

Itchy and allergic pets



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Symptoms and triggers

Many pets can suffer from allergies and there can be many different triggers (things which cause an allergic reaction). It's not always possible to discover each specific trigger, but you may suspect a circumstance which seems to be a cause and this should be investigated with your vet's help.

What are some of the common signs of allergies?

- Itchy skin
- Broken/sore skin
- Patchy fur loss
- Scabs
- Frequent licking in one area, such as feet
- Itchy/runny eyes.

What are some of the common triggers of allergies?

- Fleas
- Dust
- Pollen
- Grass
- Certain foods.

Simple steps to improve skin health

If the cause of the allergy can't be identified and avoided, or when there are multiple allergy triggers, treatment may be needed. Treatment is not a cure but it can control the symptoms to reduce your pet's irritation. Sometimes it needs to be continuous and lifelong so regular vet checks are crucial.

If a food allergy is suspected you may need to start a special diet to try to discover which ingredient is causing the allergy. **Ask your vet for advice on how to do this safely.**



There are some simple steps you can take at home to improve your pet's skin health.

- Treat all pets for fleas every month with a product recommended by veterinary staff.
- Use a household flea spray, which will kill any fleas and help to control house dust mites too.
- Use a supplement to reduce itchy skin (**ask your vet or vet nurse for details**).
- Vacuum regularly to reduce dust and mites.
- Clean your pet's bed regularly and rinse well so your pet doesn't react to any soap/powder residue.
- Avoid your pet coming into contact with anything that you suspect is an allergy trigger.

Many pets can suffer from allergies and there can be many different triggers



For more information visit
www.pdsa.org.uk/taking-care-of-your-pet/the-a-to-z-of-conditions



For more information on the five welfare needs or further advice
on looking after your pet, visit:

pdsa.org.uk/pet-health-advice