PREPARE FOR A FLARE OF ITCH

Allergic dermatitis requires lifelong management—even when controlled, occasional flares can occur, especially for seasonally affected dogs. Fleas and infections may exacerbate flares of allergic itch.

If you suspect a flare, contact the practice to schedule an exam for your dog to be seen.

Partner with your veterinarian to understand the cause of the flare.

Do not stop anti-itch treatment for your dog during the flare.

Additional treatment may be needed to provide relief after a flare of allergic itch.

HOW TO RATE YOUR DOG’S ITCH

**EXTREMELY SEVERE ITCHING**

- **100**
- Dog is scratching, chewing, licking almost continuously. Itching practically never stops, regardless of what else is happening around your dog.

**SEVERE ITCHING**

- **80**
- Prolonged episodes of itching when your dog is awake. Itching occurs at night and also when eating, playing or exercising or when otherwise distracted.

**MODERATE ITCHING**

- **60**
- Regular episodes of itching when your dog is awake. Itching may occur at night and wake the dog. No itching when eating, playing, exercising or being distracted.

**MILD ITCHING**

- **40**
- Moderately frequent episodes of itching. There may be occasional episodes of itching at night. No itching when sleeping, eating, playing, exercising or being distracted.

**VERY MILD ITCHING**

- **20**
- Occasional episodes of itching. Your dog is slightly more itchy than before the problem began.

**NORMAL DOG**

- **0**
- Itching is not a problem.

Successful long-term management of allergic dogs also includes year-round flea prevention and careful monitoring of any skin infections.

OBSERVATIONS OF ITCH

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