



SILVER LAKE ANIMAL PRACTICE

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Pet Allergies

A Few Facts On Pet Allergies From the Team at Silver Lake Animal Practice

- When pets inhale, come in contact with, or ingest something they're sensitive to, they'll begin to itch or rub excessively. This process changes the skin's surface and can allow for an overgrowth of bacteria or yeast
- An overgrowth of bacteria on pets' skin or in their ears is called pyoderma, whereas an overgrowth of yeast is called *Malassezia* dermatitis.
- An itchy pet may be suffering from a food or airborne allergy
- If the doctor suspects food allergies, the pet needs to undergo a dietary trial where all edible items are eliminated except for one novel protein and one novel carbohydrate. It may take eight weeks of feeding the special diet before clinical improvement is noted.
- Just like with humans, there's no cure for pets' allergies.
- With all allergies, the offenders can ONLY be managed across a pet's lifetime.
- Antibiotics and antifungals help clear an infection, but they can't prevent recurrence.
- Any dog can develop allergies at any time during his life