No resolution after secondary infection treatment and diagnostic trials

Consider testing at another time of year

Atopic-like dermatitis (no allergen-specific IgE)

Atopic dermatitis, usually triggered by environmental allergies

Symptomatic approach for older patients or short allergy season

Causative and symptomatic approach for younger patients or long allergy season

Allergy test to prepare allergy vaccine (SL/SC)

ID skin test

Serology

• Glucocorticoids (topical or systemic)
  • Cyclosporine (if glucocorticoid contraindicated/for long-term symptomatic relief)
  • Frequent topical therapy
    – Remove allergen
    – Decrease pruritus
    – Improve skin barrier
  • Interleukin-31 inhibitors
  • Pentoxifylline (adjunctive)
  • Essential fatty acids and antihistamines (adjunctive)

• Requires discontinuation of symptomatic treatment
• Requires resolution of infection
• Immediate results
• More specific than serology

• Continuation of symptomatic treatment permitted
• Does not require resolution of infection
• Results available in days
• Less specific than ID skin test

ID = intradermal, SL = sublingual, UA = urinalysis

* Unlike food allergies, environmental and flea allergies do not commonly develop later in life; therefore, environmental and flea allergies are unlikely in middle-aged dogs unless the patient has a history of geographic movement or environmental change.

See Aids & Resources, back page, for references & suggested reading.