

case with placebo. The aim of our study was to document objective indicators, which could explain this sustained therapeutic effect.

Objectives: Out of 42 subjects recruited for the study, 35 (median age 31 years, range 18-55 years, 24 men) completed the pre- and end- pollen season objective measurements. They were randomized to treat by locally applied drugs: decongestant (oxymetazoline), and/or antihistamine (azelastine) and/or corticosteroid (mometasone), immediately followed by insufflation in the nose of either HPMC (n = 18) or placebo (lactose powder) (n = 17). They were instructed on how to pick the appropriate drug(s) depending on the nature and severity of the leading symptoms. The objective outcomes documented prior to the pollen season and at the end of it were peak nasal expiratory flow (PNIF), saccharine test (ScchT) and exhaled breath temperature (EBT, a surrogate marker of airways inflammation, which we have proven to significantly increase during the pollen season in subjects with allergic rhinitis without overt asthma). The before/end of season differences were compared by independent t-test.

Results: All three before/end of season differences favoured the HPMC using group compared to the placebo users: for PNIF -60.5 ± 7.9 (mean \pm SEM) vs -30.4 ± 7.6 [L/min], $P = .01$; for ScchT -105.1 ± 82.6 vs 182.6 ± 103.2 [seconds], $P = .036$; for EBT 0.02 ± 0.10 vs -0.38 ± 0.10 [$^{\circ}$ C], $P = .007$. We hypothesized that HPMC augmenting the local therapeutic response in the nose by further suppressing the nasal congestion (PNIF), by supporting normal cilia beat (ScchT) and suppressing the seasonal surge of airway inflammation (EBT).

Conclusions: HPMC may be valuable adjunct to nasally applied drugs enhancing their pharmacological effects on top of its primary function as barrier to airborne allergens.

1351 | Fel d 1 and fel d 4 allergen levels in fur, urine and saliva of domestic house cats

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Introduction: Cat dander is a common cause of perennial allergies. Although several allergens are present in cat dander, Fel d 1 is considered to be primarily responsible for allergic symptoms. Little is known about levels of other antigens such as Fel d 4. The purpose of this study was to compare the levels of Fel d 1 and Fel d 4 in fur, saliva and urine of male and female domestic house cats.

Objectives: Cats coming for general surgical procedures at a local animal hospital were volunteered by owners for this study. Owners signed an informed consent prior to any sample collection. Fur samples were obtained from 26 male and female cats of various breeds and ages. Urine and saliva samples were obtained from 20 and 17

cats, respectively. Commercially available ELISA kits were used to measure Fel d 1 and Fel d 4 levels.

Results: Study consisted of 26 cats, 13 males and 13 females, age 5.6 ± 4.3 years (mean \pm SD). Urine Fel d 1 (0.02, 0.065-0.071 μ g/mL, median, 25-75 percentile) and Fel d 4 (<0.4 μ g/mL, the limit of detection) levels were low. In fur, Fel d 4 (0.09, 0.03-0.19 μ g/g) was much lower than Fel d 1 (12.24, 5.0-25.0 μ g/g), ($P < .001$). Conversely, Fel d 4 was higher than Fel d 1 in saliva (7.62, 1.32-18.5 vs 2.45, 0.75-5.73 μ g/mL, respectively, $P = .039$). Allergen levels were not dependent on age, gender or breed.

Conclusions: It appears that the distribution of Fel d 4 differs from that of Fel d 1 in domestic cats. Saliva rather than fur appears to be the main source of Fel d 4. It is possible that levels of Fel d 4 in fur arise from saliva deposited when grooming rather than from secretion from the sebaceous glands.

1352 | Dog allergy to meat: is IDT and specific IgE of any usefulness?

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Introduction: Cutaneous adverse food reactions are a current problem in dogs, with beef, dairy products, chicken and wheat as the most implicated food components. As in humans, cutaneous and serological tests do not show enough individual diagnostic reliability for the diagnosis of food allergy. A wider diagnosis approach, including dietary restriction-provocation trials, is often necessary.

Objectives: Evaluate combined IDT and sIgE for food allergy prediction.

Methods: From 85 dogs attending the Veterinary Hospital of the University of Évora (Portugal) and Rof Codina University Hospital (Lugo, Spain) outpatient consultations, 11 (5 males and 6 females) were selected by means of clinical inquiry and IDT for probable food allergy. All of them presented with pruritic dermatitis and at least 6 of the Favrot's criteria for atopic dermatitis. None of them showed noticeable digestive signs. IDT were performed for Dac g, Phl p Der f, Der p, Aca s, Tyr p, Lep d, beef, pork, lamb, chicken, egg and milk. sIgE panels were determined in a commercial lab for pollens, molds and mites. Assessment of specific IgE for beef, pork, lamb, chicken,