

Feline Allergic Disease Terminology Update

Dear Colleagues,

In this newsletter, we review the recommended nomenclature for feline allergic diseases and equine allergic respiratory disease. The latter can be found in this month's Laboklin Aktuell: "Allergic respiratory disease in horses", written by Dr Regina Wagner.

There has been controversy in the terminology for feline hypersensitivity to environmental allergens, questioning whether the term "atopic dermatitis" should be used. Consequently, terms as complex as "feline atopic-like dermatitis" or "non-flea non-food-hypersensitivity dermatitis" were used.

In February of this year, the article "Feline allergic diseases: proposed nomenclature" by Halliwell et al. was published in Veterinary Dermatology, where the following nomenclature is proposed:

Feline Atopic Syndrome (FAS) includes the cutaneous, gastrointestinal and/or respiratory (asthma) manifestation of allergic disease regardless of whether it is related to aeroallergens or food. In clinical practice, it would be used in animals with a history and clinical signs (skin, gastrointestinal or respiratory) of allergy when it is not identified whether environmental or food allergens cause it.

Feline Atopic Skin Syndrome (FASS) exclusively defines skin disease caused by hypersensitivity to aeroallergens.

Food allergy and flea allergy dermatitis (FAD) may mimic or contribute to this syndrome but are not included in this designation. This term implies that it is a conclusive diagnosis that the skin condition results from hypersensitivity to environmental allergens.

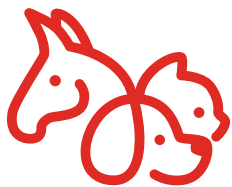
Feline Food allergy (FA) defines cases of allergic disease associated with food, whether the clinical picture is dermatological and/or gastrointestinal.

Feline asthma is an IgE-associated eosinophilic inflammatory disease against inhaled allergens. It affects the bronchioles leading to spontaneous reversible bronchoconstriction, manifested by acute respiratory distress or chronic coughing and expiratory wheezing.

Flea bite dermatitis and insect bite allergic dermatitis are specifically excluded from these terms.

Dr Carmen Lorente

Feline atopic syndrome – an introduction and proposed nomenclature for allergic disease in cats. Halliwell R, Pucheu-Haston CM, Olivry T et al. Vet Dermatol 2021; 32: 8 – 12.



Do you already know about the 4Paws App from LABOKLIN?

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