



International Committee on Allergic Diseases of Animals (ICADA)

The International Committee on Allergic Diseases of Animals (ICADA) was established in 2010 to arrange for the publication of critical reviews on atopic dermatitis and other allergic conditions affecting the skin and other organ systems of all domestic animal species, and to advance the practice of veterinary dermatology as applied to allergic diseases.

ICADA publish important Consensus and Guideline Papers. The latest update on the treatment of canine atopic dermatitis is an open access paper from 2015 (please find attached). From an evidence-based stance, it recommends both serological testing and allergen specific immunotherapy stating:

Under section B.1.c. - Performance of allergen-specific intradermal and/or IgE serological tests to identify possible allergenic flare factors: *"Allergen-specific intradermal testing (IDT) and/or IgE serologies are helpful to identify hypersensitivity to environmental allergens in dogs with AD (atopic dermatitis)"*

Under section C. - Implement strategies to prevent recurrence of signs: *"Allergen-specific immunotherapy (ASIT) is an effective and safe way to reduce the clinical signs of AD in dogs. There is no proven superiority of a particular ASIT protocol over other alternatives (traditional, rush or low-dose). Injection frequencies and amounts injected must be tailored to each patient depending upon the clinical improvement observed and the presence of adverse events. Because of the delay in the onset its beneficial effects, anti-inflammatory drugs should be given temporarily, as needed to maintain good quality of life, until such time as the ASIT is judged to be effective. Because the onset of clinical benefit might not appear for months, ASIT must be continued for at least one year to properly evaluate its efficacy. Whether or not ASIT must be continued for the remainder of the life of atopic dogs has not been established".*

Olivry, T., DeBoer, D.J., Favrot, C., Jackson, H.A., Mueller, R.S., Nuttall, T & Prélaud, P. (2015). Treatment of canine atopic dermatitis: 2015 updated guidelines from the International Committee on Allergic Diseases of Animals (ICADA). BMC Veterinary Research, 11:210