



Eau Claire

**ANIMAL HOSPITAL**

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**Allergy Options**

OPTIONS	EFFICACY	ADVANTAGES	DISADVANTAGES
Antihistamines	20-30%	Safe Inexpensive	Dogs may experience drowsiness. Not FDA-approved Clinical response is variable
Glucocorticoids	Highly effective in atopic dogs initially	Quick onset Inexpensive	Numerous and frequent adverse effects Decreased efficacy over time
Antibiotics	Used for secondary problems associated with allergies	Inexpensive	Long term May develop resistance
Topicals (shampoos, sprays, Ointments)	Variable and temporary	Relieves itching on contact Reduces allergen contact with skin	Relief is localized, temporary and variable Inconvenient for clients
Essential Fatty Acids	Approx. 25%	Improvement in skin and coat	High doses needed Clinical response variable Slow onset of action
Food/Diet	Less than 10% of all allergy cases	Problems solved with a food, not oral medication	Hard to diagnose
ATOPICA	In clinical trials, provided relief of pruritus to 74% of dogs	Predictable results	Minor side effects Cost of therapy
Allergen-specific immunotherapy	Variable results Gold Standard of treatment	Low incidence of adverse effects Only therapy directly targeted at cause of disease	Close monitoring needed May take 6-12 months to begin working
Apoquel	80%	Quick results Works very well Minimal side effects	May need to increase dose Moderate cost