

# Allergy and Hyposensitization

## What is Hyposensitization?

Hyposensitization also referred to as Immunotherapy or "Allergy Shots". Once the pet's allergies are identified, a mixture of specifically prescribed allergens is formulated. This "Allergy extracts" is made up of the offending allergens and is given in small doses that are gradually increased over time. The extract reduces the sensitivity of the pet to those allergens. In this manner, allergic symptoms are controlled without the undesirable effects of steroids and similar medicines.



## How Long Will My Pet Needs Allergy Shots?

Allergies can last throughout the lifetime of your pet. It is important to understand that allergies may never be cured, but they can be controlled. As long as symptoms persist, injections may be necessary.

## How effective is this treatment?

Clinical studies have shown that immunotherapy desensitization is highly effective in controlling symptoms of allergy. Success rates up to 60-70% have been reported.

## What If My Pet Goes Untreated?

The uncomfortable itchy skin that your pet will experience can lead to a secondary skin infection that can cause severe damage to the skin. Your pet may experience rashes and hair loss due to self-trauma brought on by scratching, rubbing, licking and chewing. These symptoms will remain if untreated and will worsen as your pet ages.

## Are There Any Dangers Involved?

Adverse reactions to allergenic extracts are extremely rare but may occur during the initial phase of immunotherapy. Usually a simple adjustment to the dosage schedule is required. We order extracts from the labs Licensed by USDA

## When Will My Pet Improve?

Pets progress at Different rates. Many will Show Significant improvements in 6 months. But others will take up to one year before improvement is noted. It is critical, therefore, that treatment is continued for at least one year.

## What about Food Allergies?

Since dogs and cats cannot be hyposensitized for foods, the best way to manage food allergies is avoidance. We can get a computerized list of commercially available foods that would be appropriate for your pets

## How Can I Help The Doctor?

Your role in the diagnoses and treatment of allergic disorders is essential. Your doctor will need a complete history of your pet's problems. This will include an environmental analysis of indoor/outdoor inhalant allergens along with an analysis of your pet's diet. It is important to determine what triggers your pet's sensitivity and how much exposure to allergens your pet may be experiencing. Your personal observation of your pet will help the veterinarian correlate symptoms with diagnoses and draw treatment plan(s)

For Further Questions Call Us At:

# 708-652-0272