

Allergies Checklist

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A dog who is allergic to something will often show it through skin problems and itching. It may seem logical that if a dog is allergic to something he inhales (atopy) like certain types of pollen, he will have a runny nose; if he is allergic to something he eats such as beef, he may vomit or have diarrhea. In reality, these signs are usually not associated with allergies. Instead, atopy and food allergies usually cause mild to severe itching over the entire body; many dogs with allergies are also prone to recurrent ear infections.

Dogs with allergies are often so itchy that they will chew on their feet until they are irritated and red. They may rub their faces on the carpet or couch, or scratch their sides and belly. The glands of the ear respond to the inflammation and itchiness of allergies by producing excess secretions, which provide an excellent environment for excessive growth of bacteria and yeast; this can result in ear infections.

Sometimes owners, in the stress of the moment, forget to tell their veterinarian relevant information about their pets. Here is a handy checklist to bring with you to your next veterinary appointment. Check the box beside the question if your dog experiences any of these symptoms.

ALLERGIES CHECKLIST

Check which symptoms your dog exhibits:

- Chewing on feet
- Rubbing face on the carpet
- Scratching the body
- Recurrent ear infections
- Hair loss
- Mutilated skin

Once you have completed the checklist, print and take to your veterinarian so you can discuss the results together. In the event your veterinarian decides to prescribe medication to your dog, you may want to print off our [Prescription Authorization Form](#) and bookmark this information on [how to order a prescription](#) at Drs. Foster and Smith's Licensed Pharmacy, where you can save on all of your faithful friends' prescriptions.