

DERMATOLOGY WORK-UP

SEVERITY OF ITCHING

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
Minor Severe

PET'S NAME: _____

1 WHAT ARE THE INFECTIONS?

Perform 3-Slide Technique™ during the physical exam on multiple sites/lesions.

Slide 1 Skin Scrape (hairplucks): _____ Positive for _____ / _____ Negative

Slide 2 Ear Swab: _____ Positive for _____ / _____ Negative

Slide 3 Tape Prep/Impression Smear: _____ Positive for _____ / _____ Negative

- Pyoderma
- Demodex
- Dermatophytosis (if suspected, confirm with DTM culture)
- Otitis (Cocci, Yeast, Pseudomonas)
- Pododermatitis (Cocci, Yeast)
- Yeast Dermatitis

2 COMMON ALLERGIC SIGNS¹

A. LUMBAR DERMATITIS

Flea Allergy: (very reliable pattern)

1. Caudal 1/3 of body
2. Flea comb identifying fleas or flea dirt
3. Multiple animals involved or humans affected
4. Variable response to steroids
5. Fall and Spring are often worse but can be year-round

B. EAR-SCRATCH TEST

Scabies: (1-2 are highly reliable)

1. Positive pinnal pedal reflex is 80% diagnostic
2. Ear margin, distal legs, lateral elbow, ventrum
3. Variable responsive to steroids
4. Confirmed by response to treatment
5. Skin Scrapes are often falsely negative

C. PERIANAL DERMATITIS

Food Allergy: (less common but 1-5 increase probability)

1. Perianal dermatitis
2. GI symptoms; more than 3 BM/day, diarrhea, vomiting, flatulence
3. Less than 1 year or older than 5 years at onset
4. Labradors and German Breeds may be predisposed
5. Variable response to steroids

D. FOOT LICKING

Atopic Dermatitis:

(1-5 are highly reliable)

1. Started at 6 months–3 years of age
2. Front feet affected
3. Inner ear pinnae erythema
4. Lives indoors
5. Ruling out Scabies (ear margin dermatitis) and Flea Allergy (lumbar dermatitis)
6. Seasonal symptoms progressing to year-round

Hypothyroidism: (can mimic allergic dermatitis)

1. Recurrent infection may cause pruritus
2. Lethargy, weight gain, dry coat, hypotrichosis
3. Nonpruritic when infections are resolved

