Polyunsaturated Fatty Acids, Essential Oils, & Atopic Dermatitis

Individual improvements in CADESII-03 and pruritus scores were significantly higher in the treatment group than in the placebo group, and more treated dogs showed ≥50% improvement in pruritus scores. Significantly more placebo-treated dogs deteriorated. No adverse effects were observed. Although PUFAs are typically less efficacious than glucocorticoids and cyclosporine for CAD, they offered a safe long-term alternative and appeared useful as an adjunctive therapy.

Commentary

Evidence suggests that epidermal barrier defects may be associated with the pathogenesis of CAD. Despite this, there are few randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled studies investigating the efficacy of products that claim to improve barrier function. This study is the first to demonstrate clinical improvement in atopic dogs with a topical spot-on product. Although improvement was observed, complete remission was not. Thus, this product is likely to be an adjunct to other antiinflammatory or immunomodulatory treatments, such as allergen-specific immunotherapy.—William Oldenhoff, DVM

Source