



Vet Practice: Swayne and Partners, Suffolk
Veterinary Surgeon: Duncan Hole

Name: Benji Williams
Breed: Golden Retriever
Sex: Male
Original Complaint: Generalised Pruritus

THE ALLERGY DETECTIVE CASE FILES

BENJI WILLIAMS

HISTORY

Benji was six years old when he first developed itchy and irritated skin. He began to scratch himself quite badly and lost a lot of his beautiful golden coat. He also struggled to sleep as his skin was so painful.

He was presented to his vet Duncan Hole with generalised and widespread pruritus. Histology indicated eosinophilic dermatitis. A blood sample was then sent to Avacta Animal Health for allergy testing.



ACTION

Benji's vet prescribed him a course of immunotherapy vaccines (desensitisation vaccines) as a result of his environmental test.

The allergens included in his immunotherapy vaccine were carefully selected by his vet taking into account the test results and considering which grasses, weeds and trees Benji was exposed to on a regular basis.

These vaccines are a dilute allergen and work by desensitising the animal's immune system to the offending allergen. The course of injections starts with several injections over the course of the first few weeks but this is then reduced to monthly "allergy shots" which Benji comes into the vets for.

RESULT

Benji's symptoms started to improve almost immediately after starting his immunotherapy and within 8 months there was a total resolution.

Benji is now much happier and his owner Lyn describes how the vaccine had a really positive result as Benji can sleep (one of his favourite activities!) properly.

"Diagnosing and treating the specific underlying cause of Benji's skin problem has been completely successful. It has restored Benji to his happy, healthy self for which we are all very grateful."

Duncan Hole Swayne and Partners



THE ALLERGY DETECTIVE CASE FILES

BENJI WILLIAMS

CASE NOTES



Name: Benji Williams
Breed: Golden Retriever
Sex: Male

History: At aged six years Benji began to develop itchy skin. He began to scratch himself extensively and suffered from hair loss. His owners presented him to vet Duncan Hole at Swayne and Partners in Suffolk with generalised pruritus. On initial examination he was given a corticosteroid injection. This had no real effect and he was admitted for skin biopsies. Histology indicated eosinophillic dermatitis. Benji had no evidence of parasitism and allergy was deemed a likely cause.

Test: SENSITEST® Complete Allergy Test.

Positive Test Results

Food Allergens

Pork, Duck, Chicken, Soybean.

Environmental Allergens

Cocksfoot, Sweet Vernal, Dock (yellow)

Indoor Allergens

Acarus siro (storage mites), Derm. Farinae (house dust mites)

Action: Immunotherapy (4 allergen). Allergens specifically selected based on test results and those found in the local environment.

Result: Owners saw an improvement in Benji's condition almost immediately. He remained pruritic for the first month and was given an antihistamine. After the first month the antihistamine was stopped and he has had no treatment apart from immunotherapy. His symptoms were resolved within 8 months. Benji returned to being a happy dog as he could sleep for more than a few minutes at a time.

Current condition: Benji continues to remain symptom free and visits his vet once a month for his "allergy shot".

"Diagnosing and treating the specific underlying cause of Benji's skin problem has been completely successful. It has restored Benji to his happy healthy self for which we are all very grateful" Duncan Hole, Swayne and Partners.