing your clinic with all your veterinary needs. We offer a comprehensive premium product range at highly competitive prices from small to large animal practices. It includes items such as diagnostics, nutritionals, medicines, feed, equipment, consumables and more.

**Eurovets YOUR complete veterinary Supply and Support SOLUTION.** 



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